THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE: THREE ESSAYS: I. THE STUDY OF LITERATURE; II. HINTS ON THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE; III. THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

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The Study of English Literature: Three Essays: I. The Study of Literature; II. Hints on the Study of English Literature; III. The Study of English Literature by John Morley & Henry J. Nicoll & Leslie Stephen

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JOHN MORLEY & HENRY J. NICOLL & LESLIE STEPHEN

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THREE ESSAYS.

I. THE STUDY OF LITERATURE. By John Morley.

11. HINTS ON THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE. By HENRY J. NICOLL.

III. THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERA-TURE. By Leslie Stephen.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

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ALBERT F. BLAISDELL,

AUTHOR OF "THE STUDY OF ENGLISH CLASSICS," "FIRST STRPE WITH AMERICAN AND BRITISH AUTHORS," FTC.

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CONTENTS.

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an Analas An Analas an I. THE STUDY OF LITERATURE. AN Address by John Morley 3

II. HINTS ON THE STUDY OF ENG-LISH LITERATURE. HENRY NT-COLL'S INTRODUCTION TO "LANDMARKS OF ENGLISH LITERATURE" 43

INTRODUCTION.

22

SINCE the publication of a series of articles two years ago in the London Pall Mall Gazette and other periodicals on the "Best Hundred Books," the discussion has branched off on to the subject of English literature. The leading English periodicals have furnished one or more articles for the discussion. Of the noteworthy contributions, two have attracted the attention of students of literature, both from the reputation of the authors and the real worth of their literary productions. We refer to the annual address of last year, given by John Morley to the students of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching, Feb. 26, 1887, and a lecture delivered by Leslie Stephen to the Students' Association of St. Andrews, March 26, 1887.

The text of these two addresses has been given in full in the succeeding pages.

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INTRODUCTION.

Such men as Morley and Stephen do not lecture unless they have something to say. What they have to say on English literature is of special weight, for they have . made it a life-long study. Hence these addresses are scholarly, crisp, and interesting. To these two articles we have added a third, "Hints on the Study of English Literature," by Henry J. Nicoll, the introductory chapter to his excellent text-book called "Landmarks of English Literature." This was written several years ago, but it is of special interest to students in connection with the two addresses.

Such notes have been added as will serve to make the text more easily understood by the general reader. It is to be hoped that the three articles will be helpful and stimulating to teachers and students of English literature.

ALBERT F. BLAISDELL

PROVIDENCE, R. I., August, 1888.

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STUDY OF LITERATURE

THE ANNUAL ADDRESS 10 THE STUDENTS OF THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE EXTENSION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHING, DELIVERED AT THE MANSION HOUSE, FEBRUARY 26, 1887 BY JOHN MORLEY

WHEN my friend Mr. Goschen² invited me to discharge the duty which has fallen to me this afternoon I confess that I complied with very great misgivings. He desired me to say something, if I could, on the literary side of education. Now, it is almost impossible-and I think those

¹The Right Honorable John Morley was born in 1838, graduated at Oxford and is a lawyer by profession. He was editor of the Fortnightly Review from 1867 to 188a, of the Pall Mall Gazette from 1880 to 1383, and of Macmillan's Magazine from 1883 to 1885. On the formation of Gladstone's Home Rule Cabinet in 1896, Mr. Morley was made Chief Secretary for Ireland. He has been a prominent member of the House of Parliament. Mr. Morley has made many and notable contributions to literature. Among them, are "Edward Burke" "Voltaire," "Rousseau," and "Richard Cobden." He is the editor of the well known "English Men of Letters Series."

^{*} The Right Honorable George Joachim Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, born in 1831 and graduated at Oxford. He has written largely on financial questions.