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NEW STUDIES IN ETHICS

KANT'S MORAL PHILOSOPHY

Kant's Moral Philosophy

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

Kant's fame extends to almost every branch of philosophy and is by no means least in that part of the discipline which has to do with moral discourse. Everyone knows that Kant spoke of moral obligation as a categorical imperative; but what precisely did he mean by this description and what reasons had he for using it? Again, Kant's belief that our moral experience constitutes some kind of proof of God, freedom and immortality is well known; but just what kind of proof was it in Kant's opinion and was that opinion well founded? Professor Acton sheds light on these and other important questions in his admirably clear, concise and comprehensive survey of Kant's moral philosophy.

In this study Kant's ideas about ethics are related to those of other thinkers in his day, both as to their derivation and as to their influence. Professor Acton then expounds Kant's ethics against the background of his philosophy as a whole. He also comments critically upon Kant's ideas and arguments from a standpoint influenced by modern analytical philosophy.

This monograph will be of great help to students and considerable interest to professional philosophers. It will also provide a wider public with an introduction to Kant's formidable writings which is at once scholarly and easy to read.

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W. D. HUDSON