

“There is on my shelves a book of late Victorian aspect which I once picked up at a secondhand shop for a very small sum, and which I occasionally dip into for pleasure and wisdom. It is called *The Intellectual Life*, and was written by Philip Gilbert Hamerton, around 1875. . . . The combination of ludicrous primness and outspoken good sense in Hamerton’s pages makes the work an ideal bedside book, but it is for the deliberate treatment of his subject as a whole that I respect and value him. There are no books, or very few, about the intellectual life, with the result that after ten millennia of culture this particular vocation of man remains a vague mystery.” Jacques Barzun, *Teacher in America*

## The Intellectual Life

*Philip Gilbert Hamerton*

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