

So, also, the imperfections of evidence as to the motives and purposes inspiring the action will become more discernible in proportion to the fulness of our conception of what the evidence should be to distinguish between action from the one or the other of possible motives. The necessary result will be a less disposition to reach conclusions upon imperfect grounds. So, also, there will be a less inclination to misapply evidence; for, several constructions being definitely in mind, the indices of the one motive are less liable to be mistaken for the indices of another.

The total outcome is greater care in ascertaining the facts, and greater discrimination and caution in drawing conclusions. I am confident, therefore, that the general application of this method to the affairs of social and civic life would go far to remove those misunderstandings, misjudgments, and misrepresentations which constitute so pervasive an evil in our social and our political atmospheres, the source of immeasurable suffering to the best and most sensitive souls. The misobservations, the misstatements, the misinterpretations, of life may cause less gross suffering than some other evils; but they, being more universal and more subtle, pain. The remedy lies, indeed, partly in charity, but more largely in correct intellectual habits, in a predominant, ever-present disposition to see things as they are, and to judge them in the full light of an unbiased weighing of evidence applied to all possible constructions, accompanied by a withholding of judgment when the evidence is insufficient to justify conclusions.

I believe that one of the greatest moral reforms that lies immediately before us consists in the general introduction into social and civic life of that habit of mental procedure which is known in investigation as the method of multiple working hypotheses.

#### AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

SPEAKING of Professor Carl Lumholtz's "Among Cannibals," the *Athenæum* says that "the volume is not only agreeable reading throughout, but is full of curious information."

— In the *Jenness Miller Magazine* for February is a physical culture article by Miss Jenness. "The History of St. Valentine's Day," by Laura Giddings, suggests a new form of entertainment for modern society.

— In the *Electrical World* of Jan. 11 was an illustrated article descriptive of the new and handsomely equipped offices of that enterprising paper, which occupy the better part of a floor in the recently finished Times Building on Park Row, this city,—one of the finest office buildings in the world.

— The brother of President Harrison's private secretary, Mr. A. J. Halford, has written for the March number of the *Philadelphia Ladies' Home Journal* an article on "Mrs. Harrison's Daily Life in the White House," prepared with the consent and assistance of Mrs. Harrison.

— It is thought that the death of Mr. Frank Marshall will cause no delay in the publication of the eighth and final volume of the "Henry Irving Shakespeare." Mr. Marshall's arduous labors on this work were the indirect cause of his illness. The eighth volume, by the way, will contain "Hamlet."

— One of the gravest and most important problems that confront the American people relates to the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who pour into this country every year. In a timely book, soon to be published by the Scribners, Richmond M. Smith, professor of political economy in Columbia College, discusses the historical, statistical, economic, ethnic, and social aspects of this interesting question.

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