The latest volume in the Cambridge History of Philosophy series, *The Cambridge History of Philosophy in the Nineteenth Century (1790–1870)* brings together twenty-nine leading experts in the field and covers the years 1790–1870. Their twenty-eight chapters provide a comprehensive survey of the period, organizing the material topically. After a brief editor's introduction, the book begins with three chapters surveying the background of nineteenth-century philosophy; followed by two on logic and mathematics; two on nature and natural science; four on mind, language, and culture, including psychology, the human sciences, and aesthetics; four on ethics; three on religion; seven on society, including chapters on the French Revolution, the decline of natural right, political economy, and social discontent; and three on history, dealing with historical method, speculative theories of history, and the history of philosophy. The volume concludes with an extensive list of references.

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The Cambridge History of Philosophy in the Nineteenth Century (1790–1870)

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CONTENTS

Contributors ix
Preface xi
Allen W. Wood
Abbreviations xiii
Introduction 1
Allen W. Wood

I Philosophy in the Nineteenth Century
1 The Kantian Aftermath: Reaction and Revolution in German
   Philosophy
   Robert B. Pippin 19
2 The Social Conditions of Philosophy in the Nineteenth Century
   Terry Pinkard 46
3 The Unity of Reason and the Diversity of Life: The Idea of a
   System in Kant and in Nineteenth-Century Philosophy
   Rolf-Peter Horstmann 61

II Logic and Mathematics
4 Attempts to Rethink Logic
   Jeremy Heis 95
5 Some Developments in the Philosophy of Mathematics,
   1790–1870
   Janet Folina 133

III Nature
6 Conceptions of the Natural World, 1790–1870
   Alexander Rüger 169
Contents

vi

Natural Sciences

PHILIPPE HUNEMAN

201

7

IV Mind, Language, and Culture

Psychology

GARY HATFIELD

241

9

Language

MICHAEL N. FORSTER

263

10

The Emergence of the Human Sciences from the Moral Sciences

RUDOLF A. MAKKREEL

293

The Beautiful and the Good: Aesthetics, 1790–1870

PAUL GUYER

323

5

Ethics

12

Autonomy and the Self as the Basis of Morality

BERNARD REGINSTER

387

13

Ethics and the Social Good

JOHN SKORUPSKI

434

14

Moral Epistemology, 1788–1870

J. B. SCHNEEWIND AND ALLEN W. WOOD

469

15

Antimoralism

ALLEN W. WOOD

491

VI Religion

16

Challenges to Religion in the Nineteenth Century

VAN A. HARVEY

521

17

Three Types of Speculative Religion

STEPHEN CRITES

545

18

The Defense of Traditional Religion, 1790–1870

JAMES C. LIVINGSTON

570

VII Society

19

Philosophical Responses to the French Revolution

FREDERICK C. BEISER AND PAMELA EDWARDS

601
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20</th>
<th>The Decline of Natural Right</th>
<th>623</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Waldron</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21</th>
<th>Conceptions of Society in Nineteenth-Century Social Thought</th>
<th>651</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Neuhouser</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>22</th>
<th>Nineteenth-Century Political Economy</th>
<th>676</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debra Satz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>23</th>
<th>The Nation-State</th>
<th>699</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erica Benner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>24</th>
<th>Nineteenth-Century Ideals: Self-Culture and the Religion of Humanity</th>
<th>731</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Brudney</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>25</th>
<th>Social Dissatisfaction and Social Change</th>
<th>760</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christine Blaettler</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VIII History

| 26 | Philosophizing about History in the Nineteenth Century: \\n|    | Zusammenhang and the “Progressive Method” in German Historical Scholarship | 793 |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Laurence Dickey                   |     |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>27</th>
<th>Philosophy of History: The German Tradition from Herder to Marx</th>
<th>817</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Zammito</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28</th>
<th>The History of Philosophy</th>
<th>866</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael N. Forster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References 905

