MORALITY AND THEISM

of the community and the race. We naturally desire health, and to be healthy means to be temperate and continent; we desire, for ourselves and our families, the means of living, and to obtain them we must be industrious, frugal, and of good repute; we desire domestic happiness, and to obtain it we must practise the domestic virtues; we desire the good-will of our fellow-men with the advantages which it brings, and to obtain it we must practise the virtues of good members of society and good citizens. There is no such thing as altruism in the literal sense of that term. Self is present in all we do, though the self is that of a being who desires love and fellowship as well as food and raiment; with which qualification the philosophy which resolved morality into self-interest, has though much decried, would be right enough. No man ever really acts against what he apprehends at the time to be his interest, though his interest may lead him to sacrifice his animal or individual to his domestic or social desires.

The good which we do to others yields

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