PHILOSOPHICAL CLASSICS FOR ENGLISH READERS - BERKELEY

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Philosophical classics for English readers - Berkeley by A. Campbell Fraser

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A. CAMPBELL FRASER

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Philosophical Classics

English Readers.

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A. CAMPBELL FRASER, LL.D.

PROFESSOR OF LOUIC AND METAPEVEICS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF KDINHURGH

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PREFACE.

This volume is an attempt to present, for the first time, Berkeley's philosophic thought in its organic unity. The thought is unfolded in connection with his personal history, and it is compared with the results of later philosophical endeavours, including those of chief scientific and theological interest at the present day.

Besides important new biographical material, the author is fortunate in being able to present an original portrait of Berkeley, and one, too, from a picture taken at a much earlier period in his life than those hitherto published. It was painted when he was in Rome. The picture was inherited by his descendant, the late Mr Robert Berkeley, Q.C., Dublin, and has been kindly lent to the publishers by his widow. It is an old oil-painting, very difficult to copy; but even as it is, this glimpse of his sanguine youth, now first presented to the world, may be preferred to the familiar engravings which represent him at a more advanced age.