

the wide-ranging history, learned but never dry, was a literary success, receiving praise from all sides and from thinkers of all schools. The impartiality with which the author treated the contributions made to thought by England, France, and Germany respectively was universally recognised. This work he was able to complete so far as scientific and philosophical thought are concerned. A third part to be devoted to the less systematic thought that has found its expression in *belles lettres* was projected, and was to consist, like the two parts on scientific and philosophical thought, of two volumes; but this Dr. Merz finally decided, though he had collected much material, must be left for some successor.

Dr. Merz's labours, however, did not by any means cease. At the end of 1915 he published a very interesting essay on Religion and Science, in which he showed that the certainty of science within its limits depends on its method of abstraction. A view of things "all together," in which the mind, without which the external world cannot be known, is restored as part of the total system of reality, leads to recognition of the religious attitude as a mode of comprehending the universe, including man. Philosophy mediates between science and religion, explaining the validity in its own manner of each mode of viewing things.

In a like essay, "Fragment on the Human Mind" (1919), Dr. Merz showed his freedom from some prejudices of that reaction in nineteenth-century English thought which had gone to Germany for a more spiritual doctrine than the native philosophy seemed to result in. Knowing and appreciating the rule of Kant and Hegel and their successors, in the end he found in the psychological method of Locke, Berkeley, and Hume the most valid, as well as the most accessible way to show the fallacies of the "mechanical Philosophy" when regarded, not simply as the most powerful instrument of scientific thought, but as revealing the ultimate nature of the universe. To give us a suggestion that reality is spiritual, Locke's "plain historical way," namely, the method of introspection, remains sufficient.

#### COLONEL SIR HENRY THUILLIER, K.C.I.E.

THE late Sir Henry Thuillier, who died on March 4, was Surveyor-General of India from 1886 to 1895, and was distinguished as an able and tactful administrator. His name is so generally associated with administrative work, that his success as a geodetic observer in the earlier part of his career is apt to be overlooked.

Thuillier was commissioned in the Bengal Engineers in 1857, the year of the Mutiny, and he was appointed to the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India in 1859. In 1859-1861 he was one of the observers employed in carrying a chain of principal triangulation round the Punjab frontier along the line of the river Indus; this chain has been the fundamental base of all the later surveys, which have been extended during campaigns into Afghanistan, Waziristan, and Tirah.

In 1862 Thuillier was appointed to the eastern frontier of India, and for the next six years he had the difficult task of extending the principal triangulation eastwards from Calcutta to Burma. During the first

half of the nineteenth century the geodetic triangulation had been carried across mountains and plains, deserts, fields and forests, and the observers had had to adapt their methods of observation to the varying types of country; but in Eastern Bengal Thuillier encountered a type of country that had not been met with before, and which was probably the most unsuitable of all types for triangulation. He had to carry chains of triangles over the deltaic swamps of the Ganges and Brahmaputra; the country was absolutely flat and overgrown with heavy jungle.

Thuillier had to cut glades through the jungle so as to render the several stations of his triangulation mutually visible from one another. The party suffered continually from malaria; the clearing of the glades was so laborious that their width had to be limited to a few feet. The exact line in which any particular glade had to be cut from one station to another was not known with sufficient accuracy to enable the men to clear the jungle in the correct direction, and numerous trial glades had to be cut in order to determine the true alignment. In one year on the Brahmaputra series of triangulation, Thuillier had to clear 700 miles of glade through dense jungle, and in the six years the total length of the clearance lines was nearly 4000 miles.

Sir Henry Thuillier had also considerable experience of surveying at high altitudes. He was trained in the famous Kashmir survey of Montgomerie and Godwin-Austen (1861), and from 1870 to 1873 he was in charge of the survey of the Kumaun Himalayas, including the glacial areas of Nanda Devi and Trisul. Many of his survey marks were above 20,000 feet.

PROF. J. A. GREEN.

WE are grieved to hear of the sudden death, following upon an operation, of Prof. John Alfred Green, professor of education in Sheffield University. Many of us knew Prof. Green best in connection with the Educational Science Section of the British Association, of which he was for several years Recorder. He had the virtue we admire in a Tangye silent gas engine—converting all his energy into work and none into fuss—of a restrained enthusiasm, able to work in harness, but no less enthusiastic because he did not boil over into the vapid. Hence he was invaluable in the early days of the Educational Science Section, when many doubted whether there were, or could be, such a thing as educational science. But Prof. Green had visions and lived to realise them. He was secretary of the Committee on Mental and Physical Factors involved in Education, and the opening pages of the Report presented at Sheffield in 1910 make his attitude clear: "application of experimental methods to the investigation of mental phenomena" . . . "study of the persons to be educated and their attitude towards methods of instruction." If Section L still devotes a day annually to education and psychology, that is largely Prof. Green's doing. The work was carried further by him in *The Journal of Experimental Pedagogy*, which he edited. In that journal Prof. Green has left us a monument and a guidepost which may encourage us to go forward in the way which he was one of the first to tread.

H. R.