

*G.R.S. Mead
shows his true colours*



His task is done, and his small skiff launched.

Verbatim from G.R.S. Mead, *Orpheus: The Theosophy of the Greeks*. London: Theosophical Publishing Society, 1896; Conclusion, p. 305.

My task is done and my small skiff launched. That it is imperfect and unworthy of so precious a burden of ancient treasure, no one is better aware than myself. But such as it is, I commit it to the troubled sea of modern thought, hoping that a favourable current may carry it to some few who can value the freight at its true worth. In the construction of my skiff I have mainly combined the researches of Lobeck, who was a scholar and no mystic, with the writings of Taylor, who was half scholar, half mystic,¹ and cemented all together with some information derived from H.P. Blavatsky, who was a mystic and no scholar.² I write as a man convinced that the Mysteries have not gone from the earth, but still exist and have their genuine adherents and initiators; in the fervent hope that some, at least, who read, will not be unmindful of the past, and with the certain knowledge that a few actually possess a full memory of that past which the many have, for a time, forgotten.



¹ [All sorts of insinuations have been industriously levelled at Thomas Taylor by the so-called “scholars” of his day. By joining the chorus of the narrow-minded dogmatists and materialists, Mead has shown his true colours. Professor Wilder once remarked about Taylor that “others may have known more Greek, but he knew more Plato.” Esoteric philosophy, wrote the English Platonist, “may be compared to a luminous pyramid, terminating in Deity, and having for its basis the rational soul of man and its spontaneous unperverted conceptions.”

See what Madame Blavatsky thought of him under the title “Thomas Taylor, the English Platonist,” in our *Buddhas and Initiates Series*, and find out about his impact on modern academic thought by visiting [The Prometheus Trust](#). — ED. PHIL.]

² [Madame Blavatsky’s private secretary admitted that his boss was a “mystic,” but omitted to acknowledge her status of initiated Occultist — a high chela, in fact. But when he belittled her as “no scholar” we sat up and took notice.

Paraphrasing of how John Dryden referred to William Shakespeare, Madame Blavatsky was naturally learned for she needed not the spectacles of books to read nature: she looked inwards, and found the expansive force of Truth there. No amount of book-learning can ever grant soul-wisdom to self-inflated egos. “Great intellectual powers are often no proof of, but are impediments to spiritual and right conceptions; witness most of the great men of science. We must rather pity than blame them,” says Blavatsky. She being dead yet speaketh. — ED. PHIL.]

Suggested reading for students.



Selections from our Down to Earth Series.

- A BALANCED VIEW OF THE MOTIVES BEHIND DIETARY PREFERENCES
- A DABBLER IN OCCULTISM EXPOSED
- A DIRE PROPHECY ABOUT EGYPT
- A RICH LIFE, WITHOUT THE TRAPPINGS OF MAMMON
- ALLOPATHS PERSECUTING HOMEOPATHS
- AMAZING STORIES, DISCOUNTED BY THE SCIENTIST AND THE RELIGIOUS BIGOT
- ARYAN MUSIC
- BLAVATSKY ON HOW TO EDUCATE CHILDREN
- BLAVATSKY ON THE MATERIALISM OF TODAY
- BORN ATHEIST, BURIED CHRISTIAN
- BROTHERHOOD RANKS ABOVE MEDITATION
- CAN EATING ANIMAL FLESH EVER BE ETHICAL
- CHESTERFIELD'S CHOICE THOUGHTS TO HIS SON
- CHILDREN TRAINING THEMSELVES FOR MURDER
- CICERO'S TUSCULAN DISPUTATIONS - TR. YONGE
- CIVILIZATION, THE DEATH OF ART AND BEAUTY
- COCK, A VERY OCCULT BIRD
- COMPETITION RAGES MOST FIERCELY IN CHRISTIAN LANDS
- CRUELTY IN THE BIRCH GROVE
- DAZZLED GLIMPSES INTO THE ASTRAL LIGHT
- EARTHQUAKES ARE THE OUTCOME OF SINS COMMITTED BY MEN
- ENGLISH NEWSPAPER SLANDERS RUSSIAN LADY
- EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING IS INTERRELATED
- FLESH-EATING AMONG BUDDHIST MONKS
- FOUL CONSPIRACIES AND BLATANT LIES LEVELLED AGAINST MADAME BLAVATSKY
- GORDON ON FAME, THAT COY GODDESS

