

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF
FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE: THE FIRST
COMPLETE AND AUTHORIZED
ENGLISH TRANSLATION IN
EIGHTEEN VOLUMES; VOL. EIGHT**

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FRIEDRICH WILHELM NIETZSCHE & DR. OSCAR LEVY

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*First Complete and Authorised English Translation
in Eighteen Volumes*

EDITED BY
DR OSCAR LEVY



VOLUME EIGHT
THE CASE OF WAGNER

312

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*Of the Second Impression
making Three Thousand
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THE CASE OF WAGNER

II

NIETZSCHE *CONTRA* WAGNER

III

SELECTED APHORISMS

TRANSLATED BY

ANTHONY M. LUDOVICI

IV

WE PHILOLOGISTS

TRANSLATED BY

J. M. KENNEDY

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1924

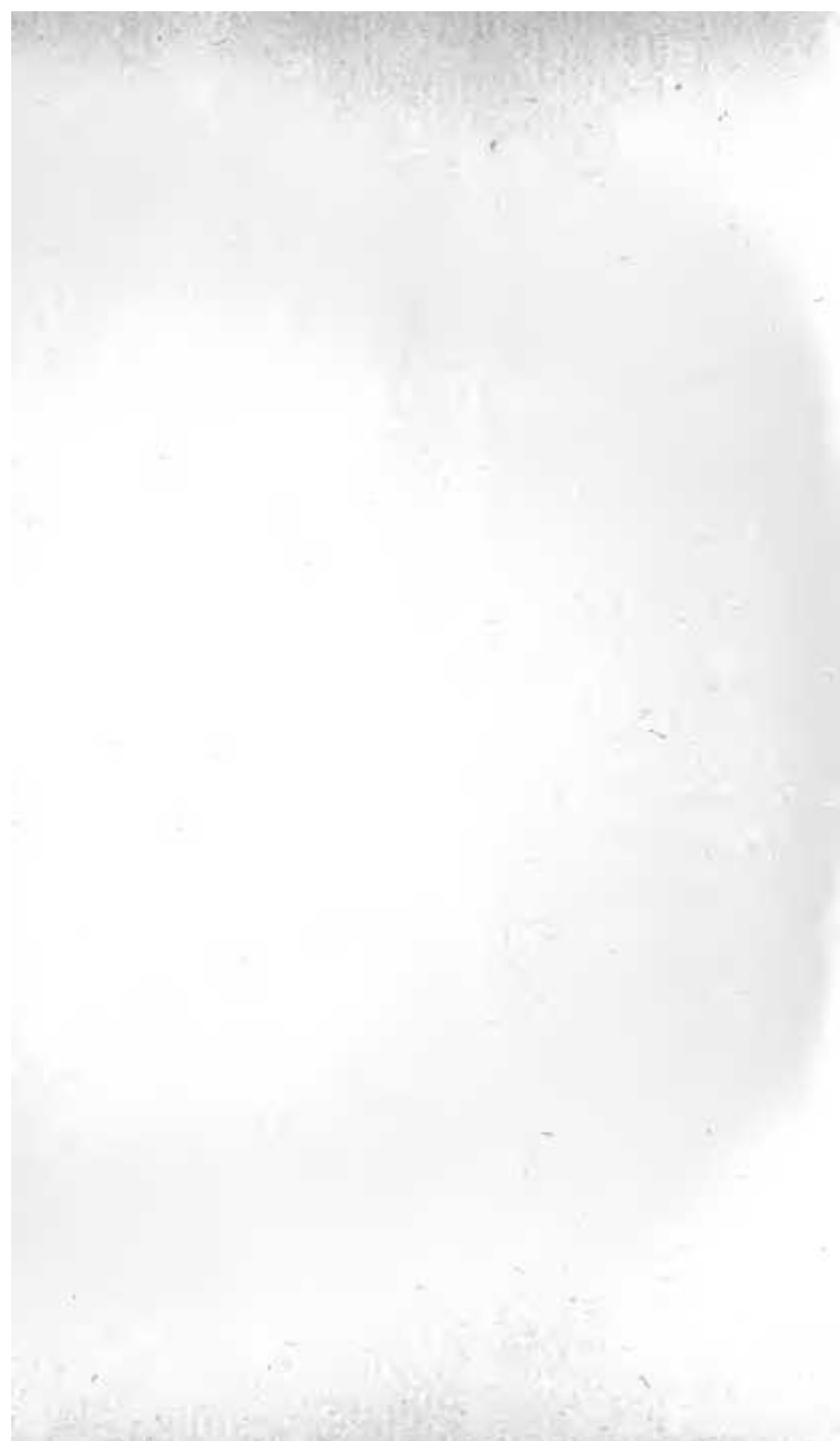
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TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

NIETZSCHE wrote the rough draft of "The Case of Wagner" in Turin, during the month of May 1888; he completed it in Sils Maria towards the end of June of the same year, and it was published in the following autumn. "*Nietzsche contra Wagner*" was written about the middle of December 1888; but, although it was printed and corrected before the New Year, it was not published until long afterwards owing to Nietzsche's complete breakdown in the first days of 1889.

In reading these two essays we are apt to be deceived, by their virulent and forcible tone, into believing that the whole matter is a mere cover for hidden fire,—a mere blind of æsthetic discussion concealing a deep and implacable personal feud which demands and will have vengeance. In spite of all that has been said to the contrary, many people still hold this view of the two little works before us; and, as the actual facts are not accessible to every one, and rumours are more easily believed than verified, the error of supposing that these pamphlets were dictated by personal animosity, and even by Nietzsche's envy of Wagner in his glory, seems to be a pretty common one. Another very general error is to suppose that the point at issue here is not one concerning music at all, but concerning religion. It is taken for granted that