

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION MANUALS

EDITED BY PROFESSOR KNIGHT

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ELEMENTS OF PSYCHOLOGY



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Elements of Psychology

By GEORGE CROOM ROBERTSON

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*EDITED FROM NOTES OF LECTURES DELIVERED
AT THE COLLEGE, 1870-1892*

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE



IN accepting the flattering invitation of the Editor of this series that I should contribute to it two manuals compiled from George Croom Robertson's college lectures on Psychology and Philosophy, I am doing some injustice to the memory of my revered teacher and friend in order that thereby I may render him a larger justice. It is true that in the opinion of scholars most competent to speak—of Professors Bain, Sully, and James Ward—while it were good that no teaching of such a man should be lost, it would have been repugnant to Professor Robertson's own feelings to see his extemporary discourses in print. They know how he drew a sharp distinction between the style suitable for oral teaching and that appropriate to the literary registration and publication of one's ideas. And the truth and aptness of the spoken matter would of course be liable to every degree of deflexion in passing through the reporting medium. But this compilation does not pretend to clothe the author's ideas in a literary style such as he himself would have approved. The discrepancy in the two styles is illustrated in these pages. The lecture on the growth of the Mind,