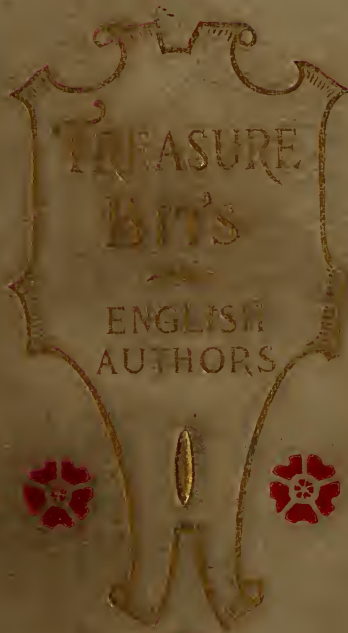


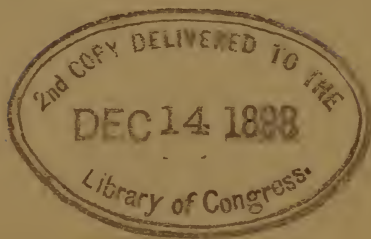
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# TREASURE BITS

**English Authors**

*Rose Porter,*  
•••

PART FIRST

**Thomas Carlyle**

•

PART SECOND

**William Makepeace Thackeray**

•

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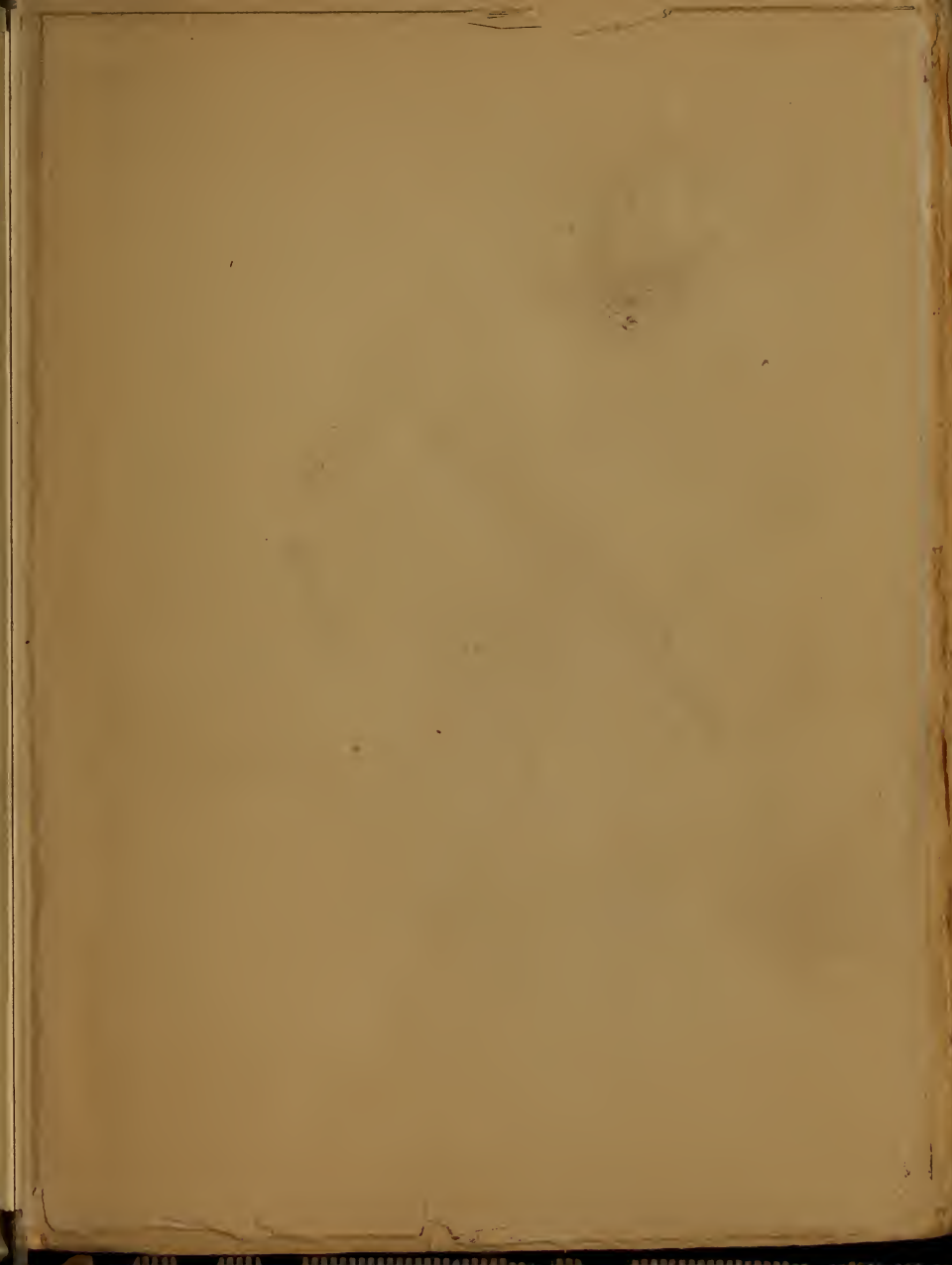
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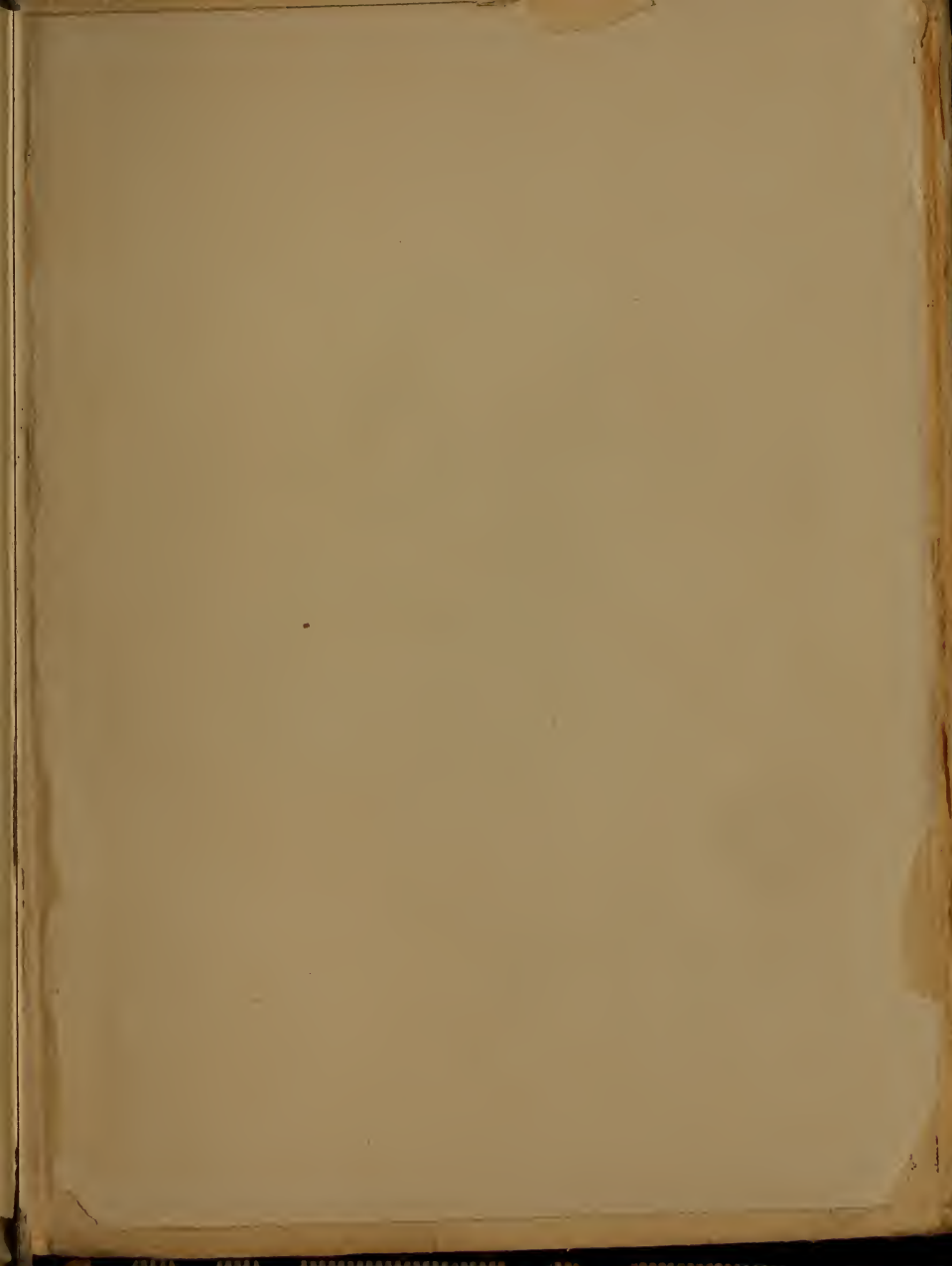


