

PREFACE.

THIS book is intended to be what its title describes, an *Introduction* to Ethics; but as the term Introduction has, in this connection, received an ambiguous meaning, a word of explanation may not be out of place. This term is sometimes employed to denote a philosophical discussion of the ultimate concepts which lie at the foundation of a science; in which case, a preliminary study of the science is indispensable as a preparation for an intelligent perusal of the Introduction. This is not the sense in which the present work is meant to be an Introduction to Ethics. It is intended to introduce to the science those who are as yet unfamiliar with its fundamental concepts, except in so far as these are implied in all our ordinary thoughts about human life.

With this object in view I have not confined myself to the exposition of moral concepts in their abstract universality. Following rather what I believe to be the earlier tradition in the treatment of Ethics, I have endeavored to interest the student also in the concrete application of moral concepts to the