

**PITT PRESS SERIES.  
OUTLINES  
OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF  
ARISTOTLE**

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OUTLINES

OF THE

PHILOSOPHY OF ARISTOTLE

COMPILED BY

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Δεί γάρ ἴσως ἐπιστηθεῖσαι πρῶτον, εἰθ' ὕστερον ἀναγράψαι.

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## PREFACE TO PREVIOUS EDITION.

THE following pages are an expansion of a still smaller work which I published with the same title in 1875. My object in printing such a compendium was at that time limited almost entirely to the wants of my own pupils. But my *brochure*, I found, circulated outside those for whom it was originally intended, and the few copies which I could place at the disposal of the booksellers were soon exhausted. Since then I have been frequently asked to republish, but have held back from a number of considerations—not least perhaps from a hope that some day or other I might be able to fulfil the suggestion of my motto and “write out” what had been so far sketched. But I became more and more diffident about undertaking such a task. Now particularly when Prof. Zeller’s excellent statement of Aristotelianism is being translated into English it would be difficult to find a reason for attempting to do again work which has been already done so well. There may however still be room left for a smaller and less pretentious work which will string together the more important passages in Aristotle’s

writings and explain them by a brief English commentary.

A book of selections can hardly fail to prove unsatisfactory. There will always be passages omitted which one reader would have inserted and others inserted which he would have rejected. Much also is lost by having to take sentences out of their context and leave them without the setting which half explains them. I hope at the same time that I have managed to give in moderate compass the cream of Aristotle's writings and to make up in some way for the absence of context, inseparable from such work, by the English analysis which precedes each paragraph of extracts. Junior students can hardly be expected to thread their way through the quarto volumes of the Berlin Aristotle, and even those who are familiar with these volumes and with Bonitz's admirable index to them may be glad to have their favourite passages in a portable and concise form.

OXFORD,  
*May, 1880.*

## PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION.

THE success which has attended this little work will probably be allowed to be sufficient excuse for its republication. The present edition will be found to contain as compared with its predecessor a considerable amount of additional matter. For the sake of beginners I have added an introductory chapter on the way in which Aristotle sought to meet the difficulties of preceding thinkers and on the general drift of his own philosophy. I have considerably expanded the chapter on Aristotle's Logic; and, throughout, I have supplemented the Greek extracts where it seemed to me that by adding a few additional words Aristotle's meaning was made more obvious. But I have also, I hope, facilitated the study of the Greek by interpolating occasionally short explanatory notes.

I have to thank several reviewers and others for the kindly way in which they have spoken of my work. Specially am I indebted to Professor Susemihl for calling my attention (in Bursian's *Jahresbericht*) to some gaps which I have tried in this edition to fill up: and to Mr A. W. Benn for