Index 957
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† Sadly, Stephen Crites and James C. Livingston died before the publication of this volume.
Like the other volumes of the Cambridge History of Philosophy, this one attempts to provide a comprehensive account of philosophy during the period it covers, focusing on the European philosophical tradition. But it both begins earlier and ends earlier than the title “Nineteenth Century” would suggest. The starting point is 1790, which roughly coincides with the rise of post-Kantian philosophy in Germany and reactions to the French Revolution throughout Europe. It ends about 1870, well before the end of the nineteenth century proper. In this respect, the period covered, and especially its terminus ad quem, has been chosen to coordinate with the Cambridge History of Philosophy series as a whole. The volume covers the period in which movements such as German idealism, Young Hegelianism, Marxism, Darwinism, positivism, utilitarianism, and Scottish common sense philosophy characterized the philosophical landscape. This volume does not try to cover a number of figures and movements that began in the late nineteenth century and carried over into the twentieth—such as Husserl, Mach, pragmatism, British idealism, and both Marburg and Southwest German neo-Kantianism.

The present volume, therefore, might be thought of as the history of early and middle nineteenth-century philosophy. Yet wherever authors of individual articles felt they must go further in order to complete the story they think needs to be told, they have been encouraged to do so. Also, we take responsibility for covering the thought of Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900), because it is hard to conceive of a treatment of nineteenth-century philosophy that would exclude his reflections on such important topics of nineteenth-century philosophy as art, morality, and history.

Like other volumes in this Cambridge series, this one is not organized around the exposition of a few “great” philosophers, or even around movements or national traditions, but instead attempts to identify a number of themes, topics, and concerns characteristic of its period and to exhibit them as they were seen and treated from a variety of different but representative standpoints. One difficulty with doing this in the period we are covering, however, is that the
nineteenth century was a time in which philosophy began to view itself in terms of traditions, even national traditions: this was the period that began to think of the history of philosophy in precisely the way that the Cambridge History now wants to leave behind. This fact, too, will need to be taken account of in our treatments of the themes around which the history is organized. This self-limitation of the Cambridge histories is motivated chiefly by the need to focus on a coherent historical narrative that can be presented with reasonable thoroughness in the space of a single volume.

This volume has been a long time in preparation. Some of the authors have had to wait a long time, along with the editors, for others to finish their work. The original conception and plan were mine, and Songsuk Susan Hahn joined me as coeditor fairly late in the process. But during the last three years of work on this volume she took primary responsibility for dealing with authors, recruiting new authors to fill gaps in the plan, and working as editor with a number of authors. Without her intellectual energy, knowledge of the period, and editorial skill, this volume would probably never have been completed. Laurel Scotland-Stewart and Alan McLuckie also performed important editorial tasks and deserve significant credit for the book’s completion. The editors would also like to thank Charles Parsons, Alexander Rueger, Stephen Menn, and Frederick Neuhouser for helpful comments on articles by other authors. Rueger also did invaluable work on the general reference list.

Allen W. Wood
ABBREVIATIONS

Bradley, F. H.
CW
The Collected Works of F. H. Bradley.

Comte, Auguste
Oeuvres

Dilthey, Wilhelm
GS
Gesammelte Schriften. 26 vols.
Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1914–

Feuerbach, Ludwig
GW

Fichte, Johann Gottlieb
GA
J. G. Fichte-Gesamtausgabe der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

SW

xiii
### Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Work Description</th>
<th>Ed./Publisher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Green, Thomas Hill</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hegel, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Herder, Johann Gottfried</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kant, Immanuel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kierkegaard, Søren</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marx, Karl, and Friedrich Engels</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abbreviations

MEGA  Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels  
       Gesamtausgabe. Berlin: Dietz, 1975


Mill, John Stuart  

Nietzsche, Friedrich  

Schelling, Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph von  

Schlegel, Friedrich  

Schleiermacher, Friedrich  

Schopenhauer, Arthur  
Abbreviations

Sidgwick, Henry
Works


Spencer, Herbert
CW


Stewart, Dugald
CW


Tocqueville, Alexis de
Oeuvres