New Studies in Ethics

Edited by W D Hudson

What is involved in judging a person to be moral or immoral, or in calling an action right or wrong? What makes a man good or an action our duty? Such questions as these, which concern the nature and content of morality, have been discussed by philosophers from earliest times and are still live issues today.

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NEW STUDIES IN ETHICS

ETHICAL NATURALISM

Ethical Naturalism: Hobbes and Hume

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FOR MY WIFE

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

New Studies in Ethics is a series of monographs, written by philosophers drawn from universities in Great Britain, the United States and Australia. The aim of the series is to provide a comprehensive survey of the main types of ethical theory from the point of view of contemporary analytical philosophy.

In the present volume, Professor Kemp introduces ethical naturalism through the work of two of the most influential of British philosophers. He places the philosophy of Hobbes and Hume in its contemporary setting and seeks to understand it sympathetically. His aim is to show precisely what views Hobbes and Hume held respectively, and to bring out what is of continuing interest and significance in their work. The is-ought question, which arises in connection with the moral philosophy of both Hobbes and Hume, is still one of the central problems, if not the central problem, in that subject.

Professor Kemp's expositions are clear and his criticisms incisive. His *Study* will provide a useful introduction to an important part of Ethics for undergraduates studying that subject; but it will be of interest also to those more widely read in moral philosophy.

University of Exeter

W. D. HUDSON

REFERENCES

HOBBS

Leviathan *Leviathan or the Matter, Forme and Power of a Commonwealth Ecclesiasticall and Civil* by Thomas Hobbes. Edited with an Introduction by Michael Oakeshott (Oxford, n.d.).

EW *The English Works of Thomas Hobbes* collected and edited by Sir William Molesworth, 11 vols (London, 1839-45).

LW *Thomae Hobbes - Opera Philosophica quae Latine scripsit* collecta studio et labore Gulielmi Molesworth, 5 vols (London, 1839-45).

HUME

T *A Treatise of Human Nature*. References are to book, chapter and section, followed by the page in the edition by L. A. Selby-Bigge (Oxford, 1888).

EM *An Inquiry concerning the Principals of Morals*. References are to section and part, followed by (i) the page in the edition by C. W. Hendel (Library of Liberal Arts, Indianapolis, 1957) and (ii) the page in the edition of *Hume's Enquiries* by L. A. Selby-Bigge (Oxford, 1902).