THE METAPHYSICAL SYSTEM OF HOBBES IN TWELVE CHAPTERS FROM ELEMENTS OF PHILOSOPHY CONCERNING BODY, TOGETHER WITH BRIEFER EXTRACTS FROM HUMAN NATURE AND LEVIATHAN

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The metaphysical system of Hobbes in twelve chapters from Elements of philosophy concerning body, together with briefer extracts from Human nature and Leviathan by Mary Calkins

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MARY CALKINS

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THE

Metaphysical System of Hobbes

IN

Twelve Chapters From

ELEMENTS OF PHILOSOPHY CON-CERNING BODY

Together With Briefer Extracts From

HUMAN NATURE AND LEVIATHAN

SELECTED BY MARY WIIITON CALKINS

"The world (I mean . . the whole mass of all things that are), is corporeal, that is to say, body; . . and that which is not body is no part of the universe."

SECOND EDITION

THE OPEN COURT PUBLISHING COMPANY

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ILLINOIS

1963

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PREFACE.

This condensation of the English version of Hobbes's book Concerning Body has been made, because the work is the completest summary of the metaphysical teaching of Hobbes and because there exists no inexpensive reprint or compendium of it. The ethical and social doctrines of Hobbes may be readily studied at first hand, by the aid of modern editions of the Leviathan or of volumes of selections from the writings of Hobbes; but for his strictly metaphysical teaching one must now have recourse to the volumes of the Molesworth edition. Teachers of modern philosophy who believe, with the writer, that the study of original texts is of incomparable value to the student must have been puzzled in their efforts to be just to the claims of materialism. Convenient expositions of idealism are readily found in the editions of Berkeley's Principles and Dialogues. But no historically important summary of materialistic doctrine has, so far, been accessi-This volume aims to supply the need and also to give an adequate impression of the Elements of Philosophy Concerning Body. To gain the latter end, chapters have been included from all four Parts of the work, and the headings of omitted chapters have been printed in full. To represent adequately the doctrine of Hobbes, it has been necessary to add to the formulation of materialism, as contained in the Concerning Body, (1) the argument for materialism, from the

alleged unreality of consciousness, as it appears in chapter II. of *Human Nature*; and (2) the corollary from materialism, the teaching that spirit is a form of body, from the later chapters of Leviathan.

The only portions of this volume which duplicate recent reprints from Hobbes are chapters 1, 6, 25, and a few scattered passages from Concerning Body, chapter 2 of Human Nature, and the brief selections from Leviathan. The text is that of Molesworth who, save in the case of capitals and of spelling, follows the early editions. Four obvious misprints, including two misplaced Greek accents, have been changed.

The extracts from the Latin work De Corpore, of which Concerning Body is a version, are offered in reeognition of the fact that Hobbes himself did not make the translation, and that the English version, spite of his revision, has not the authority of an original work. It is a pity not to reprint the Latin original, in place of the English version; but, unhappily, young American students either are not, or think that they are not, able to read Latin philosophical texts. By way of a slight protest against this form of academic illiteracy, no life of Hobbes is here printed save the autobiography, in Latin verse, written at the age of eighty-four by the vigorous old philosopher. Biographical and historical discussions will be found in the works by Robertson, Stephen and Sneath, quoted on page xxv., in the Bibliographical Note. For an exposition of the philosophy of Hobbes, all readers are referred to Hobbes himself.

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T. HOBBES MALMESBURIENSIS VITA,

SCRIPTA ANNO MDCLXXII.

Birth

Natus erat noster servator Homo-Deus annos Mille et quingentos, octo quoque undecies. Stabat et Hispanis in portubus inclyta classis Hostilis, nostro mox peritura mari: Primo vere; dies et quintus inibat Aprilis: Illo vermiculus tempore nascor ego,

Birthplace

In Malmesburia; baptisma a patre ministro Accepi, et nomen mi dedit ille suum. Oppidulum parvum est, habuit sed multa relatu Digna, atque imprimis comobium celebre, Et castrum, melius nisi sint duo castra vocanda, Colle sita, et bino flumine cineta fere. Concilium regni binis burgensibus auget; Nune quoque priscus honor permanet ille loci. Hic et Athelstani conduntur nobilis ossa, Atque super tumulum saxeus ipse jacet. Præmia virtutis populo dedit ille, propinquos Sanguine Danorum qui madefecit agros: Huc et ab Aldhelmo deducta est musa Latina, Hie habuit primam lingua Latina scholam. Non est ut patriæ pudeat: sed tempus iniguum Conqueror, et mecum tot quoque nata mala.

Study

Sanguine Danorum qui madefecit agros:
Huc et ab Aldhelmo deducta est musa Latina,
Hic habuit primam lingua Latina scholam.
Non est ut patriæ pudeat; sed tempus iniquum
Conqueror, et mecum tot quoque nata mala.
Fama ferebat enim diffusa per oppida nostra,
Extremum genti classe venire diem.
Atque metum tantum concepit tune mea mater,
Ut pareret geminos, meque metumque simul.
Hinc est, ut credo, patrios quod abominor hostes.

Pacem amo cum musis, et faciles socios. Disco loqui quatuor, totidem legere, et numerare,

Non bene præterea fingere literulas.