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COLLECTION
OF
GERMAN AUTHORS.
VOL. 32.

HOMO SUM BY GEORG EBERS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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Homo sum: humani nil a me alienum puto.

Terence, Heautontimorumenos. 77

H O M O S U M.

A N O V E L.

BY

GEORG EBERS,

AUTHOR OF "AN EGYPTIAN PRINCESS," "UARDA," ETC.

FROM THE GERMAN BY

CLARA BELL.

IN TWO VOLUMES.—VOL. I.

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TO

ALMA TADEMA, A. R. A.

THE GREAT MASTER OF PICTORAL REPRESENTATION
OF THE LIFE OF THE ANCIENTS

THIS TALE IS DEDICATED

WITH SINCERE REGARD BY

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

IN the course of my labours preparatory to writing a history of the Sinaitic peninsula, the study of the first centuries of Christianity for a long time claimed my attention; and in the mass of martyrology, of ascetic writings, and of histories of saints and monks, which it was necessary to work through and sift for my strictly limited object, I came upon a narrative (in Cotelierius *Ecclesiæ Grecæ Monumenta*) which seemed to me peculiar and touching notwithstanding its improbability. Sinai and the oasis of Pharan which lies at its foot were the scene of action.

When, in my journey through Arabia Petræa, I saw the caves of the anchorites of Sinai