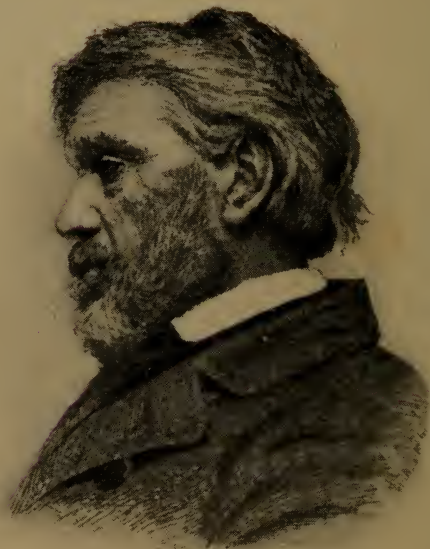
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Thomas Carlyle



PART FIRST



SELECTIONS FROM THE WRITINGS  
OF

**Thomas Carlyle**



## The Everlasting Yea



LOVE not pleasure: love God. This is the *Everlasting Yea*, wherein all contradiction is solved; wherein whoso walks and works, it is well with him.

## Hope



MAN is, properly speaking, based upon Hope, he has no other possession but Hope: this world of his is emphatically the Place of Hope.

---

A large fund of Hope dwells in him; he is not a mourning man.

## Originality



RIGINALITY is a thing we constantly clamor for, and constantly quarrel with: as if any originality but our own could be expected to content us.

---

The merit of originality is not novelty: it is sincerity.

## Work



ORK is of a religious nature:—work is of a brave nature: which it is the aim of all religion to be. All work of man is as the swimmer's: a waste ocean threatens to drown him; if he front it not hourly, it will keep its word.

## Wisdom



WISDOM, the divine message which every soul of man brings into this world: the divine prophecy of what the new man has got, the new and peculiar capability to do, is intrinsically of silent nature.

## Admiration



O nobler feeling than this of admiration for one higher than himself dwells in the breast of man. It is to this hour, and at all hours, the vivifying influence in man's life.



## The Force of Habit




HABIT is the deepest law of human nature. It is our supreme strength; if also, in certain circumstances, our miserablest weakness.

---

Whatsoever enables us to *do* anything is by its very nature *good*.

## Ambition

 DON'T be ambitious:  
don't too much need  
success: be loyal and  
modest. Cut down the towering  
thoughts that you get into you,  
or see that they be pure as well  
as high.

## Friendship



STRICT similarity of character is not necessary, or perhaps very favorable to friendship. To render it complete, each party must no doubt be competent to understand the other; both must be possessed of dispositions kindred in their great lineaments; but the pleasure of comparing our ideas and emotions is heightened when there is "likeness in unlikeness."

## The Root of Excellence



CONSTANCY, in its true sense, may be called the root of all excellence; especially excellent is constancy in active well-doing, in friendly helpfulness to those that love us, and to those that hate us.

---

A mind stamped of Nature's noblest metal.

## Seed-Grains



CAST forth thy Act, thy  
Word, with the ever-  
living, ever-working  
Universe: it is a seed-grain that  
cannot die.

---

If there is a harvest ahead, even  
a distant one, it is poor thrift to  
be stingy of your seed-corn!

## The Influence of Truth



BE true, if you would be believed. Let a man but speak forth with genuine earnestness the thought, the emotion, the actual condition of his own heart; and other men, so strangely are we all knit together by the tie of sympathy, must and will give heed to him.

## Self-Development



THE meaning of life here on earth might be defined as consisting in this: To unfold your *self*, to work what thing you have the faculty for. It is a necessity for the human being, the first law of our existence. Coleridge beautifully remarks that the infant learns to *speak* by this necessity it feels.

## Influence

**I**T is a high, solemn, almost awful thought for every individual man, that his earthly influence, which has had a commencement, will never through all ages, were he the very meanest of us, have an end! What is done is done; has already blended itself with the boundless, ever-living, ever-working Universe.



## A Life-Purpose



BLESSED is he who has found his work; let him ask no other blessedness. He has a work, a life-purpose; he has found it and will follow it! . . . . Labor is Life: from the inmost heart of the Worker rises his God-given Force, the sacred celestial Life-essence breathed into him by Almighty God.

## Silence



SILENCE is the element in which great things fashion themselves together ; that at length they may emerge, full-formed and majestic, into the daylight of Life, which they are thenceforth to rule. . . . In thy own mean perplexities, do thou thyself but *hold thy tongue for one day* ; on the morrow how much clearer are thy purposes and duties.

## The Vulgar



LAS, the vulgarest vulgar, I often find, are not those in ragged coats at this day; but those in fine, superfine and superficient; —the same is the pity!

## Reverence

**H**AVE true reverence, and what indeed is inseparable therefrom, reverence the right man, all is well: have sham-reverence, and what also follows, greet with it the wrong man, then all is ill, and there is nothing well.

