

themselves to be merely describing : they were begging the question where they thought that they were merely stating a case. Without a word of warning they pass backwards and forwards between the psychological and the ontological plane of discussion : the science becomes in their hands simply a branch or sub-division of General Metaphysics : and it cannot be too strongly emphasized that the distinction which is grounded merely on material or extent is not the distinction which has been found so fertile in the last generation. Nor was the attempt of the Schoolmen and their disciples to separate "Rational" from "Empirical" Psychology any real anticipation of the later standpoint. For any one who studies the empirical treatment by writers of the mediaeval tradition will observe that it is similar only in name to what is understood by empirical methods to-day. Throughout the hand of the metaphysician lies heavily upon them ; he is constantly there, taking bearings, introducing assumptions, dictating the very terms in which the questions shall be propounded.

But if the scholastics disturbed their psychology with their metaphysics, it is equally true that the disciples of Locke and Hume disturbed their metaphysics with their psychology. They quite rightly conceived it to be their business to deal with mind by the methods of a natural science. They also quite rightly determined that whatever the psychologist's metaphysical opinions may be, he must not import into his science any presuppositions borrowed from such a quarter. They understood what one might call the principle of the psychologist's independence. What they did not realize was that in a very important respect the metaphysician is also independent of *him*. For, in claiming the privileges of a natural