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978-1-108-04540-7 - Observations on the Reflections of Edmund Burke on the Revolution in France

Catharine Macaulay

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Observations on the Reflections of Edmund Burke on the Revolution in France

Catharine Macaulay (1731–91) is considered to have been the first female historian. Her eight-volume *History of England* (1763–83) and her radical views brought her considerable fame in eighteenth-century England. She was a political activist in favour of parliamentary reform, and wrote several political pamphlets on the subject. She also wrote the feminist work *Letters on Education* (1790), which argues for the equal education of men and women and is thought to have been influential upon Mary Wollstonecraft. Macaulay supported both the American Revolution and the French Revolution and saw them as moves towards equality and liberty. This political pamphlet, first published in 1790, was written in support of the French Revolution and against Burke's *Reflections on the Revolution in France*. It is a passionate polemic that challenges Burke's interpretation of British history. It remains an important work in the history of political philosophy.

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OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

REFLECTIONS

OF THE

Right Hon. EDMUND BURKE,

ON THE

REVOLUTION in FRANCE,

IN A LETTER TO THE

Right Hon. the EARL of STANHOPE.

L O N D O N :

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