## Dandies



TOUCHING Dandies, let us consider, with some scientific strictness, what a Dandy specially is. A Dandy is a clothes-wearing man, a man whose trade, office and existence consists in the wearing of clothes. Every faculty of his soul, spirit, purse, and person is heroically consecrated to this one object—the wearing of clothes airily and well: so that as others dress to live, he lives to dress.

## Laughter



OW much lies in  
Laughter: the cipher-  
key wherewith we  
decipher the whole man! Some  
men wear an everlasting simper;  
in the smile of others lies a cold  
glitter as of ice. . . . The  
man who cannot laugh is not  
only fit for treasons, stratagems  
and spoils; but his whole life is  
already a treason and a stratagem.

## The Faculty of Love



THE faculty of love, of admiration, is to be regarded as the sign and measure of high souls: unwisely directed it leads to many evils; but without it, there cannot be any good. How, indeed, shall a man accomplish great enterprises: enduring all toil, resisting temptation, laying aside every weight,—unless he zealously love what he pursues.

## The Power of Riches



RICHERS in a cultured community are the strangest of things; a power all-moving, yet which any the most powerless and skillless can *put* in motion; they are the *readiest* of possibilities; the readiest to become a great blessing or a great curse. "Beneath gold thrones and mountains," says Jean Paul, "who knows how many giant spirits lie entombed."



## All Work Noble




ALL work, even cotton-spinning, is noble; work is alone noble: be that here said and asserted once more. And in like manner, too, all dignity is painful; a life of ease is not for any man.

---

He is wise who can instruct us and assist us in the business of daily virtuous living.

## Man's Spiritual Condition

HE grand summary of a man's spiritual condition, what brings out all his manhood and insight, or all his flunkyhood and horn-eyed dimness, is this question put to him, What man dost thou honor? What is thy ideal of a man?

## Words



O idlest word that thou speakest but is a seed cast into Time and grows through all Eternity. The Recording Angel, consider it well, is no fable, but the truest of truths.

---

Veracity, true simplicity of heart, how valuable are these always! He that speaks what *is* really in him, will find men to listen, though under never such impediments.

## Great Men



REAT men are the Fire-pillars in this dark pilgrimage of mankind; they stand as heavenly Signs, ever-living witnesses of what has been, prophetic tokens of what may still be, the revealed, embodied Possibilities of human nature.

## Open Windows




HERE is properly no object trivial or insignificant; but every finite thing, could we look well, is as a window through which solemn vistas are open into Infinitude itself.

---

Life, mankind's Life, ever from its unfathomable fountains, rolls wondrous on, another though the same.

## Good-Breeding

N Good-breeding, which differs, if at all, from High-breeding, only as it gracefully remembers the rights of others, rather than gracefully insists on its own rights, I discern no special connection with wealth or birth; but rather that it lies in human nature itself, and is due from all men toward all men.

## Perseverance



HE "tendency to persevere," to persist in spite of hindrances, discouragements and impossibilities: it is this that in all things distinguishes the strong soul from the weak.

---

Nine-tenths of the miseries and vices of mankind proceed from idleness.

## Nature's Laws



ET no man doubt the omnipotence of Nature.

---


Nature's laws are eternal: her small, still voice, speaking from the inmost heart of us, shall not, under terrible penalties, be disregarded.

---

Nature is very kind to all her children, and to all mothers that are true to her.



## Happiness

 APPY men are full of  
the present, for its  
beauty suffices them;  
and wise men also, for its duties  
engage them.

---

True happiness is cheap, did  
we apply to the right merchant  
for it.

## Born Worshippers



OMEN are born worshippers: in their good little hearts lies the most craving relish for greatness: it is even said, each chooses her husband on the hypothesis of his being a great man—in his way. The good creatures, yet the foolish!

## Not To Be Shirked



AIN, danger, difficulty,  
steady slaving toil,  
and other highly disagreeable behests of destiny, shall in no wise be shirked by any brightest mortal that will approve himself loyal to his mission in this world.

---

It is an everlasting duty, the duty of being brave.

## Judgment



FOR all right judgment on any man or thing, it is useful, nay essential, to see his good qualities before pronouncing on his bad.

---

Before we censure a man for seeming what he is *not*, we should be sure that we know what he is.

## Necessity



It has ever been held the highest wisdom for a man not merely to submit to Necessity—Necessity will make him submit—but to know and believe well that the stern thing which Necessity had ordered was the wisest, the best, and the thing wanted there.

## Man's Life



MAN'S Life, now, as of old, is the genuine work of God; wherever there is a Man, a God also is revealed, and all that is God-like; a whole epitome of the Infinite, with its meanings, lies enfolded in the Life of every Man.

## Obedience



OBEDIENCE is our universal duty and destiny; wherein whoso will not bend must break: too early and too thoroughly we cannot be trained to know that *Would*, in this world of ours, is as a mere zero to *Should*, and for the most part as the smallest of fractions to *Shall*.

## Full Growth



LET each become all that he was created capable of being; expand if possible to his full growth; resisting all impediments, casting off all foreign, especially all noxious adhesions: and show himself at length in his own shape and stature, be these what they may.



## Thought



HOUGHT does not die,  
but only is changed.

---

Thought—how often must we  
repeat it?—rules the world.

---

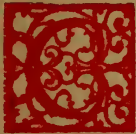
By your Thought, not by your  
mode of delivering it, you must  
live or die.

## The Battle-Field of Life



HERE on earth we are as Soldiers, fighting in a foreign land; that understand not the plan of the campaign, and have no need to understand it: seeing well what is at our hand to be done. Let us do it like Soldiers, with submission, with courage, with a heroic joy.

## The Past



CONSIDER all that lies in  
that one word, *Past!*  
What a pathetic,  
sacred, and in every sense poetic  
meaning is implied in it: a  
meaning growing ever the  
clearer, the farther we recede in  
Time—the *more* of the same  
Past we have to look through.

## A Dunce



IN our wide world there is but one altogether fatal personage — the dunce: he that speaks *irrationally*, that sees not, and yet thinks he sees.

---

Whoso cannot obey, cannot be free, still less bear rule; he that is the inferior of nothing, can be the superior of nothing, the equal of nothing.

## True Wealth



HE wealth of a man is  
the number of things  
which he loves and  
blesses, which he is loved and  
blessed by!

---

Not what I *have*, but what I  
*do*, is my kingdom.

## What Is Man?



**W**HAT is Man? He endures but for an hour, and is crushed before the moth. Yet in the being, and in the working of a faithful man is there already a something that pertains not to this wild death-element of Time; that triumphs over Time and is, and will be, when Time shall be no more.

## The Shadow



LWAYS there is a black  
spot in our sunshine,  
it is the *Shadow of*  
*Ourselves.*

---

The spirits of men become  
pure from their errors, by  
suffering for them.

## A Blessed Work



O make some nook of  
God's Creation a little  
fruitfuller, better,  
more worthy of God: to make  
some human hearts a little  
wiser, manfuller, happier—more  
blessed, less accursed! It is  
work for a God.



