

# AN ESSAY ON KANT

Founder of the Critical  
Philosophy.

BY L. R. MACDONALD

Kant's Contribution to Phil-  
osophy and the World  
of Thought.

"His works have exercised such in-  
fluence upon European thought, that in  
the estimation of the best historical  
judges, they may be placed on a level  
with the great events of the French  
Revolution as the most important fac-  
tors in determining the characteristic  
features of the nineteenth century cul-  
ture" such are the words by which the  
Encyclopaedia Britannica opens the  
biography of Immanuel Kant. It has  
occasionally fallen to the lot of one  
man to influence greatly, perhaps to  
change entirely the thought or the in-  
stitutions of his time. But it is never  
to the man's genius alone that this is  
due. It will be found that the age was  
ready to receive his message. One  
century earlier or one later his work  
would have been a comparative,  
perhaps, a total failure.

The mystics of the previous cen-  
tury De-Cartes and Spinoza, were now  
forgotten. Pascal and Malebranche  
were laid aside. Even Leibnitz's work  
was obscured and misunderstood. The  
empiricist was on a throne. Locke's  
argument that all ideas of the mind are  
the product of experience, either simple  
sensations or reflections upon sense  
phenomena, had made the pendulum of  
speculative thought swing to the op-  
posite extreme. Hume, taking Locke's  
conclusions as his own premises, with  
merciless logic proved causality a simple  
order of success in the inner life, a  
mere series of chance experiences, and  
the moral law a feeling in the mind of  
the sympathetic subject. Voltaire, the  
apostle of the new era in France, which  
by a strange anomaly was called the  
period of Illuminism, had taken the  
physics of Newton and the philosophy  
of Locke and perverted them to suit his  
own sensual and skeptical purposes.  
Condillac reached the extreme point of  
empiricism, when he made the famous  
statue obtain all the knowledge and  
feelings which we possess, by the mere  
opening up of one sense after another.  
It was time for the pendulum to swing  
back.

A matter mind whose conceptions  
were to revolutionize human thought  
led the way. Criticism was to reveal  
both to empiricism and dogmatism the  
unwarrantable nature of their as-  
sumptions and hold the balance true  
between them. It was Kant, who ex-  
ploring the recesses of the human mind  
as with a lighted candle, discovered to  
man the limitations of his intellectual  
faculties and the boundary of his  
knowledge.

This great philosopher, was born at  
Konigsberg in 1724 and is believed  
never to have travelled more than forty  
miles from his native town. Here he  
was educated, here he taught and here  
he died at a good round age in 1804.  
Recoiling from the theological studies  
to which his parents wished him to  
devote himself, he turned his attention  
to languages, Mathematics and Physics.  
An objection urged against some men  
of his class, that they line above the  
world of fact and experience in the  
aerial region of abstract thought, can-  
not in any measure be urged against  
him. He was interested in all fields of  
human research. Especially had he a  
complete and thorough mastery of

physical science. It was he, and not  
La Place who was the author of the  
theory since called the Nebular Hypothe-  
sis. The ether as the underlying sub-  
stance of heat and light was the subject  
of his inaugural dissertation in 1755.

After many years of weary waiting  
Kant became professor of logic and  
metaphysics in the University of Konig-  
sberg. Slowly his philosophical medita-  
tions began to assume the form of that  
system which has made his name im-  
mortal. His University now shares his  
fame. When the citizens of Konigs-  
berg saw the philosopher step out of  
his door each afternoon at exactly half  
past four and walk up and down the  
lime tree avenue eight times in suc-  
cession, never more, never less, at every  
season and in all weathers, not less  
punctual in all his routine of life than  
the Cathedral clock, if they had any  
idea of the world-upheaving thoughts  
gathering form and coherence in his  
mind, they might well have bowed  
with reverential awe before him. But  
to them he was a plain, unpretentious  
professor of philosophy and nothing  
more.

In 1781 appeared his "Critique of  
Pure Reason" of which all his later  
writings are a development. For six  
years this majestic work lay neglected.  
Few, if any, realized that a new mine  
of intellectual wealth had been opened  
up. The Germans were not then the  
philosophers they now are. The style  
of the book had little to recommend it.  
The barbarous terminology in which  
the author loved to clothe his  
ideas made it cumbersome and repul-  
sive. He may be considered one  
of the worst writers of German  
prose that ever published a book, and  
this is saying a great deal in his dis-  
praise. His involved sentences some-  
times cover a complete page. The  
author who could refer to the soul as  
the "Unconditioned of the Categorical  
synthesis in a subject," and to the uni-  
verse as the "Unconditioned of the  
hypothetical synthesis of the members  
in a series," had no mean power of in-  
venting uncouth and perplexing terms.  
But at last Germany awoke from her  
apathy. The philosopher's reward was  
high at hand. Schurz and Reinhold's  
advocacy of the new system suddenly  
won for him tributes from the brightest  
intellects of his native country. Lectures  
on the transcendental philosophy in the  
universities, and discussions among the  
literati were the order of the day.  
Young men flocked to Konigsberg. In  
twenty-five years the "Critique" trans-  
formed a people hitherto remarkably  
barren in philosophical speculation into  
the typical metaphysical race of  
Europe.

