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PREFACE.

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THERE are no two of the better-known English Philosophers whose writings are so closely related as those of Shaftesbury and Hutcheson. It is, therefore, appropriate that they should both be noticed in the same volume.

The Life of Shaftesbury, which appears in this work, is the most detailed which has yet been published. It is mainly taken from original documents contained among the Shaftesbury Papers in the Public Record Office. The authorities for my statements are almost invariably given. My warmest thanks are due to Mr. Noel Sainsbury for the valuable information and the efficient assistance which he constantly afforded to me during the progress of this part of my book. His well-arranged catalogue of the Shaftesbury Papers has now rendered this most important series of documents easily accessible to the student of history. It is also a great pleasure to me to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to Mr. Garnett of the British Museum, who is always ready to give every assistance and facility to any one engaged in