## The Invisible World



THE Invisible World is near us: or rather it is here, in us and about us; were the fleshly coil removed from our Soul, the glories of the Unseen were even now around us; as the Ancients fabled of the Spherical Music.

---

Thou art not alone, if thou have Faith.

## Fair Irrationals

**R**EADER! thou for thy sins must have met with such fair Irrationals; fascinating, with their lively eyes, with their quick snappish fancies; distinguished in the higher circles, in Fashion, even in Literature; they hum and buzz there, on graceful film-wings:—searching, nevertheless, with the wonderfulest skill for honey; *untamable* as flies!

## Heaven




HEAVEN, though severe,  
is *not* unkind; Heaven  
is kind, as a noble  
mother; as that Spartan mother,  
saying while she gave her son  
his shield, “With it, my son, or  
upon it!” Complain not; the  
very Spartans did not complain.

## Injustice



T is not what a man outwardly has or wants that constitutes the happiness or misery of him. Nakedness, hunger, distress of all kinds, death itself, have been cheerfully suffered, when the heart was right. It is the feeling of *injustice* that is insupportable to all men.

## A Discerning Soul

HE thing for thee to do is, if possible, to cease to be a hollow-sounding shell of hearsays, egoisms, purblind dilettantisms, and become, were it on the infinitely small scale, a faithful, discerning soul.

---

View it as we will, to him that lives, Life is a divine matter.

## Speech and Deed



PEECH issuing in no deed is hateful and contemptible: — how can a man have any nobleness who knows not that? In God's name, let us find out what of noble or profitable we can *do*; if it be nothing, let us at least keep silence, and bear gracefully our strange lot.

## The Spiritual and the Practical



HE Spiritual is the parent and first cause of the Practical. The Spiritual everywhere originates the Practical, models it, makes it.

---

In Goodness, were it never so simple, there is the surest instinct for the Good: the uneasiest, unconquerable repulsion for the False and Bad.

## Isolation



SOLATION is the sum-total of wretchedness to man. To be cut off, to be left solitary; to have a world alien, not your world: all a hostile camp for you: not a home at all, of hearts and faces who are yours, whose you are.



## Words Without Meaning



O mortal has a right to wag his tongue, much less to wag his pen, without saying something: he knows not what mischief he does, past computation: scattering words without meaning—to afflict the whole world yet before they cease.

## Religion




MAN'S "religion" consists not of the many things he is in doubt of and tries to believe, but of the few he is assured of, and has no need of effort for believing.

---

Love is a discerning of the Infinite, in the Finite, of the Ideal made Real.

## Harmony

UMAN creatures will not *go* quite accurately together, any more than clocks will.

---

In the same home, one works, another goes idle.

---

Experience is the grand spiritual Doctor.

## Veneration



IN this world there is one Godlike thing, the essence of all that was or ever will be of Godlike in this world: the veneration done to Human Worth by the hearts of men.

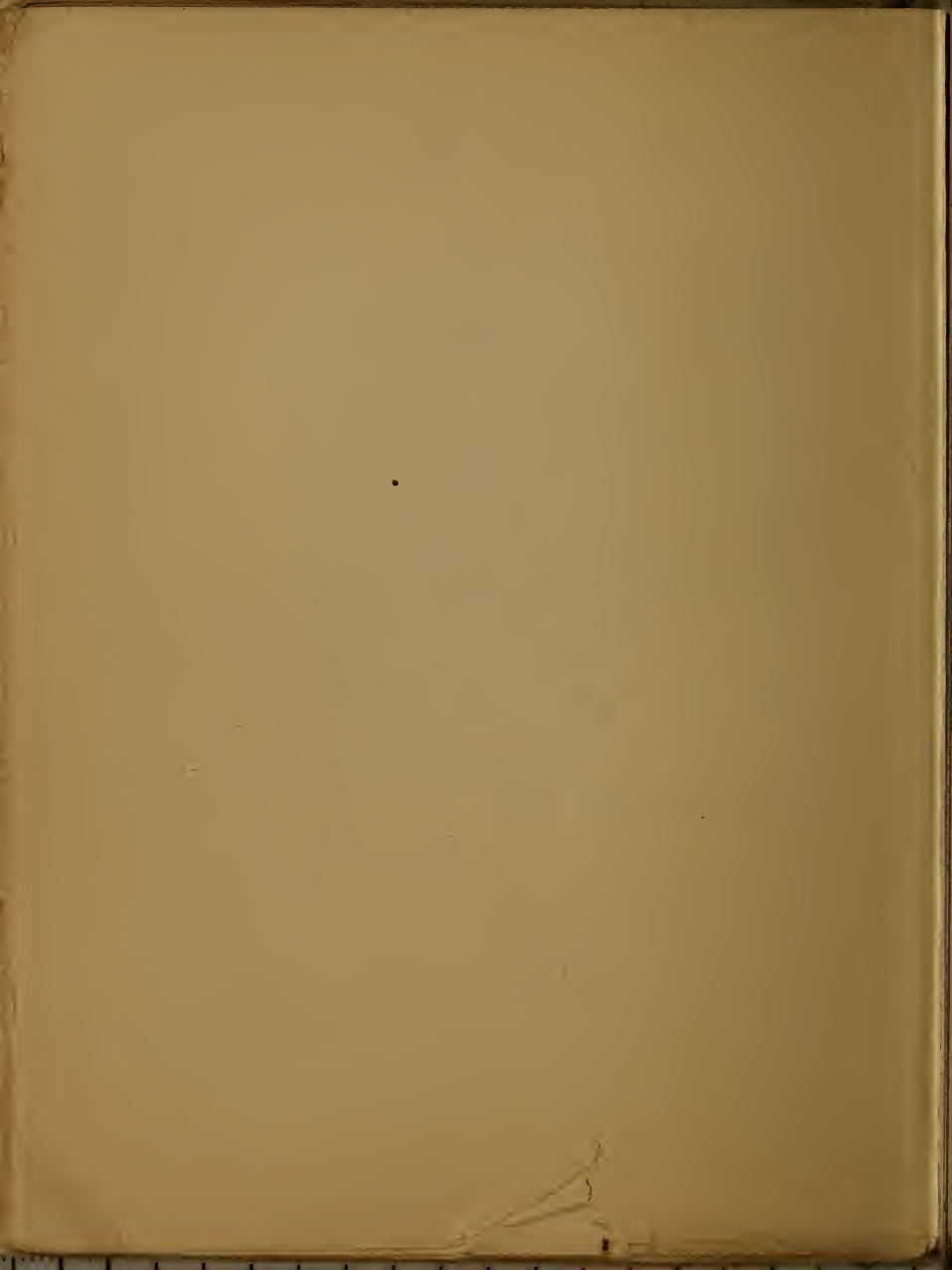
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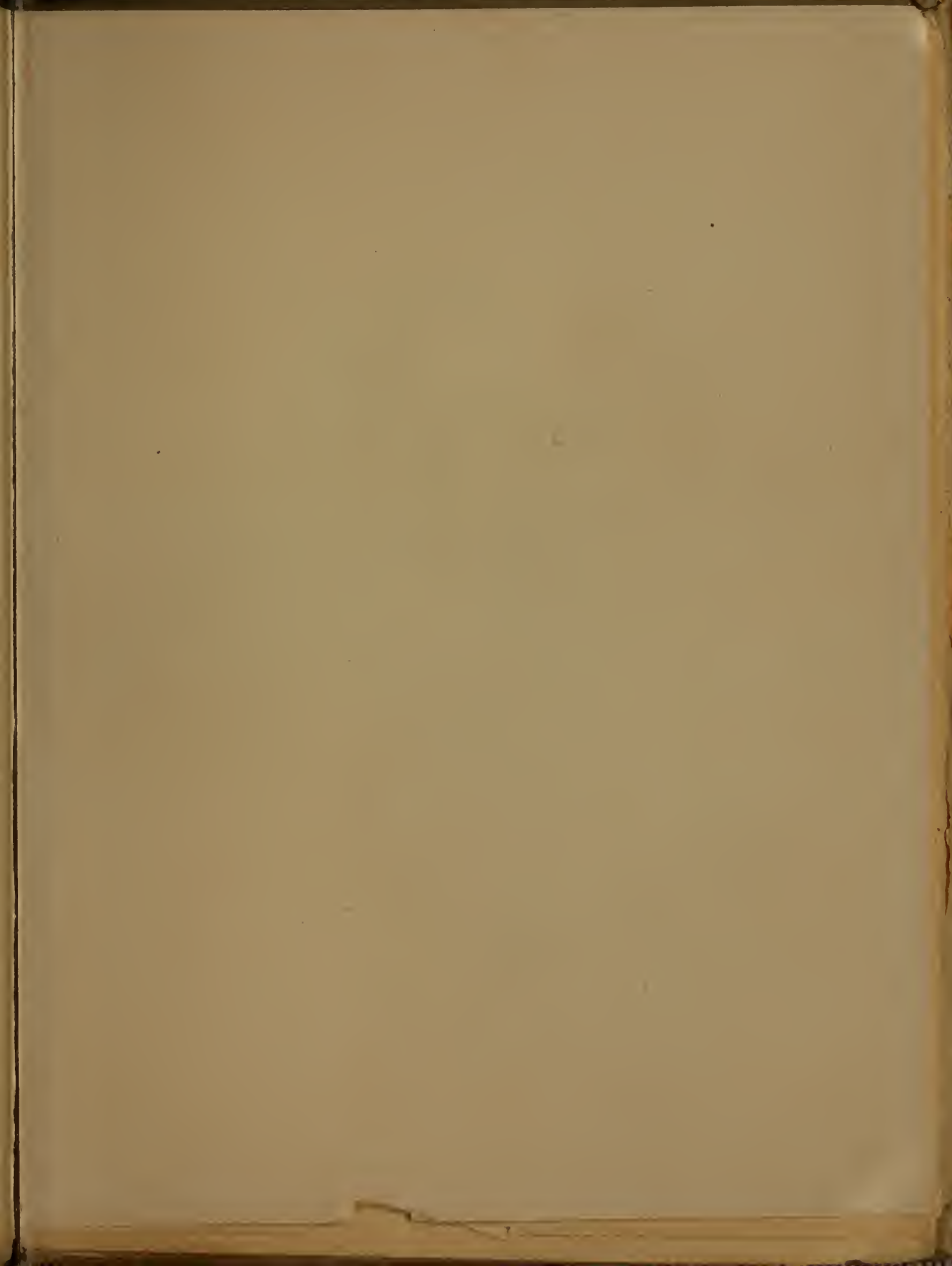
Thought without Reverence is barren.

