PREFACE

of the recollections which he collected at my request, I have printed, in an appendix, the letter itself in which Lord Redesdale embodied most of those memories, for it is an excellent and characteristic specimen of his own manner of writing. It is a sorrow to me that this volume, to the publication of which he so indulgently looked forward, can never reach his hands.

The early friends of Swinburne who have helped me are too numerous to be mentioned here, and their aid is acknowledged in the text. I must, however, express my particular thanks to Lord Bryce, who has been good enough to read the Oxford chapter, to which, moreover, he has substantially contributed. Those helpers who died while my book was being slowly prepared must be named here with regret as well as gratitude—Ingram Bywater, R. W. Raper, Edith Sichel, Francis Warre Cornish, J. L. Strachan-Davidson.

The Marquess of Crewe has generously placed at my disposal the correspondence of Swinburne with his father, Lord Houghton, together with important illustrative matter. Viscount Morley has entrusted to me his file of the poet's letters, and has been so kind as to read Chapters VI. and VII. in proof. Professor James Fitzmaurice-Kelly has read my proofs and given me many valuable suggestions. But most of all I have to thank Mr. Thomas J. Wise for loyal and active help