

THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE FUTURE

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The philosophy of the future by S. S. Hebbard

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S. S. HEBBERD

**THE PHILOSOPHY
OF THE FUTURE**

The Philosophy of History

By S. S. HEBBERD

Revised Edition

(From the *Chicago Tribune*)

"How so simple a thought as this can be carried out as a law of interpretation in the study of the great distinctive, historic civilization as that of India, the classical, the medieval, the Reformation, the genesis of science, modern art and morality, and the social revolution since the reformation is what the author has attempted to show in this remarkably lucid, cogent, and suggestive book."

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"If this book had the imprint of Berlin or Oxford upon its title-page it would command immediate attention. The author himself feels that it is heavily handicapped by the very grandeur of its pretensions. . . . After reading a few pages one is captivated by the simplicity, the directness and the penetration of the author. He makes you think. Whether you agree with him or not you cannot deny that you are confronted by a man who has read widely, pondered his material carefully and thought clearly. The work deserves far more popularity than it appears to have received.

" . . . The reader is naturally afraid of a man who has found a key, especially one that will explain all the mysteries of civilization. Yet it must be conceded that the writer pleads his cause with remarkable ingenuity, and with his striking antitheses and epigrammatic sentences throws new light upon his subject at many points. If he does nothing else he sets one thinking along the broad deep lines which are co-extensive with the breadth and depth of the racial movement itself.

" . . . The book abounds in keen distinctions like these. They may raise problems rather than solve them, but a production that does even that is well worth reading."

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Brooklyn, New York)

"I am not certain yet whether I am satisfied that you have found the solution of the riddle. Your solution at first strikes one as too simple—but so are all the great laws simple. Anyhow, for horizon, inspiration and outlook and as a compendium of learning it is a book of the first rank. I am going to read it again."

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By S. S. HEBBERD

Author of "Philosophy of History," "The Secret of Christianity"
"The Science of Thought," Etc.



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PREFACE

THIS book has cost me more than half a century of toil and the loss of most things that men chiefly desire. And still it is very imperfect. How, indeed, could it be otherwise, since I have had to cut my way through a wilderness, aided only by the errors of those who have preceded me? But, as I have shown in my "Philosophy of History," we are on the verge of a great transition. The Protestant age of dissent and division has exhausted itself, and has now little of value to offer us. And so I send forth my book, hoping that despite its imperfections, it may serve to foreshadow the better time that is coming.

I am encouraged too by what Kant says in the Scholia to his *Prolegomena*: "All transitions from a tendency to its contrary pass through the stage of indifference, and this moment is most dangerous for an author, but the most favorable for the science. For when party-spirit has died out by a total dissolution of former connections, minds are in the best state to listen to several proposals for an organization according to a new plan."

S. S. HEBBERD.