## A Good Man's Work



BEAUTIFUL it is to see and understand that no worth, known or unknown, *can* die in this Earth. The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing underground, secretly making the ground green: it flows and flows, it joins itself with other veins and veinlets; one day, it will start forth as a visible perennial well.







W. W. Thackeray



PART SECOND



SELECTIONS FROM THE WRITINGS  
OF

**William Makepeace Thackeray**



## Living Up To One's Faith



OR faith, everywhere  
multitudes die will-  
ingly enough. . . .

'Tis not the dying for a faith  
that is hard — men of every  
nation have done that—it is the  
living up to it that is difficult.

---

A good conscience is the best  
looking-glass of Heaven.

## The Influence of Circumstance



OCCASION is the father of most that is good in us. As you have seen the awkward fingers and clumsy tools of a prisoner cut and fashion the most delicate little pieces of carved work; or achieve the most prodigious underground labors, and cut through walls of masonry and saw iron bars and fetters; 'tis misfortune that awakens ingenuity, or fortitude, or endurance, in hearts where these qualities had never come to life but for the circumstance which gave them a being.

## Hypocritical Households



**I**N houses where, in place of that sacred, inmost flame of love, there is discord at the center, the whole household becomes hypocritical, and each lies to his neighbor. The husband lies when the visitor comes in, and wears a grin of politeness before him. The wife lies in assuring grandpapa that she is perfectly happy. The servants lie, pretending to be unconscious of the fighting; and so, from morning till bedtime, life is passed in falsehood.

## Much from Little



HERE is scarce any thoughtful man or woman, but can look back upon his course of past life, and remember some point, trifling as it may have seemed at the time of occurrence, which has nevertheless turned and altered his whole career. 'Tis with almost all of us, a *grain de sable* that perverts or perhaps overthrows us.

## Mementoes



HO does not know of eyes lighted by love once, where the flame shines no more? Of lamps extinguished, once properly trimmed and tended? Every man has such in his house. Such mementoes make our splendorous chambers look blank and sad. Such faces seen in a day cast a gloom upon our sunshine.

## Misfortune



WHO is more worthy of respect than a brave man in misfortune?

---

But few men's life-voyages are destined to be all prosperous.

---

Taught by that bitter teacher  
—Misfortune.



## The World Good-Natured



HE world deals good-naturedly with good-natured people, and I never knew a sulky misanthropist who quarreled with it but it was he, and not it, that was in the wrong.

---

With a heart that's ever kind,  
A gentle spirit gay,  
You've spring perennial in your mind,  
And round you make a May!

## True Love



O be rich, to be famous!  
What do these profit  
a year hence, when  
other names sound louder than  
yours, when you lie hidden  
away under the ground, along  
with idle titles engraven on  
your coffin? But only true love  
lives after you—follows your  
memory with secret blessing—  
or precedes you and intercedes  
for you. *Non omnis moriar*—  
if dying, I yet live in a tender  
heart or two; nor am lost and  
hopeless living.

## The Greatest Blessing



O be able to bestow benefits or happiness on those one loves is surely the greatest blessing conferred upon a man. Sure, love *vincit omnia*: is immeasurably above all ambition, more precious than wealth, more noble than name. He knows not life who knows not that: he hath not felt the highest faculty of the soul who hath not enjoyed it.

