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NO conclusion in this book is considered by its Author as absolute or even certain; the book is simply a record of the way things look to him. The series of thoughts which gave rise to it was involuntary and irrepressible. To write these down and formulate them was not a choice but a necessity. The Author cannot therefore claim that he writes the book to make the world wiser. He certainly does not write it for money or fame, neither does he look for either as his reward—in fact he is far from being certain that he deserves any reward; but if he succeeds in relieving his own mind of some of the problems which have weighed upon it for more than twenty years, he will consider himself well paid; and should he also succeed in transplanting some of these problems into other and better minds, where they may reach a higher development and receive a truer, a more perfect solution, this would be a compensation indeed—not for writing the book, which was not a labor and needed no compensation, but for the years of mental travail that these problems have imposed upon him.