

SHORT STUDIES IN CHARACTER

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Short studies in character by Sophie Bryant

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SOPHIE BRYANT

**SHORT STUDIES
IN CHARACTER**

The Ethical Library.

EDITED BY J. H. MUIRHEAD, M.A.

THE ETHICAL LIBRARY is not a new "Science Series." It will not contain books on moral science properly so-called. The chief results of the modern study of mind and morals will for the most part be assumed without scientific demonstration. The guarantee to the public that the underlying principles are not *mere* assumptions or isolated *aperçus* must be the names of the writers themselves, who, it is hoped, will be recognised as specialists in particular departments of mental and moral philosophy.

The LIBRARY calls attention to a class of literature, now happily not so uncommon as formerly, in which questions of the inner and outer life, that have hitherto been too much the monopoly of the theologian, are dealt with from the point of view and in the spirit of the student of philosophy. Though the problems of which it will treat are old ones, the manner of treatment will be comparatively new, inasmuch as no doctrinal assumptions will be made with which the student of science and philosophy need find himself out of sympathy.

Besides the present, Volumes in this Library have already been promised by—Professor Henry Sidgwick, Mr. Leslie Stephen, Mr. D. G. Ritchie, Mrs. Sophie Bryant, and the Editor.

J. H. MUIRHEAD.

PREFACE.

THESE essays were all, in their original form, delivered as lectures to various ethical and educational societies. I do not offer them to the readers of the Ethical Library as a continuous, though ever so slight, study of the subject of character. To this subject, nevertheless, it appears to me that they do belong. all ethics and all educational science point back to character, its fundamental structure, its variety of type, and its ways of development. With this side of ethics and education these essays—each in its isolation and in its own way—deal. Therefore I have called them “Short Studies in Character”; but I beg the reader to accept them only as studies very short, very slight, and very inadequate in their range to the whole extent of their subject.

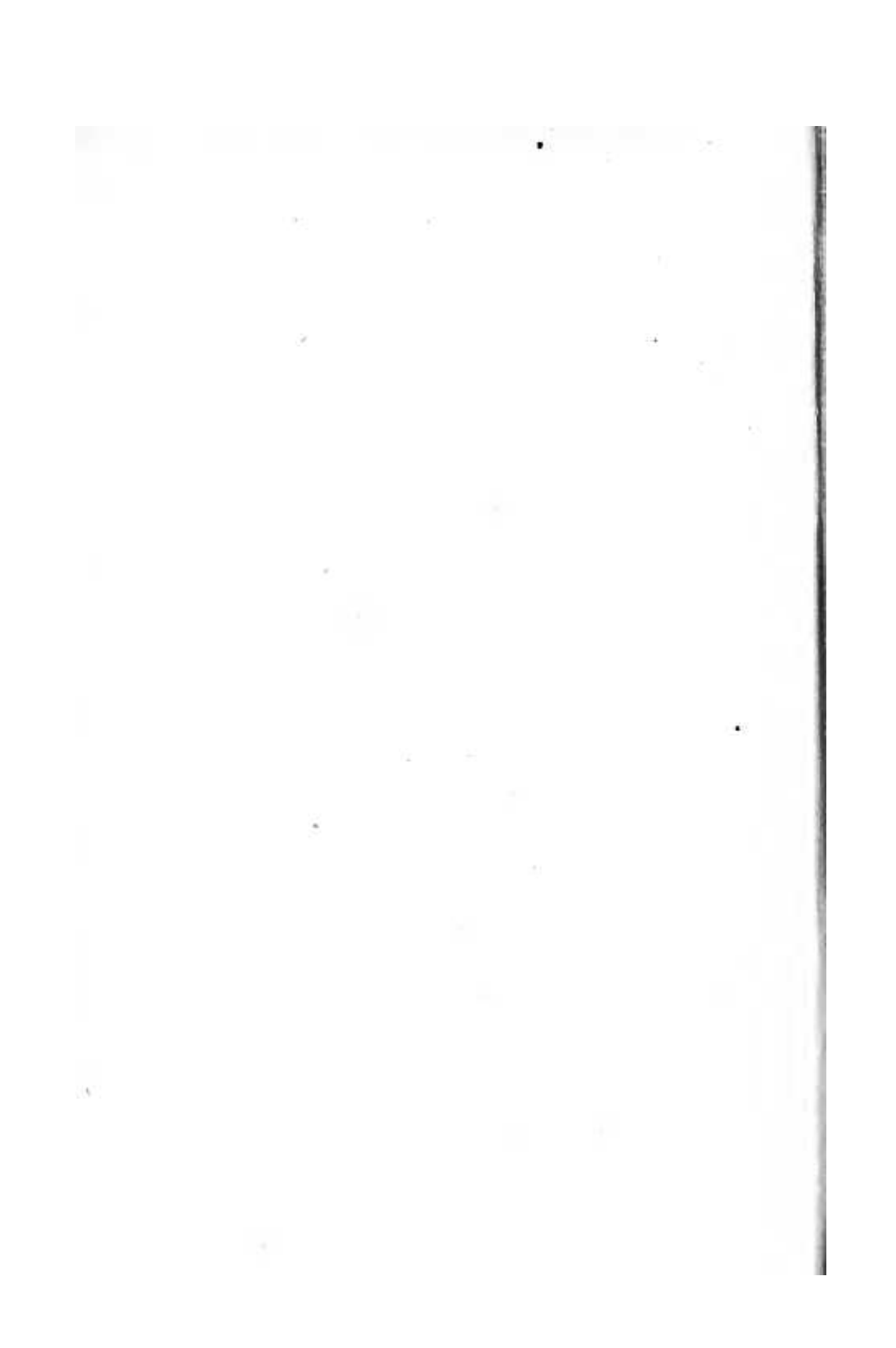
Speaking generally, Part I. may be said to deal with considerations of character as such, and Part II. with educational problems arising therefrom. But the two subjects melt into each other, and the distinction made may very well sometimes be felt to be illusory. The last essay is not closely connected with the rest,

and holds its place only as dealing with a subject of general educational import.

My thanks are due to the editor for the many valuable suggestions and sympathetic criticism by which he has aided me not a little.

SOPHIE BRYANT.

HAMPSTEAD,
November, 1893.



PART I.
ETHICAL.