## A Sad Ending



WHAT! does a stream rush out of a mountain free and pure, to roll through fair pastures, to feed and throw out bright tributaries, and to end in a village gutter? Lives that have noble commencements have often no better endings: it is not without a kind of awe and reverence that an observer should speculate upon such careers as he traces the course of them.

## Married Lovers



O see an old couple  
loving each other is  
the best sight of all.

In the name of my wife I  
write the completion of hope,  
and the summit of happiness.  
To have such a love is the one  
blessing, in comparison of  
which all earthly joy is of no  
value, and to think of her, is  
to praise God.

## Sympathy



WHO shall say how far sympathy reaches, and how truly love can prophesy?

---

To be doing good for some one else is the life of most good women. They are exuberant of kindness, as it were, and must impart it to some one.

## Useful Training



O training is so useful for children, great or small, as the company of their betters in rank or natural parts; in whose society they lose the overweening sense of their own importance, which stay-at-home people very commonly learn.

## The Use of Adversity



If it's hard for a man to bear his own good luck, 'tis harder still for his friends to bear it for him: and but few of them ordinarily can stand that trial: whereas one of the "precious uses" of adversity is, that it is a great reconciler; that it often brings back averted kindness, disarms animosity and causes yesterday's enemy to fling his hatred aside, and hold out a hand to the fallen friend of old days.



## Fragments



EN have all sorts of motives which carry them onward in life, and are driven into acts of desperation, or it may be of distinction, from a hundred causes.

---

How well men preach, and each is the example in his own sermon. How each has a story in a dispute and a true one too, and both are right or wrong as you will!

## Bits of Truth



IS written, since fighting begun,  
That sometimes we fight and we conquer,  
And sometimes we fight and we run.

---

Though small was your allowance  
You saved a little store;  
And those who save a little  
Shall get a plenty more.

## A Pleasant Calling



O be brave, handsome,  
twenty-two;  
With nothing else on  
earth to do  
But all day long to bill and coo;  
It were a pleasant calling.  
And had I such a partner sweet;  
A tender heart for mine to beat,  
A gentle hand my clasp to meet:—  
I'd let the world flow at my feet  
And never heed its brawling.

## Life



H, weary is life's path  
to all!  
Hard is the strife, and  
light the fall,  
But wondrous the reward!

---


O Vanity of vanities!  
How wayward the decrees of  
Fate are;  
How very weak the very wise,  
How very small the very great  
are!

## Desire for Gain



IRECTLY people expect to make a large interest their judgment seems to desert them: and because they wish for profit, they think they are sure of it, and disregard all warnings and all prudence.

## Snobs

T is a great mistake to judge of Snobs lightly, and think they exist among the lower classes merely. An immense percentage of Snobs, I believe, is to be found in every rank of this mortal life. You must not judge hastily or vulgarly of Snobs; to do so shows that you are yourself a Snob.

## Society



SOCIETY having ordained certain customs men are bound to obey the law of society, and conform to its harmless orders.

---

It is impossible, in our condition of society, not to be sometimes a Snob.

## A Gentleman




WHAT is it to be a gentleman? Is it to be honest, to be gentle, to be generous, to be brave, to be wise, and, possessing all these qualities, to exercise them in the most graceful outward manner?



## The Immortality of Love

**L**OVE seems to survive life, and to reach beyond it. I think we take it with us past the grave. Do we not still give it to those who have left us? May we not hope that they feel it for us, and that we shall leave it here in one or two fond bosoms, when we also are gone?

## Our Burdens

N a word, we carry our own burdens in the world; push and struggle along on our own affairs; are pinched by our own shoes — though heaven forbid we should not stop and forget ourselves sometimes when a friend cries out in distress, or we can help a poor stricken wanderer on his way.

## About Ourselves



S you yourself contritely own that you are unjust, jealous, uncharitable, so, you may be sure, some men are uncharitable, jealous, and unjust regarding you.

## The Mother



HE Mother . . . it did one's heart good to see her in that attitude in which I think every woman, be she ever so plain, looks beautiful—with her baby at her bosom. The child was sickly, but she did not see it: we were very poor, but what cared she?

## The Showy Sort

**H**ER charm of manner  
and person was of  
that showy sort  
which is most popular in this  
world, where people are wont  
to admire most that which gives  
them the least trouble to see:  
and so you will find a tulip of  
a woman to be in fashion where  
a little humble violet or daisy of  
creation is passed over without  
remark.

## Debts



WHAT man ever does tell all when pressed by his friends about his liabilities? He had spent a handsome allowance, and had raised around him such a fine crop of debts, as it would be very hard for any man to mow down; for there is no plant that grows so rapidly when once it has taken root.

## Unrighteousness



HAVE learned what it is to make friends with the mammon of unrighteousness: and that out of such friendship no good comes in the end to honest men.

## A Young Mother



Not a young mother one of the sweetest sights which life shows us? If she has been beautiful before, does not her present pure joy give a character of refinement and sacredness almost to her beauty, touch her sweet cheeks with fairer blushes, and impart I know not what serene brightness to her eyes.



## False Coin



HOW is it that we allow ourselves not to be deceived, but to be ingratiated so readily by a glib tongue, a ready laugh, and a frank manner? We know for the most part that it is false coin; we know that it is flattery, which it costs nothing to distribute to everybody, and yet we had rather hear it than be without it!

## Youthful Friendships



CULTIVATE kindly those friendships of your youth. . . .

How different the intimacies of after days are, and how much weaker the grasp of your own hand after it has been shaken about in twenty years' commerce with the world and has squeezed and dropped a thousand equally careless palms! As you can seldom fashion your tongue to speak a new language after twenty, the heart refuses to receive friendship pretty soon.

## Reminiscences



NLY to two or three persons in all the world are the reminiscences of a man's early youth interesting: to the parent who nursed him; to the fond wife or child mayhap, afterwards, who loves him: to himself always and supremely—whatever may be his actual prosperity or ill fortune, his present age, illness, difficulties, renown, or disappointments—the dawn of his life still shines brightly for him, the early grief and delights and attachments remain with him ever faithful and dear.

## Jilting and Jilted



SIMPLETON of twenty is better than a roué of twenty. It is better not to have thought at all, than to have thought such things as must go through a girl's mind whose life is passed in jilting and being jilted; whose eyes, as soon as they are opened, are turned to the main chance, and are taught to leer at an earl, to languish at a marquis, and to grow blind before a commoner.

## The Little Ills of Life



THE little ills of life are the hardest to bear, as we all very well know. What would the possession of a hundred thousand a year, or fame . . . of any glory and happiness, or good-fortune avail to a gentleman, for instance, who was allowed to enjoy them only with the condition of wearing a shoe with a couple of nails or sharp pebbles inside it? All life would rankle round those little nails.

## Anger



WHEN angered, the best of us mistake our own motives, as we do those of the enemy who inflames us. What may be private revenge, we take to be indignant virtue and just revolt against wrong.

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The greatest courage is to bear persecution, not to answer when you are reviled, and when a wrong has been done you to forgive.

