

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE INNER WORLD.

I.

IN dealing with the problem of Reality, and of the different orders and degrees of Reality, we must not forget that we are making a purely artificial or conventional selection among the enormous multitude and variety of experiences which make up the stream of thought or which fill the firmament of the soul. The impressions or clusters of impressions or thoughts which we thus select by habit, and for the sake of convenience, have no more actual existence than the multitude of other impressions which we, as it were, leave behind and to a large extent neglect. Nor is it possible to entirely detach the selected series or clusters of impressions and abstract thoughts from what we may call the matrix in which they present themselves to us primarily. This difficulty is usually expressed by saying that we cannot get rid of the subjective factor.

It is accordingly quite legitimate and even necessary not only to view the Realities with which we have been dealing in their nakedness, but also to view them in their clothing with subjective accompaniments, and to consider these accompaniments themselves.