DOWN TO EARTH SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- HIEROCLES EXALTS WEDLOCK
- HOW A DEVIL'S IMP REDEEMED HIS LOAF
- HOW TO CONDUCT OURSELVES TOWARDS OUR PARENTS
- IDOLATRY AND ZOOLATRY
- INSIGHTS TO EMOTION IN ART
- JUDICIAL PROCESSES AND PUNISHMENT IN CLASSICAL INDIA
- LÉVI ON THE TWO OPPOSING FORCES - TR. WAITE
- LÉVI WARNS THE IMPUDENT - TR. WAITE
- MEDITATION PROPER IS SPIRITUAL SEERSHIP
- MIRACLES ARE NATURAL PHENOMENA
- MODERN INDIA IS SPIRITUALLY DEGRADED
- MUSINGS OF AN UNPOPULAR PHILOSOPHER
- NARCISSISM AND ANIMAL SENSUALISM PERSONIFIED
- OCCULT PROPHECIES
- OCCULT TALES BY JUDGE
- ONIONS WERE CONSIDERED TOO SACRED TO BE EATEN
- OXFORD DON PROFANES VEDIC HYMN
- PLUTARCH ON THE TRANQUILLITY OF THE MIND - TR. MORGAN
- PLUTARCH ON WHETHER WATER OR LAND ANIMALS ARE THE MOST CRAFTY
- PLUTARCH ON WHY EATING ANIMALS IS REPULSIVE - TR. BAXTER
- POVERTY BREEDS GENEROSITY, WEALTH GREED AND SELFISHNESS
- PROMETHEUS, THE LIGHT-BRINGER, HURLED DOWN TO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH
- PYTHAGORAS' BAN OF BEANS
- REFRAIN FROM THE MANIA OF CELEBRATING PERSONALITIES
- RHOADES ON TRAINING THE IMAGINATION
- RUSKIN'S SESAME AND LILIES
- RUSSIAN VANDALISM OF PERSIAN ZOROASTRIANISM
- SAPPHIRE BLUE, THE MOST ELECTRIC OF ALL COLOURS
- SIXTEEN CAUTIONS IN PARAGRAPHS BY JUDGE
- SOCIAL ETHICS OF NINETEENTH CENTURY RUSSIA
- SPECULATIVE LUCUBRATIONS OF AN ARISTOTELEAN PHILOSOPHER
- SPIRITUAL RULES AND PROTREPTICS
- TAYLOR'S VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF BRUTES

DOWN TO EARTH SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- TEN INJUNCTIONS FOR THEOSOPHISTS BY JUDGE
- TERENCE ON LENIENCE
- THE BIRTHMARK BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
- THE FEAR OF NUMBER THIRTEEN
- THE HOLLOW EARTH
- THE JAPANESE SHOULD NOT BOW DOWN TO CHRISTIAN ETHICS
- THE LEARNED TREE OF TIBET
- THE OCCULT CAUSES OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES
- THE PERNICIOUS INFLUENCE OF THE MOON
- THE RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL IS NEITHER RELIGIOUS NOR PHILOSOPHICAL
- THE RUSSIAN MOTE AND THE BRITISH BEAM
- THE SEWER OF DOGMATIC CREEDS AND BLIND FAITH
- THE SPARKLE OF “LIGHT ON THE PATH” HAS BEEN DIMMED BY A DARK STAIN
- THE SPIRIT OF LIFE ISSUES FROM THE EARTH’S NORTH POLE
- THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL NEVER EXISTED
- THE UNGRATEFUL MAN
- THE VELVETEEN RABBIT
- TRUTH IS EXILED FROM THE PRESS BECAUSE IT IS NOT AS BEGUILING AS FALSEHOOD
- VIRGIL'S GEORGICS - TR. RHOADES
- WESTERN RELIGION ALONE IS TO BLAME FOR THE CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
- WHAT IS MUSIC BY RICE
- WHEN THE DOORS OF THE WORLD CLOSED ON THEM
- WHY DO ANIMALS SUFFER
- WHY THE HOLLOW MEN PRIZE THEIR VICE





Selected works by Thomas Taylor, the English Platonist.

- PROCLUS ON SOCRATES' DAEMON
- THOMAS TAYLOR, THE ENGLISH PLATONIST
— *in our Buddhas and Initiates Series.*
- MEDITATION - PROCLUS ON PLATO
- TAYLOR'S VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF BRUTES
— *in our Down to Earth Series.*
- PLOTINUS ON THE INTELLIGIBLE BEAUTY
- PORPHYRY ON THE CAVE OF THE NYMPHS
- TAYLOR ON THE HYMNS OF ORPHEUS
- TAYLOR ON THE WANDERINGS OF ULYSSES
— *in our Hellenic and Hellenistic Papers Series.*
- SENTENCES BY SECTUS THE PYTHAGOREAN
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- PROCLUS' HYMN TO ATHENA
- TAYLOR ON FIVE DIVINE DANCES
- TAYLOR ON THE GOOD OF PLOTINUS
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