



The Misinterpretation of Locke as a Formalist in Educational Philosophy, Vol. 3 (Classic Reprint)

By Vivian Trow Thayer

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Misinterpretation of Locke as a Formalist in Educational Philosophy, Vol. 3 What constitutes the significance of a thinker? Does it consist alone in the truths which he creates and hands on to posterity as a fixed and unchangeable inheritance? Or, does it rest as well in his capacity to stimulate his followers to advance into promised lands where he himself can plant no seed and consequently reap no harvests? Perhaps as science becomes less static and dogmatic we incline to recognize a man's importance more and more in terms of the problems which he sets for others to solve and less as regards his definite and tangible contribution to the fund of human knowledge. Hume in metaphysics is, of course, an illustration of this latter type. His destructive analysis of the metaphysical presuppositions of his day forced a right-about-face in theories of knowledge and a new attempt to describe the nature of the human understanding. So, too, Herbart in his psychology. Herbart's ideas bear much the same relation to the concept of mind...

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