

by a law; the same fact can not present itself other than as itself. One understands, the man understands why all philosophers have poured out their life's blood without giving to morals a satisfactory foundation: poor dupes of an image, who really believe the ideas made on the pattern of a house, with a cellar, a roof and a little weathercock on top. (He who speaks here is dupe of their dupery since he develops it, prisoner of the absurd metaphor which invades his mental field).

Secondly, proud of the hole cut in his morality, the man dresses himself up in it as though it were a skirt and discourses of what he would like to have done to himself: "I imagine why I have chosen myself as the interlocutor, preferable to any novice; it is because I wished to ask no question that could be easily answered. I should say, therefore, that I am a man, and like always to be considered one, and above everything else I discard the idea of any reciprocity as insane, I will never call anything a man except myself. Therefore, nothing binds me to a rule of action in connection with I invent my successive gestures, without effort or remorse.

Thirdly, fourthly, hundredthly, having shaken up his ideas without moving his head, like the god of the catachism who makes but one gesture in order to say that he has no need to make a gesture, the man discovers the thousand axioms obtained by mixing his little thought, while shuffling the cards, without bothering to know if the queen and the jack of the same colour brought together constitute an incest (category 43 of customs to be avoided) and the ace of spades with the seven of hearts a more savoury adventure:

- a) man acts only through goodness;
- b) goodness begins with the day and never ends;
- c) man does to others neither good nor evil but he does well to believe that he does evil;
- d) man believes that he does evil to give himself heart;
- e) man has complete liberty of mind;
- f) man is a great benefactor of humanity (philanthropist);
- g) man recognizes himself in man and punishes his fellow creature through a spirit of justice with the faults which he discovers in himself;