Too long had vain empiricism floun-  
dered its pretensions only to end in skep-  
ticism. Too long had the irrational  
dogmatism of a past age tried to con-  
firm the conclusions of experience by  
abstract reasoning. To Kant's mind  
there had been little progress in Me-  
taphysics for three thousand years. He  
will go back of all and institute a criti-  
cism of pure reason itself. When the ac-  
cepted opinion that the heavenly bodies  
meved around the earth as a centre  
failed to explain the ordinary astron-  
omical phenomena, Copernicus con-  
ceived the bold plan of making every-  
thing, the earth included, revolve about  
the sun. When the two conceived  
opinions that truth was innate, on the  
one hand and on the other, that it was  
wholly of sense origin, both failed to  
satisfy requirements. Kant openly an-  
nounced the claim that our knowledge  
was neither innate nor experiential  
but transcendental. It came to us be-  
cause we made it.

## Dont cough

and irritate your lungs  
and also your friends

Dr. Harvey's Southern  
**RED PINE**

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25c. everywhere.

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1 lb flat cans still unsold. Apply quick. Cans  
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The time has come when you should look up your  
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In the event of you deciding to invest in a suit or  
overcoat, etc., act promptly by ordering the same  
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Ladies' White Lawn, Muslin or Pique Shirt Waists  
and Skirts are the most fashionable garments for  
hot weather wear. brand new styles, fresh and cool  
looking. Dainty, tasteful and economically priced.—  
JAS. PATON & CO.



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All new patterns and latest shades, plaited fronts, detach-  
able collars and laundered cuffs, very special 35, 50, 65, 75, 95.  
\$1.05 1.15, 1.25 and 1.50

**Seventeen Dozen** WHITE and BLACK Muslins  
Cambric and Sateen Shirt waists, extra special large sizes 38  
40, and 44 Busts, Collars 14 1/4 and 15. No extra charge for  
large sizes.

**Silk Blouses**—highest novelties in Black and other fancy  
colors only a few left, from \$4 50.

Ladies if you look over this list of items you will be sat-  
isfied of their bargain power, if you visit our store this month  
or during the month of JUNE, the month of BRIDES and  
ROSES, you will be satisfied of your keenest expectancy  
that the greatest money's worth in desirable silks and blouses  
are to be found in our store.

### SILKS, SILKS, SILKS.

You will be surprised to see what splendid values of  
silks (BLOUSE SILK) 40 cents will buy. Among them  
these choice novelty silks including Carmell Stripes, swiss  
Stripes, Bayadere fancies, Taffeta, Heavy rustling kind French  
Brocades.

## Jas. Paton & Co.

### Men's and Boys' Clothing.

IT ISN'T  
ORDINARY

Men's  
Suits

- \$ 3
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- \$ 5
- \$ 6
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- \$ 8
- \$ 9
- \$ 10

Values that we wish you to  
call and see, when we ask you to  
look at our

Ready-to-wear Clothing

Because ordinary values you can  
see anywhere but it's a saving of  
at least 35 per cent on you pur-  
chase.

How can we do this?

The reason is we bought the  
goods that much less at the Doull  
& Gibson great retiring sale and  
to give our customers the benefit  
of the low prices paid for the  
goods.

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when we buy at a bargain we sell  
at a bargain.

Worth 35 per cent more.

## J. B. MacDonald & Co., LEADERS IN LOW PRICES.

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We manufacture complete Fertilizer used in preparation—  
**Dried Blood, Bone Meal  
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accumulated in killing of hogs, combined with  
**Potash Salts and Nitrates of Soda**

supplying the crop in suitable proportion, association and  
form, with the Plant Food it requires.

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nell University  
Consulting Engineer for General Work, Spec-  
ialties in Hydraulic, Sanitary Engineering and  
Bridge Designing.  
Office - at Charlottetown and St. John.

## THE WORLD OF SPORT.

Butler Brothers to Race in Canada—Kearns  
and Connolly Matched.