## Revenge



REVENGE is wrong.  
Let alone that the  
wisest and best of all  
Judges has condemned it. It  
blackens the hearts of men. It  
distorts their views of right.  
It sets them to devise evil. It  
causes them to think unjustly  
of others. It is not the noblest  
return for injury, nor even the  
bravest way of meeting it.

## Circumstance



O we know ourselves,  
or what good or evil  
circumstances may  
bring from us? Did Cain  
know, as he and his younger  
brother played round their  
mother's knee, that the little  
hand which caressed Abel  
should one day grow larger  
and seize a brand to slay him?  
Thrice fortunate he, to whom  
circumstance is made easy;  
whom Fate visits with gentle  
trial, and kindly Heaven keeps  
out of temptation.



## Men of Letters



FOR one am quite ready to protest against the doctrine which some poetical sympathizers are inclined to put forward, viz.—that men of letters, and what is called genius, are to be exempt from the prose duties of this daily, bread-wanting, tax-paying life, and are not to be made to work and pay like their neighbors.

## Old Manuscripts



MAN who thinks of putting away a composition for ten years before he shall give it to the world, or exercise his own maturer judgment upon it, had best be very sure of the original strength and durability of the work: otherwise on withdrawing it from the crypt, he may find that, like small wine, it has lost what flavor it once had, and is only tasteless when opened.

## The Greatest Enemy



IN a word—his greatest enemy was *himself*; and as he had been pampering, and coaxing, and indulging that individual all his life, the rogue grew insolent as all spoiled servants will be: and at the slightest attempt to coerce him, or make him do that which was unpleasant to him, became frantically rude and unruly.

## Prosperity



HERE are some natures which are improved and softened by prosperity and kindness, as there are men of other dispositions who become arrogant and graceless under good fortune. Happy he who can endure one or the other with modesty and good-humor! Lucky he who has been educated to bear his fate, whatsoever it may be, by an early example of uprightness and a childish training in honor.

## Our Duties



OME are called upon to preach: let them preach . . . But we cannot all be parsons in church, that is clear. Some must sit silent and listen, or go to sleep mayhap. Have we not all our duties?

## Scepticism

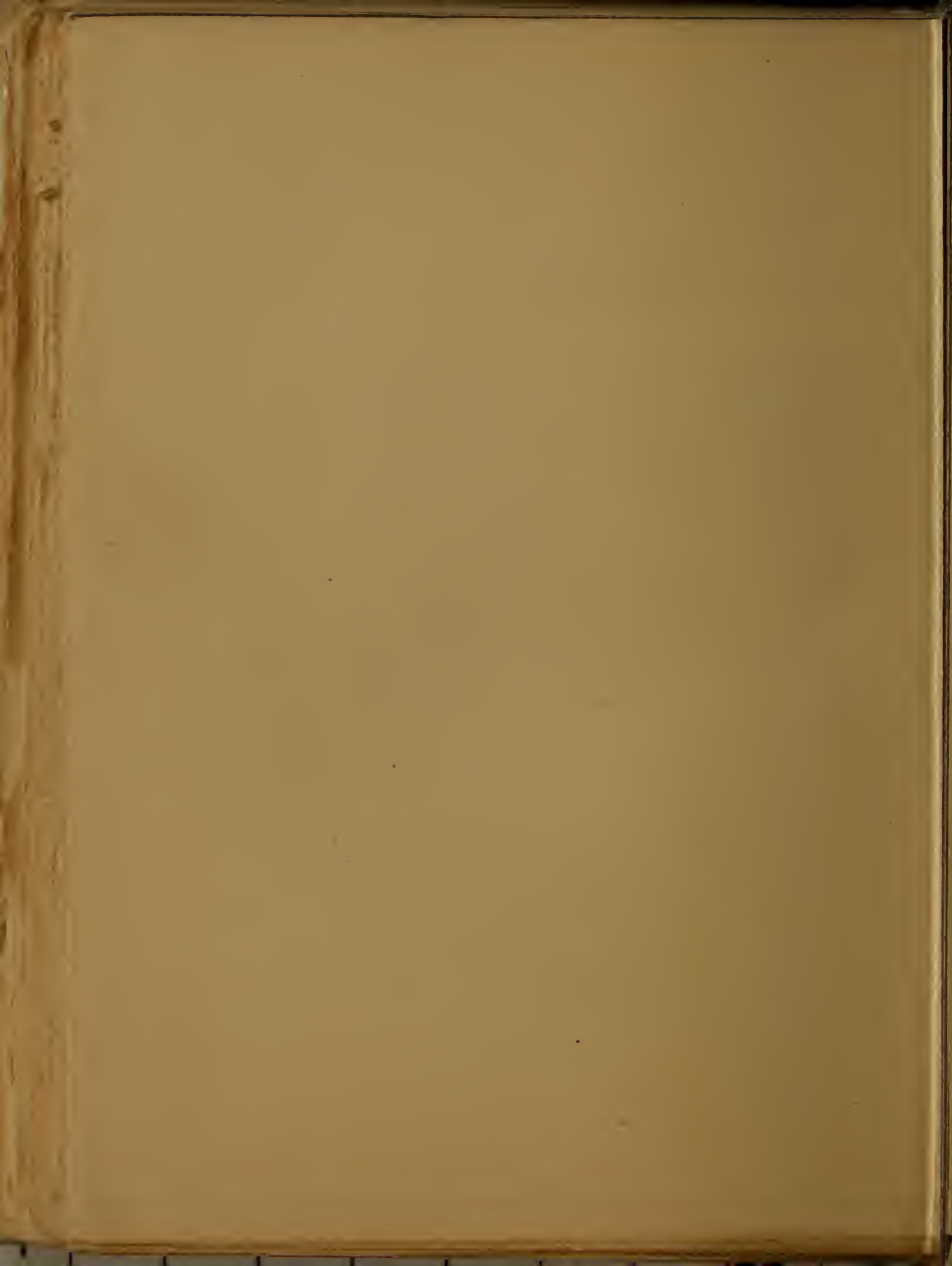


O what does scepticism lead? It leads a man to shameful loneliness and selfishness, so to speak—the more shameful because it is so good-humored, and conscienceless, and serene.

