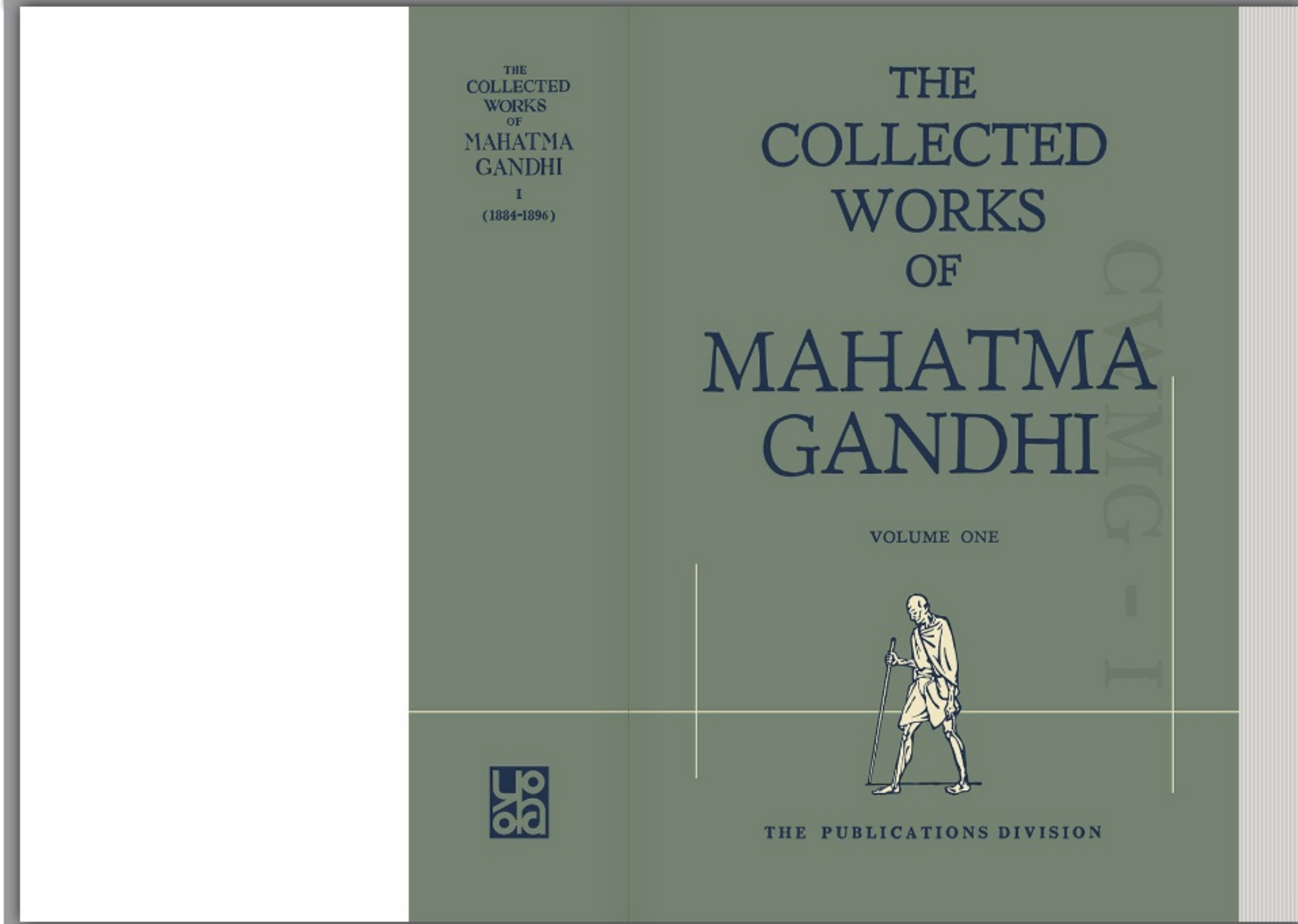


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51. **BOOKS FOR SALE**¹

DURBAN,
[Before November 26, 1894]

The following books by the late Mrs. Anna Kingsford and Mr. Edward Maitland² are offered for sale at their published prices. They are introduced in South Africa for the first time:

The Perfect Way, 7/6
Clothed with the Sun, 7/6
The Story of the New Gospel of Interpretation, 2/6³
The New Gospel of Interpretation, 1/-
The Bible's Own Account of Itself, 1/-

The following are some of the opinions concerning the books:

A fountain of light (*The Perfect Way*) interpretative and reconciliatory. . . . No student of divine things can dispense with it.

—*Light*, London

Unequaled as a means of grace amongst all the English books of the century.

—*Occult World*

Some pamphlets bearing on the subject can be had free of charge at my office.

M. K. GANDHI
AGENT FOR THE ESOTERIC CHRISTIAN UNION AND
THE LONDON VEGETARIAN SOCIETY

The Natal Mercury, 28-11-1894

¹ This appeared as an advertisement; *vide* "Letter to Mrs. A. M. Lewis", 4-8-1894.

² Edward Maitland (1824-97): Writer on mystical subjects and devoted to vegetarianism; established the Esoteric Christian Union in 1891. Gandhiji corresponded with him and was considerably influenced by his books.

³ The price given in a subsequent advertisement is 3/6; *vide* "Books for Sale", 2-2-1895.

52. LETTER TO "THE NATAL MERCURY"

DURBAN,
November 26, 1894

TO
THE EDITOR
The Natal Mercury

SIR,

You will greatly oblige me by allowing me to draw the attention of your readers to an advertisement that appears in your advertisement columns with regard to the Esoteric Christian Union. The system of thought expounded by the books advertised is not, by any means, a new system but a recovery of the old, presented in a form acceptable to the modern mind. It is, moreover, a system of religion which teaches universality, and is based on eternal verities and not on phenomena or historical facts merely. In that system, there is no reviling Mahomed or Buddha in order to prove the superiority of Jesus. On the other hand, it reconciles the other religions with Christianity which, in the opinion of the authors, is nothing but one mode (among many) of presentation of the same eternal truth. The many puzzles of the Old Testament find herein a solution at once complete and satisfactory.

If there is anyone of your readers who has found the present-day materialism and all its splendour to be insufficient for the needs of his soul, if he has a craving for a better life, and if, under the dazzling and bright surface of modern civilization, he finds that there is much that is contrary to what one would expect under such a surface, and above all, if the modern luxuries and the ceaseless feverish activity afford no relief, to such a one I beg to recommend the books referred to. And I promise that, after a perusal, he will find himself a better man, even though he may not thoroughly identify himself with the teaching.

If there is anyone who would like to have a chat on the subject, it would afford me the greatest pleasure to have a quiet interchange of views. In such a case, I would thank any such gentleman to correspond with me personally. I need hardly mention that the sale of the books is not a pecuniary concern. Could Mr. Maitland, the President of the Union, or its agent here, afford to give them away, they would gladly do so. In many cases, the books have been sold at less than cost price. In a few, they have even been

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