Tom Eck received a letter at Mon-  
treal Tuesday from the three Butler  
brothers, of Boston, Nat, Tom and  
Frank, stating that Tom and his broth-  
ers would ride a single paced race of  
one mile, with a time limit of 1.50 on the  
heat, this race to be between Tom But-  
ler and Angus McLeod; Nat and Frank  
Butler would ride one mile tandem  
against McLeod and McCarthy, and  
the three brothers would ride McLeod  
McCarthy and Boake a one mile triplet  
race; all races to be flying starts.  
Butler states in his letter that the  
Queen's Park association should put up  
a purse of \$1,000 for this race, and  
when the letter was shown to Mr. Dau-  
duraud he said he would call a local  
committee to consider this proposition  
or a gate percentage.

### THE CHARLOTTETOWN MAILS

The mails close at the Charlot-  
tew town Post Office, as follows  
(Local Time).

For points west (with connections) to  
Summerside and Tignish on line of  
railway, 7.30 a.m. and also at 3.40 p.m.,  
with p.m. connections to North Tryon,  
Tryon, Crapaud, Victoria, Carleton,  
North Carleton and Searletown.

For points east (with connections) to  
Souris and Georgetown on line of rail-  
way, 3.00 p.m.

For Courier route to Southport and all  
points thence to Belfast, 6.15 a.m.

For Courier route to North River and  
all points thence to Victoria, Tuesday,  
Thursday and Saturday, 6.15 a.m.

For United States, New Brunswick,  
Ontario, Quebec Nova Scotia, and the  
Northwest, 8.30 p.m.

For Great Britain, Friday, 10 p.m.  
Letters are collected from street  
ter boxes of 6 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8  
m.



A Delicious  
Tubbing  
and then refreshing sleep—there  
is nothing better for any baby.  
Always use the "Albert"

### BABY'S OWN SOAP

and your child will have a fine  
complexion and never be troubled  
with skin diseases.  
The National Council of Wo-  
men of Canada have recommend-  
ed it as very suitable for nursery  
use.

The Albert Toilet Soap Co.,  
MONTREAL,  
Makers of the celebrated Albert Toilet Soap.

### Long Expected!

Come at Last!

That is Summer.

and with it comes the king of summer  
rink—

### Simmons Ginger Ale

This drink is gaining daily in favor  
with the trade, as they find it an  
article equal in every respect to the  
best imported brands, all the for its  
pleasant flavor, pungency and in-  
quenching properties. It is abso-  
lutely free from alcohol.  
At all grocers price 5 cts.

G. H. SIMMONS,

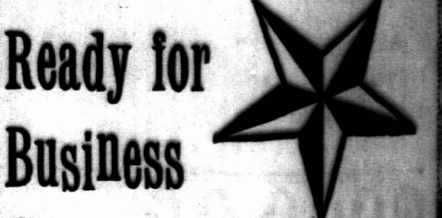
## A LEWIVES

I am open to purchase five  
hundred Brls Alewives.

Horace Hazard,  
Charlottetown.

June 1, 1899, 2w eod, wll.

### Now Ready for Business



The Star Steam Laundry  
on Kent Street.

The undersigned, having fit-  
ted up a first-class Steam  
Laundry on Kent Street with  
latest improved machinery, is  
now ready for business.  
All kinds of Laundry work  
done in first-class style.  
A trial order solicited.

ALVIN F. WEBSTER,  
Next door to Massey-Harris Co.  
June 7, 1899.

### Five Dollars Reward

The subscriber will pay to any per-  
son who will give information that  
will lead to the conviction of the per-  
son or persons who stole the boards  
from the fence of the pasture known  
as the Brecken Field, between the  
railway crossing on the Lower and  
Upper St. Peter's Road.  
P. P. ARCHIBALD,  
Queen Hotel,  
Charlottetown.

## Can't get A Corset To Fit?

Go down to your dry  
goods dealer and ask to  
see his line of

### P. C. Corsets

Then, it is only a matter of  
choosing.  
We make corsets to fit  
everybody.  
We make corsets to fit  
you.  
Just a matter of choos-  
ing the style that fits  
your figure.  
Your dealer has it.

### PARISIAN CORSET CO.

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TRY  
**Pure Gold Jelly**  
Made from the Finest Quality of  
Calves' Foot Jelly.

TRY  
**PURE GOLD YEAST**  
Put up in Tin Cans.

## REMOVAL!

I have removed my livery business  
from Upper Queen Street to the late  
Walter Burrow's old stand Sidney  
Street where I will be pleased to  
meet all my old customers, and trust-  
ing to meet as in the past a fair share  
of patronage in my line.  
GEORGE ESSERY,  
Sidney Street.

June 5th, 1899