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978-0-521-54225-8 - The Cambridge Companion to Locke's "Essay Concerning Human Understanding"

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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO

LOCKE'S "ESSAY CONCERNING HUMAN UNDERSTANDING"

First published in 1689, John Locke's *Essay concerning Human Understanding* is widely recognized as among the greatest works in the history of Western philosophy. The *Essay* puts forward a systematic empiricist theory of mind, detailing how all ideas and knowledge arise from sense experience. Locke was trained in mechanical philosophy, and he crafted his account to be consistent with the best natural science of his day. The *Essay* was highly influential, and its rendering of empiricism would become the standard for subsequent theorists. The innovative ideas in this monumental work continue to speak to philosophers in the modern world.

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LEX NEWMAN is associate professor of philosophy at the University of Utah.

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Throughout the present volume, authors generally refer to *An Essay concerning Human Understanding* as simply the *Essay*. Quotations of the *Essay* are taken from the 1975 version, edited by Peter H. Nidditch. This edition is based on the original fourth edition of the *Essay*. The text has not been modernized, thus generally preserving Locke's original spelling, punctuation, italics, and case.

Works of Locke cited using abbreviations are the following:

- C *The Correspondence of John Locke*, ed. E. S. de Beer. 9 vols. (1976–).
- CU *Of the Conduct of the Understanding*, ed. Thomas Fowler (1901).
- D *Drafts for the Essay concerning Human Understanding, and Other Philosophical Writings*, ed. Peter H. Nidditch and G. A. J. Rogers. 3 vols. (1990–).
- E *An Essay concerning Human Understanding*, ed. Peter H. Nidditch (1975).
- EL *Essays on the Law of Nature*, ed. W. von Leyden (1954).
- TE *Some Thoughts concerning Education*, ed. John W. Yolton and Jean S. Yolton (1989).
- W *The Works of John Locke*, new ed., corrected. 10 vols. (1823; repr. 1964).

The majority of citations refer to the *Essay*. As per the abbreviation scheme above, these citations are marked with an E, and they specify the book, chapter, and article numbers, as well as page numbers: for example, E II.viii.15: 137 refers to Book II, Chapter viii, article 15, on page 137 of the Nidditch edition.

Citations to other works are given in parentheses, beginning with the uppercase abbreviation indicated, followed by a volume number (where relevant) and, finally a page number preceded by a full colon. For example, W IV: 36 refers to the *Works of John Locke*, volume IV, page 36.