

**A GROUP OF ENGLISH
ESSAYISTS OF THE EARLY
NINETEENTH CENTURY**

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A Group of English Essayists of the Early Nineteenth Century by C. T. Winchester

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C. T. WINCHESTER

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NINETEENTH CENTURY**

A GROUP OF
ENGLISH ESSAYISTS

OF THE
EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

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UNIV. OF
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To

MY FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE

OSCAR KUHNS

M205174

THE following papers pretend to no discovery of new biographical fact, nor to any reversals of established critical verdict. They are, for the most part, the result of many pleasant hours in a college seminary room; and their interest, if any interest they have, is that attending the informal discussion of a group of familiar and delightful English prose-writers.

If a disproportionate attention seems given in these pages to biography rather than to criticism, it should be remembered that Hazlitt, Lamb, De Quincey, Wilson, and Hunt all found their themes within their own personal experience. Perhaps no other body of English prose, equally large and important, is so exclusively autobiographical. The biographical method of approach, always useful, is here the only one open to the critic. He must first know the man before he can estimate the book.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE NEW ESSAY—JEFFREY AS CRITIC	I
WILLIAM HAZLITT	26
CHARLES LAMB	76
THOMAS DE QUINCEY	118
JOHN WILSON	166
LEIGH HUNT	204

