## viji ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE

throughout, for endless loans of MSS. and correspondence, and for free access to his unrivalled collection of Swinburniana. In my fourth Appendix I give fuller testimony to his part in my labours.

So large is the amount of new biographical detail which I found in my possession and was unwilling to ignore, that I was obliged to abandon the idea of adding, in a final chapter, an estimate of Swinburne's comparative place in literature, and particularly in the history of poetry. Various books with this purpose have been published, among them those of Wratislaw (1900), Woodberry (1906), Mackail (1909), Thomas (1918), Drinkwater (1918), and Welby (1914). More will doubtless be attempted, since the genius of Swinburne will never cease to interest critics, and successive generations of students will be drawn to examine his writings with more and more intelligence and sympathy.

EDMUND GOSSE.

January 1917.