

Photo by Van der Weyde, New York.
 RICHARDS'S FINE STATUETTE OF THOMAS PAINE, THE FIRST
 AMERICAN AUTHOR, IN THE THOMAS PAINE NATIONAL
 MUSEUM IN THE OLD PAINE HOMESTEAD AT NEW
 ROCHELLE, NEW YORK

This is from *Common Sense*:

The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind.

In the third *Crisis*, dated April 19, 1777, may be found this apt phrase:

Where is the war on which a world was staked till now?

...

The old frame house where Paine lived in Bleecker Street, New York City (No. 309), weather-beaten and almost crumbling from neglect, is still standing. It is graphically described in a chapter on Thomas Paine in Anna Alice Chapin's recent book, *Greenwich Village*. Paine died in

Paine's House

1809 in a little house that stood on the site of the present 59 Grove Street, just around the corner from the Bleecker Street house.

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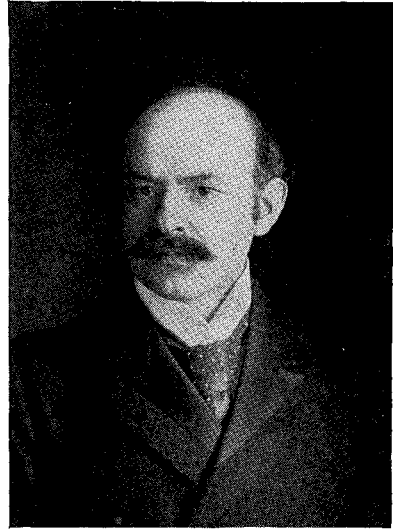
Benjamin Kidd, author of *Social Evolution*, whose posthumous book,

The Science of Power, has just been issued by the Putnams, had none of the advantages of higher education. He was essentially a self-made man. At the age of nineteen he entered the English Civil Service as a lower division clerk under the open competition scheme originated by

Gladstone, and secured a position in the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House. This was in 1877, and for the first period of his life, until the appearance, in 1894, of his first book, *Social Evolution*, he remained utterly unknown to fame, and even his closest associates had no idea that he was in any way destined ever to be more than an ordinary civil servant with the ordinary interests and ambitions of a man in his position.

But from the beginning, behind outward appearances there existed a personality and a mind moved to tremendous efforts by an absorbing passion for knowledge. In his early years in London, Kidd was entirely alone and dependent on his own resources, which did not amount at first to more than about £80 per annum. His family were unable to give him any financial support. Although in after years it was with the greatest difficulty that he could be brought to allude to this period of his life, there is no doubt that he fought for knowledge at the cost of food and clothing, and that he even resorted to money-lenders in order to obtain the necessary fees to attend evening classes in science. He spent three years reading for the bar in his spare time after office hours, and gained a thorough grasp of the law, only to abandon the project finally on the realisation of the insufficiency of his means. He then read for the consular service, but this project also fell through for a different reason. The age qualifications were altered suddenly in such a way that he found himself excluded. Yet his main purpose was accomplished. He had become gradually master of a wide and varied knowledge of science, philosophy, literature and art. Above all

he knew life, for his knowledge was gained not in the artificial seclusions of the universities, but amid the realities of the world. Who shall say how far this circumstance contributed to give his subsequent work that force and tone of human reality which has caused his social philosophy to exercise such an influence on



THE LATE BENJAMIN KIDD, THE AUTHOR OF THE FAMOUS "SOCIAL EVOLUTION." HIS POSTHUMOUS BOOK, "THE SCIENCE OF POWER," HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED.

the general mind? The idealism and youth of mind which Kidd retained throughout his life is all the more remarkable when contrasted with the stifling environment of his early years and his wearing struggle in pursuit of knowledge.

...

According to Dr. Robert T. Morris, the celebrated surgeon, the Germans in stressing Darwin's theory of the struggle for existence, have completely forgotten his other theory of mutual interdependence. Setting forth this contention in his