A SUPPLEMENT TO THE SECOND EDITION OF THE METHODS OF ETHICS: CONTAINING ALL THE IMPORTANT ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS IN THE THIRD EDITION

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A supplement to the second edition of the methods of ethics: containing all the important additions and alterations in the third edition by Henry Sidgwick

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HENRY SIDGWICK

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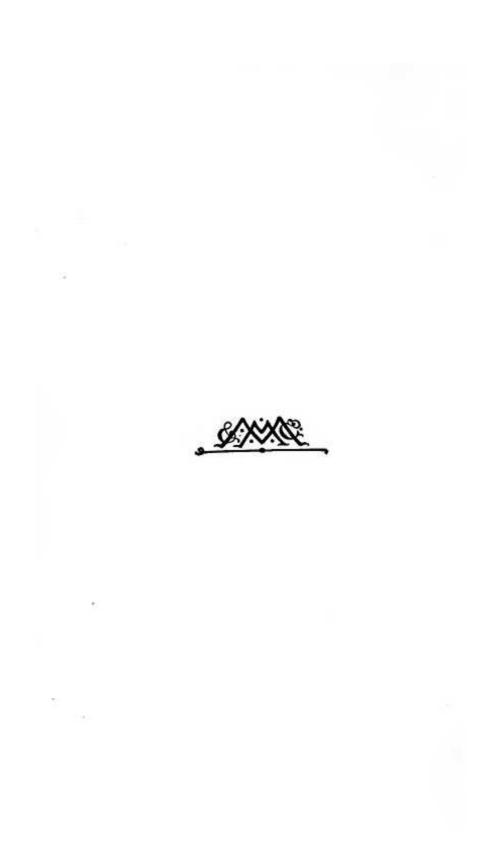
Trieste

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METHODS OF ETHICS



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BY

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PREFACE.

In this third edition I have again made extensive alterations, and introduced a considerable amount of Some of these changes and additions are new matter. due to modifications of my own ethical or psychological views; but I do not think that any of these are of great importance in relation to the main subject of the treatise. And by far the largest part of the new matter introduced has been written either (1) to remove obscurities, ambiguities, and minor inconsistencies in the exposition of my views which the criticisms' of others or my own reflection have enabled me to discover; or (2) to treat as fully as seemed desirable certain parts or aspects of the subject which I had either passed over altogether or discussed too slightly in my previous editions, and on which it now appears to me important to explain my opinions, either for the greater completeness of my treatise,-according to my own view of the subject,-or for its better adaptation to the present state of ethical thought in England. The most important changes of the first kind have been made in chaps. i. and ix. of Book I., chaps. i .- iii. of Book II. and chaps. i., xiii. and xiv. of Book III.: under

¹ I must here acknowledge the advantage that I have received from the remarks and questions of my pupils, and from criticisms privately communicated to me by others; among these latter I ought especially to mention an instructive examination of my fundamental doctrines by the Rev. Hastings Rashdall.

PREFACE.

the second head I may mention the discussions of the relation of intellect to moral action in Book I. chap. iii., of volition in Book I. chap. v., of the causes of pleasure and pain in Book II. chap. vi., of the notion of virtue in the morality of Common Sense in Book III. chap. ii. and of evolutional ethics in Book IV. chap. iv. (chiefly).

In conclusion, I ought to explain that the matter contained in this supplement is only in part new: as in many cases I have thought it more convenient to include portions of the old text, in order to make the new matter more readily intelligible; indeed in some of the passages here given the alterations that have been made are *in extent* slight, though always *in effect* not unimportant, according to my judgment.

At the commencement of each passage I have always noted the line of the page in the second edition at which the passage is to be inserted : but it did not occur to me, until the first seven sheets of this supplement had been printed off, that the reader might sometimes have trouble in finding the place at which he was to return to the text of the second edition at the conclusion of a new insertion. In the remainder of the supplement I have noted the point of return to the old text, as well as the point of departure from it, in the case of all the passages long enough to cause any difficulty; and in order to remedy as far as possible the absence of this indication in the first seven sheets, I have subjoined an exact account of all the longer passages of the second edition which the reader is understood to omit, in introducing the passages given in the first portion of this supplement-i.e. to the end of Book III. ch. ii.

vi

PREFACE

BOOK L

Chapter i. p. 1, l. 13—p. 2, l. 28; p. 3, l. 9—29; p. 5, l. 14—29; p. 7, l. 27—p. 8, l. 33; p. 9, l. 1—29; p. 13, l. 11—18.

Chap. ii. p. 15, l. 31-38; p. 18, l. 1-p. 19, l. 34; p. 20, l. 27-37; p. 21, l. 8-17.

Chap. iii. p. 24, l. 1-4; p. 24, l. 13-p. 25, l. 24; p. 26, l. 6-8; p. 27, l. 31-p. 29, l. 1; p. 29, l. 20-p. 30, l. 29; the whole of § 4.

Chap. iv. p. 35, l. 9-p. 36, l. 11; p. 36, last line to end of p. 37; p. 38, l. 28-p. 39, l. 23; p. 40, l. 13-35.

Chap. v. § 1 and § 2 to p. 51, l. 25; p. 52, l. 18-20 and l. 29-38; p. 54, l. 13-28; p. 55, l. 10-23; p. 67, l. 29-p. 58, l. 6; p. 59, l. 16-21; p. 60, l. 15-33; p. 61, l. 27-35.

Chap. vi. p. 63, l. 1-10; p. 64, l. 12-p. 66, l. 8; p. 66, l. 23-28; p. 67, l. 1-13; p. 70, l. 35-p. 71, l. 18; p. 73, l. 9-34; p. 75, l. 12-27.

Chap. vii. p. 81, l. 5-p. 82, l. 14.

Chap. viii. p. 85, l. 1-16; p. 86, l. 6-p. 57, l. 13; p. 88, l. 21-p. 89, l. 4; p. 91, l. 2-14.

Chap. ix. p. 94, l. 1-24; p. 96, l. 6-p. 98, l. 13 (the reader should take note that the matter in § 2 is rearranged); § 3, except p. 100, l. 10-33, which now stand as a note to § 2; § 4 to p. 101, l. 34; p. 103, l. 18 to end of chapter.

BOOK II.

Chapter i. p. 109, l. 4-11; l. 24-34; p. 110, l. 32-39.

Chap. ii. p. 111, l. 1-21; p. 112, l. 4-15; § 2 to p. 114, l. 7; p. 114, l. 23-31; p. 115, l. 8-p. 116, l. 9.

Chap. iii. (The reader should note the changed arrangement of the matter in one enapter.) p. 118, l. 37—p. 119, l. 14; p. 120, l. 20—28; p. 121, l. 9—16; l. 30—33; p. 122, l. 26—36; p. 124, l. 28—p. 126, l. 18; p. 129, l. 17—p. 130, l. 5; p. 131, l. 10—p. 132, l. 20; p. 132, l. 30—35.