The Anarchist Library (Mirror) Anti-Copyright



Dyer D. Lum Axioms 1860

Retrieved on 7th May 2023 from www.libertarian-labyrinth.org Published in *The Boston Investigator* 30, no. 31 (November 21, 1860): 242.

usa.anarchistlibraries.net

Axioms

Dyer D. Lum

1860

- I. Something exists.
- 1. This does not admit of doubt.
- 2. We can have no idea of nothing.
- II. Something always has existed,
- 1. Else there could be no existence.
- 2. Nothing could not create something.
- III. Something always will exist.
- 1. Matter is indestructible,
- 2. Hence, eternal.
- IV. Something is a substance.
- 1. Substance is a body or thing,
- 2. Else a thing is not a thing.

- 3. A thing is matter, material.
- 4. Substance is matter.
- V. Matter is ever thing; every thing is matter.
- 1. See Axiom IV. § 2.
- 2. All that exists is matter.
- 3. Whatever exists, has size, location, form and weight.
- 4. These are the property of matter only.
- VI. All that is not matter, is nothing.
- 1. What is not some thing, is no thing.
- 2. See Axiom IV. § 3, 4.
- VII. There is no "spirit."
- 1. "Spirit" is immateriality.
- 2. Immateriality is nothing. See Axiom VI.
- VIII. "God" is material—matter.
- 1. "God" is something or nothing.
- 2. If something—material.
- 3. If immaterial—nothing.
- 4. See Axiom V. § 3, 4
- IX. And subject to matter.

- 1. Whatever is material is formed of matter and governed by natural laws.
- 2. Consequently, me is a natural prediction.
- X. Matter is supreme.
- 1. The inevitable conclusion of the preceding Axiom.
- 2. If capable of producing the governing power, she is capable of producing whatever exists,
- 3. And vice-versa.
- XI. There is no "God."
- 1. For matter is supreme. X.
- 2. Because there is no "spirit." VII.
- 3. In consequence of every thing being material and subject to matter. V. IX.
- 4. Because there is no occasion for any.
- 5. Because he cannot be matter. IV. VI.
- 6. Therefore he must be a non-entity.
- 7. Nothing cannot be a cause. II. § 2.
- 8. We cannot believe what is inconceivable.