

ment obsolete. The original element in pragmatism is not so much its empiricism, as its attempted identification of truth and utility.

Knowledge of reality is dissolved by Hume into a flux of unconnected impressions, held together by the merely subjective force of habit or custom. Experimental knowledge is tested by an appeal to "pure experience." But this test is inadequate, if, as we think, experimental science itself involves logical factors. Hume's philosophy suffers from two deficiencies common to all empiricism, from Francis Bacon to the present time,—an undue depreciation of logic, through failure to grasp the element of constructive reason in experience; and, what is connected therewith, neglect of mathematical knowledge. That these deficiencies are less apparent in the case of Hume's subtle expositions than in those of his less expert predecessors and successors, make them none the less radical weaknesses of a theory of knowledge. His empiricism underlies and limits even his historical writings, which, in consequence, either take too slight account of, or leave out of consideration, the racial peculiarities of different nations.

Hume is a thoroughly modern thinker. When one reads his works one forgets that they are over one hundred and fifty years old. He was able to formulate philosophical problems in a way in which they can be treated with advantage even at the present time. His hope that he might "contribute a little to the advance of knowledge" has been surely amply realised; for his work led directly to the production of the "Critique of Pure Reason." Some competent thinkers in Germany at the present day consider Hume as great a philosopher as the criticist of Königsberg.

Hume cannot be regarded in any sense as representative of Scottish philosophy. Neither his true predecessors nor successors belonged to any "Scottish school." In their attack on Hume the members of this school relied on too blunt an instrument, "common sense," of which he was endowed with at least as large a measure as were Thomas Reid or Dugald Stewart. In addition, he was the possessor of something they