PRIMER OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Primer of psychology by George Trumbull Ladd

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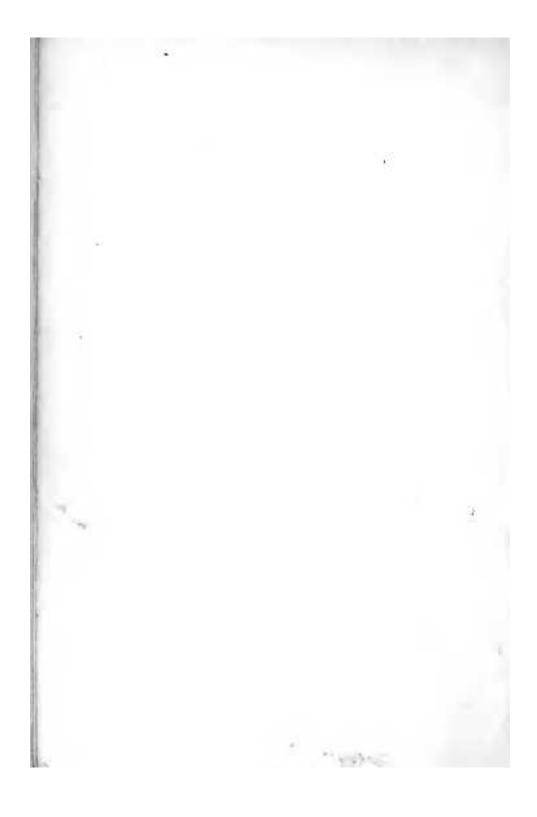
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PREFACE

The writing of this little book was undertaken in part as a recreation between two much more bulky and serious pieces of work. From the personal point of view it may be regarded as the result of a feeling of curiosity—of the author's desire to make the experiment of telling, in a manner to correspond fairly well with its chosen title, the story of the mental life. As the dedication shows, a young friend was kind enough to offer herself as both subject for the experiment and judge of its result. I have tried to make my confidence in the intelligence of my youthful critic the measure of my success.

But besides the more personal interest in such an endeavor, I have hoped in some degree to supply what I believe to be a real need. For it cannot be doubted that there are many adults, as well as youths, who would find some pleasure and perhaps more profit in reading a very brief and simple treatise on psychology.

While adopting the title of "Primer," it has been my aim to avoid both of two extremes. One of these is the extreme of "talking down" to the reader in such manner as to keep unpleasantly before him his own lack of familiarity with the subject