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978-0-521-87605-6 - Intellect and Character in Victorian England: Mark Pattison and the Invention of the Don

H. S. Jones

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INTELLECT AND CHARACTER IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND

In the Victorian period English universities were transformed beyond recognition, and the modern academic profession began to take shape. Mark Pattison was one of the foremost Oxford dons in this crucial period, and articulated a distinctive vision of the academic's vocation frequently at odds with those of his contemporaries. In the first serious study of Pattison as a thinker, Stuart Jones shows his importance in the cultural and intellectual life of the time: as a proponent of the German idea of the university, as a follower of Newman who became an agnostic and a thoroughly secular intellectual, and as a pioneer in the study of the history of ideas. Pattison is now remembered (misleadingly) as the supposed prototype for Mr Casaubon in George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, but this book retrieves his status as one of the most original and self-conscious of Victorian intellectuals.

H. S. JONES is Reader in Intellectual History at the University of Manchester. His previous publications include *The French State in Question* (Cambridge, 1993), an edition of Auguste Comte's Early Political Writings for the Cambridge Texts series (1998) and *Victorian Political Thought* (2000).

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