

## PREFACE

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Thomas Moore's *Journals and Life of Lord Byron*, Henry Hunt's *Correspondence and Memoirs*, De Morgan's *Budget of Paradoxes*, Daniel O'Connell's *Correspondence*, John O'Connell's *Recollections and Experiences*, the *Correspondence of Joseph Jekyll*, Greville's *Memoirs*, the lives of Major Cartwright, and of William Wilberforce, Dean Stanley's *Life of Dr. Arnold*, J. W. Francis's *Old New York*, Frederick Hudson's *Journalism in the United States*, Miss Mitford's *Recollections of a Literary Life*, Somerville's *The Whistler at the Plough*, Sir Richard Phillips's *Public Characters of all Nations*, James Grant's *Random Recollections of the House of Commons*, *Editors and Newspaper Writers of the Last Generation* (*Fraser's Magazine*, Feb. 1862), Hansard's *Parliamentary Debates*, the obituary notice in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, August 1835, and the Preface and Notes by John M. Cobbett and James P. Cobbett to their *Selections from Cobbett's Political Works* (6 vols., 1835). Character sketches and literary criticism are to be found in Hazlitt's *Table Talk*, Lord Dalling's *Historical Characters*, William Bates's *The Maclise Portrait Gallery*, J. E. T. Rogers's *Historical Gleanings*, Gilfillan's *Literary Portraits*, and Sir Leslie Stephen and Professor Saintsbury's essays on Cobbett.

There have, of course, been earlier biographies of Cobbett. The first, issued anonymously in 1835, is very scanty. The next appeared in the following year from the pen of the voluminous Robert Huish, and contained nearly one thousand closely-printed pages, a great number of which, however, are filled with long extracts from Cobbett's published works. Like all Huish's books, it is entirely unreliable, and must be used with the greatest care: I have used no statement made by Huish unless it is corroborated. In 1870 the Rev.