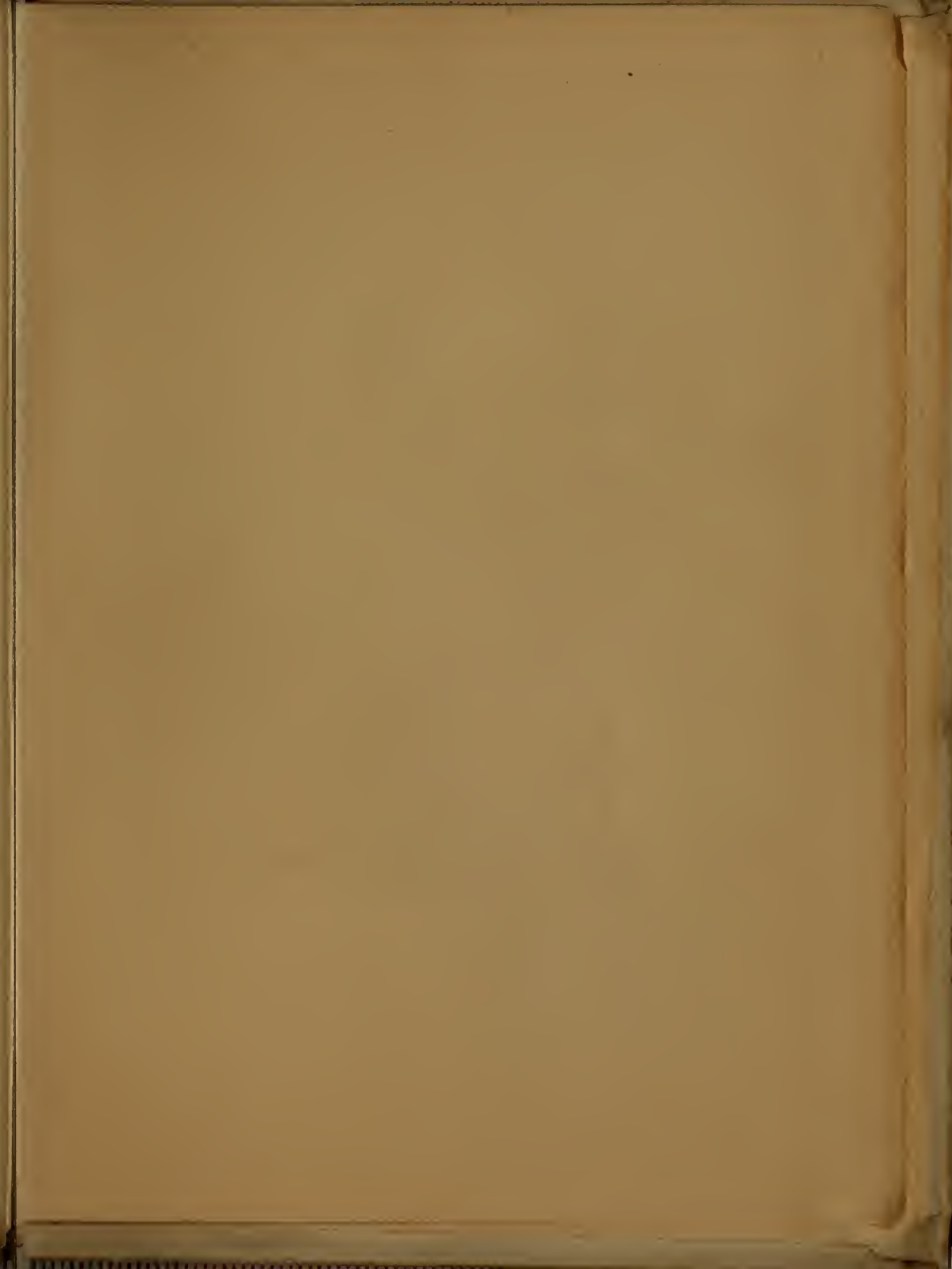
## Judgment



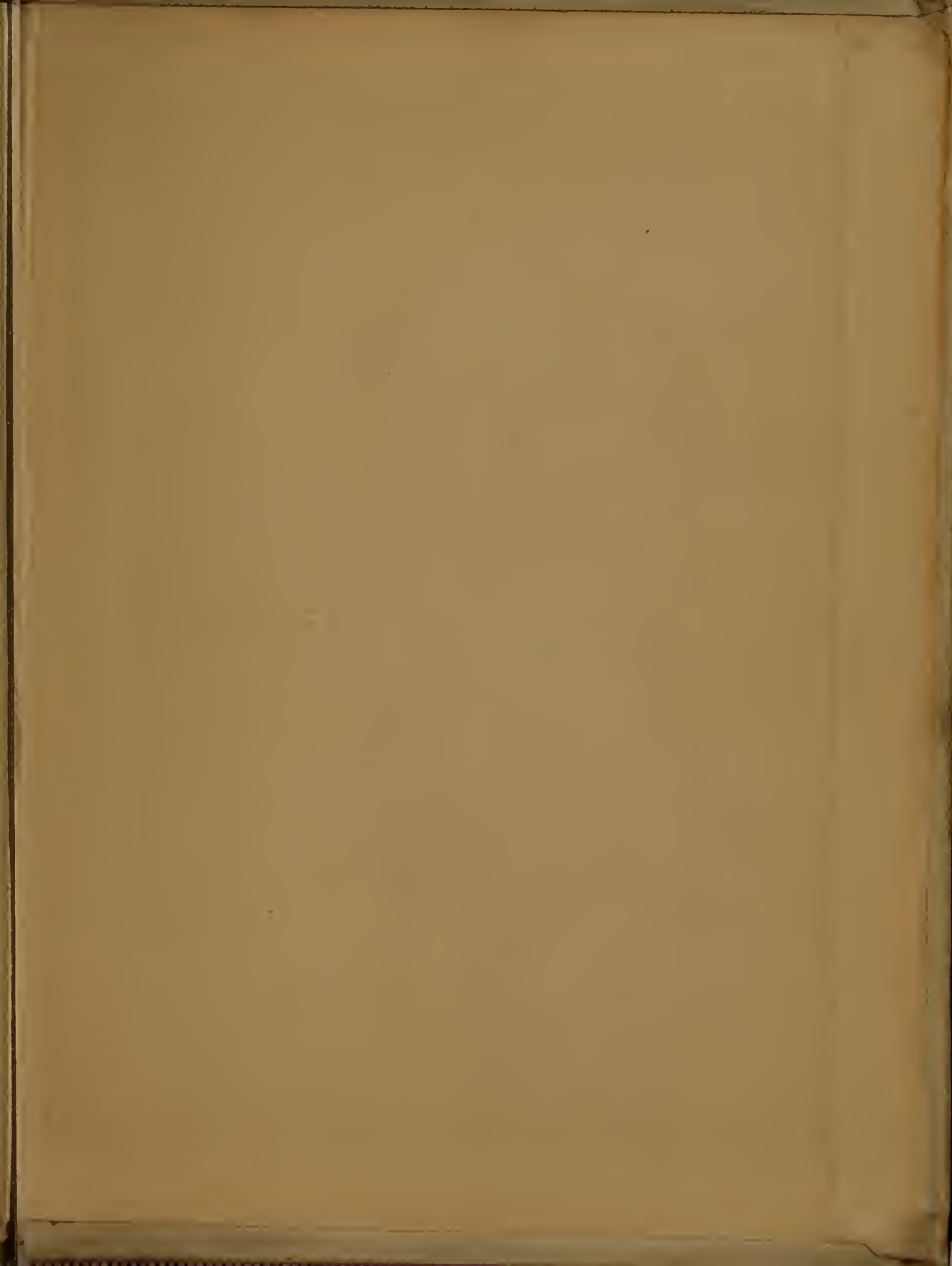
F even by common arithmetic we can multiply as we can reduce almost infinitely, the Great Reckoner must take count of all; and the small is not small, or the great great, to His infinity.







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