COMPANION STUDIES

*Cacine, or, The Triumph of Relevance*, by Odette de Mourques
*Goethe, a critical Introduction*, by Ronald Gray

*Other volumes in preparation*
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PREFACE

This book, written at the invitation of the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, is one of a series of volumes introducing the works of major European writers to students and the general public. The terms of reference require it to be both introductory and central, and to assume little or no knowledge on the reader’s part. I have tried to comply with these terms, and also to keep biographical and background information to a minimum in order to concentrate on the works themselves. Much space has inevitably and rightly been devoted to Tolstoy’s two major novels, but I have also touched on most of his narrative and dramatic writings, the bad as well as the good. I have ignored his polemical articles and his religious treatises—for all their intrinsic interest and importance for an understanding of Tolstoy—as falling outside the scope of this series, which is literary, rather than biographical or historical. I would like to express my gratitude to the Secretary of the Clarendon Press for allowing me to abridge parts of my book, Tolstoy’s ‘War and Peace’: A Study, and to reproduce them in substantially the same form in Chapter 5. I would also like to thank Dr Inna Baykov for reading through the typescript and offering many valuable criticisms and suggestions.

R. F. C.

St Andrews
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