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978-0-521-27810-2 - T. H. Green: Lectures on the Principles of Political Obligation and Other Writings

Edited by Paul Harris and John Morrow

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T. H. GREEN

*Lectures on the Principles of
Political Obligation*

This book contains the political writing of T. H. Green and selections from those of his ethical writing which bear on his political philosophy. Green's best known work, *Lectures on the Principles of Political Obligation*, is included in full, as are the essay on freedom and the lecture 'Liberal Legislation and Freedom of Contract'. There are also extracts from Green's lectures on the English Revolution and from the *Prologomena to Ethics*, and a number of previously unpublished essays and notes. All the texts have been corrected against Green's manuscripts, held in Balliol College. The editors have provided a list of variants, full notes and an introductory essay on the importance of Green's form of revitalised liberalism.

The volume will be a valuable sourcebook for students of Green's thought and the history of nineteenth-century liberation.

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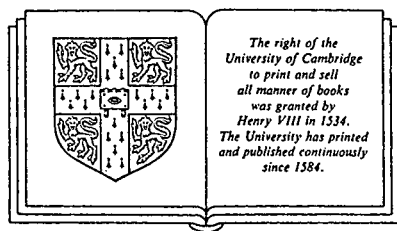
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and Other Writings



Edited by
PAUL HARRIS and JOHN MORROW
*Victoria University of Wellington
New Zealand*



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PREFACE



In selecting and preparing the texts for this volume of Green's political philosophy, we have tried to cater for the needs of graduate and undergraduate students on the one hand, and scholars on the other. Although Green's social and political thought is inseparable from his metaphysics, his epistemology, and his religious thought, we have not been able to include any of Green's writings in these areas but have used notes to point to relevant passages in the *Works*.

The texts of the previously unpublished writings are taken from Green's manuscripts, now held in the Balliol College Library. We have supplied the 'Fragments' with titles and have divided them into sections; the 'Undergraduate essays' are as Green wrote them. We have based our texts of Green's published works on those prepared by the original editors, and we have retained their titles and their divisions into sections and chapters, although we have not been able to include their useful analytic tables of contents. We have, however, corrected their versions against Green's manuscripts. Where the original editors have significantly misread or unjustifiably altered what Green wrote, we have restored Green's words and noted their version in the Variants (see pp. 367–72). In addition, where there is an unresolved choice in the manuscript between two words or phrases (usually written one above the other), we have included the one not used in the Variants, prefixed '*alt.*' We have not noted minor alterations to the text, nor changes in punctuation and spelling, the insertion or deletion of definite articles, the completion of abbreviations, or the restoration of Green's emphasis of a word or phrase. We have checked Green's quotations from other authors and corrected errors, usually without comment. Material in square brackets has been added by the present editors. Green's quotations in Latin, Greek, and German have been replaced by English translations. Foreign words and phrases have had a translation supplied on the first occurrence in each chapter, and Greek has been transliterated. Numbered notes with asterisks are Green's own; all other notes are the present editors'. A list of the abbreviations used in the notes is on p. ix.

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T. H. Green: Lectures

We have received advice and assistance from many sources during our work on this book. We are particularly grateful to the Master and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford, for permission to use the Green Papers, and to the College's Library staff for their considerable help. We acknowledge assistance received from the Leave Committee and the Internal Research Committee of Victoria University, and from the staffs of the following libraries: Victoria University, the British Library, the Senate House Library of the University of London, and the British Library of Political and Economic Science at the London School of Economics. We are grateful to Oxford University Press for permission to quote from Benedict de Spinoza, *The Political Works*, translated and edited by A. G. Wernham (1958), and to Martin Robertson Ltd for allowing us to see the proofs of *Philosophy, Politics and Citizenship: Idealism and the Welfare State* by Andrew Vincent and Raymond Plant. Marion Beardsmore, Jenny Berry, and Coula Pastelides typed and retyped with accuracy and good humour. We are glad of this opportunity to recognise the help we have received from Peter Nicholson, of the University of York; Mark Francis, of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand; and Patrick Conway, J. C. Davis, David Hamer, Peter McPhee, and Arthur Pomeroy, all of Victoria University. Finally, we wish to acknowledge our special and considerable debt to our colleague Chris Parkin, who was always willing to set aside other burdens in order to help us.

PAUL HARRIS
JOHN MORROW*Wellington, New Zealand*
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ABBREVIATIONS



<i>Collected Coleridge</i>	<i>Collected Works of Samuel Taylor Coleridge</i> , 16 vols., ed. Katherine Coburn (London and Princeton, 1969–).
'English Revolution'	T. H. Green, 'Four Lectures on the English Revolution', <i>Works</i> , III, pp. 277–364; selections below, pp. 213–27.
<i>D.N.B.</i>	<i>Dictionary of National Biography</i>
'Freedom'	Green, 'On the Different Senses of "Freedom" as Applied to the Will and to the Moral Progress of Man', below pp. 228–49.
<i>Lectures</i>	Green, <i>Lectures on the Principles of Political Obligation</i> , below pp. 13–193.
'Liberal Legislation'	Green, 'Lecture on "Liberal Legislation and Freedom of Contract"', below pp. 194–212.
<i>Memoir</i>	R. L. Nettleship, 'Memoir', <i>Works</i> , III, pp. xi–clxi.
<i>Political Economy</i>	John Stuart Mill, <i>The Principles of Political Economy with some of their Applications to Social Philosophy</i> , 2 vols., introd. V. W. Bladen, ed. J. M. Robson, <i>The Collected Works of J. S. Mill</i> (London and Toronto, 1965), vols. 2–3.
<i>Prolegomena</i>	Green, <i>Prolegomena to Ethics</i> , ed. A. C. Bradley (Oxford, 1883). Selections below, pp. 250–301.
Richter	Melvin Richter, <i>The Politics of Conscience: T. H. Green and His Age</i> (London, 1964).
Rodman	<i>The Political Theory of T. H. Green: Selected Writings</i> , ed. John R. Rodman (New York, 1964).
<i>Works</i>	<i>Works of Thomas Hill Green</i> , 3 vols., ed. R. L. Nettleship (London, 1885–8).