THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
HOBBS

Each volume of this series of companions to major philosophers contains specially commissioned essays by an international team of scholars, together with a substantial bibliography, and will serve as a reference work for students and nonspecialists. One aim of the series is to dispel the intimidation such readers often feel when faced with the work of a difficult and challenging thinker.

It was as a political thinker that Thomas Hobbes first came to prominence, initially through the publication of a brief book about good citizenship, De cive, and ultimately through Leviathan. And it is as a political theorist that he is most studied today. Yet the range of his writings extends well beyond morals and politics. Hobbes had distinctive views in metaphysics and epistemology, and wrote about such subjects as history, law and religion. He also produced full-scale treatises in physics, optics, and geometry. All of these areas are covered in this Companion, most in considerable detail. The view of Hobbes and his intellectual preoccupations that emerges is, thus, much broader than is presented in most studies of the philosopher. The volume also reflects the multidisciplinary nature of current Hobbes scholarship by drawing together perspectives on Hobbes that are now being developed in parallel by philosophers, historians of science and mathematics, intellectual historians, political scientists, and literary theorists.

New readers and nonspecialists will find this the most convenient, accessible guide to Hobbes available. Advanced students and specialists will find a conspectus of recent developments on the interpretation of Hobbes’s philosophy.
The Cambridge Companion to Hobbes

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CONTENTS

List of contributors page vii
Method of citation xi
Introduction TOM SORELL 1
I A summary biography of Hobbes NOEL MALCOLM 13
2 Hobbes’s scheme of the sciences TOM SORELL 45
3 First philosophy and the foundations of knowledge YVES CHARLES ZARKA 62
4 Hobbes and the method of natural science DOUGLAS JESSEPH 86
5 Hobbes and mathematics HARDY GRANT 108
6 Hobbes on light and vision JAN PRINS 129
7 Hobbes’s psychology BERNARD GERT 157
8 Hobbes’s moral philosophy RICHARD TUCK 175
9 Hobbes’s political philosophy ALAN RYAN 208
Contents

10 Lofty science and local politics
   JOHANN SOMMERVILLE  246

11 Hobbes on law
   M. M. GOLDSMITH  274

12 History in Hobbes's thought
   LUC BOROT  305

13 Hobbes on rhetoric
   VICTORIA SILVER  329

14 Hobbes on religion
   PATRICIA SPRINGBORG  346

Bibliography  381
Index  399
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viii  Contributors

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METHOD OF CITATION

The most widely used edition of Hobbes's works is Sir William Molesworth's. It consists of an eleven-volume *English Works* [1839] and a five-volume *Opera Latina* [1845]. References are to 'EW' or 'OL', followed by the relevant volume number and page number. Molesworth's edition is incomplete, and its presentation of the texts is now widely regarded as inadequate; accordingly, many of the contributors to this book have avoided it. Unfortunately, there is nothing else of comparable scope in English. The Clarendon Press in Oxford has an edition in preparation, but it will not be complete for a long time. References to volumes of the Clarendon edition that have already appeared contain the abbreviation 'HW'. When references are without EW and OL numbers, notes to the individual articles should be consulted for the exact editions and translations of works by Hobbes being referred to. The following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the short titles used to refer to works.

**AT:** *Descartes, Oeuvres* [ed. C. Adam and P. Tannery]
**Aub:** Aubrey's Briefe Lives
**AW:** Anti-White [1642/3]
**B:** Behemoth (1668)
**Cons Rep.:** Considerations on the Reputation . . . of Thomas Hobbes (1662)
**Corr:** The Correspondence of Thomas Hobbes [1622–79] [ed. N. Malcolm [HW, vols. vi and viii].]
**CSM:** The Philosophical Writings of Descartes [eds. J. Cottingham, R. Stoothoff, and D. Murdoch]
**De Cive:** Elementorum philosophiae sectio tertia de cive [1642].

Where citations refer to EW, vol II, it is the English-language
Method of citation

version of De cive, Philosophical Rudiments concerning Government and Society [1651].

De Corp.: Elementorum philosophiae sectio prima de corpore [1655]. Where citations refer to EW, vol. i, it is the English translation of De corpore, The Elements of Philosophy, the First Section concerning Body.

D.H.: Elementorum philosophiae sectio secunda de homine [1658]

DP: Decameron Physiologicum [1678]

DPRG: De principiis et ratiocinatioine geometricarum [1666]

Dial: Dialogue between a Philosopher and a Student of the Common Laws of England [1681]

DiPh.: Dialogus Physicus [1661]

EL: The Elements of Law [1640]

Lev.: Leviathan [1651]

Lo1N: Liberty and Necessity [1654]

LNC: The Questions Concerning Liberty, Necessity and Chance [1656]

M&C: Man and Citizen [ed. Gert.]

MDO: A Minute or First Draft of the Optiques [1646]

Prob. Phys.: Problematia physica [1662]

SL: Six Lessons to the Professors of Mathematics . . . in the University of Oxford [1656]

SPP: Seven Philosophical Problems [1665]

ST: Short Tract on First Principles [ed. F. Tonnies] [1630?]


TO I: Tractatus Opticus I [1640]

TO II: Tractatus Opticus II [1644] [ed. F. Alessio]

OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

BL: British Library

Harl.: Harleian

HMC: Historical Manuscripts Commission

MS: Manuscript

Ep. Ded.: Epistle Dedicatory