

PREFATORY NOTE

WITH the exception of the hitherto unprinted paper entitled "The Causes of the Franco-Prussian War," this volume consists of articles reprinted from the following periodicals: *The Quarterly Review*, *The English Historical Review*, *The Nineteenth Century*, *The Rambler*, *The Home and Foreign Review*, *The North British Review*, *The Bridgnorth Journal*. The Editors have to thank Mr. John Murray, Messrs. Longmans, Kegan Paul, Williams and Norgate, and the proprietors of *The Bridgnorth Journal* for their kind permission to republish these articles.

Acton and Simpson collaborated in writing the two articles on Buckle's *History of Civilisation* (which it was impracticable to separate); the former of them is very largely Simpson's work.

J. N. F.

R. V. L.

August 24, 1907.