

H U M E ' S
T R E A T I S E O F H U M A N N A T U R E

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A TREATISE
OF
HUMAN NATURE

BY
DAVID HUME

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IN THREE VOLUMES*

AND EDITED, WITH AN ANALYTICAL INDEX, BY

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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

THE length of the Index demands apology or at least justification. An index may serve several purposes. It enables a reader or student to find some definite passage, or to see whether a certain point is discussed or not in the work. For this purpose a long is evidently better than a short index, an index which quotes than one which consists of the compiler's abbreviations, and its alphabetical arrangement gives it an advantage over a table of contents which is hardly secured by placing the table at the end instead of the beginning. But besides this, in the case of a well known and much criticised author, an index may very well serve the purpose of a critical introduction. If well devised it should point, not loudly but unmistakeably, to any contradictions or inconsequences, and, if the work be systematic, to any omissions which are of importance. This is the aim of the index now offered: it undoubtedly is not what it should be, but Hume's Treatise seems to offer an excellent field for an attempt. Hume loses nothing by close and critical reading, and, though his language is often perversely loose, yet it is not always the expression of loose thinking: this index aims at helping the student to see the difference and to fix his attention on the real merits and real deficiencies of the system: it does not aim at saving him the trouble of studying it for himself.

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A
T R E A T I S E
O F
Human Nature :
B E I N G
An ATTEMPT to introduce the ex-
perimental Method of Reasoning
I N T O
M O R A L S U B J E C T S .

*Rara temporum felicitas, ubi sentire, quae velis ; & quae
sentias, dicere licet.* T A C I T .

B O O K I .

O F T H E
U N D E R S T A N D I N G .

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