THE EARLIER LETTERS OF JOHN STUART MILL

VOLUMES XII - XIII

The Earlier Letters of John Stuart Mill 1812-1848

Edited by FRANCIS E. MINEKA

These volumes of Mill’s letters have been awaited eagerly by all scholars in the field of nineteenth-century studies. They inaugurate most auspiciously the edition of the Collected Works of John Stuart Mill planned and directed by an editorial committee appointed from the Faculty of Arts and Science of the University of Toronto and from the University of Toronto Press.

In this collection of 537 letters and excerpts of letters are included all the personal letters available. It contains 238 hitherto unpublished letters and 72 letters with previously unpublished passages. Letters previously published have been recollated whenever possible. All are meticulously edited and annotated.

The letters of these two volumes provide invaluable material for a study of Mill before the publication in 1848 of the Principles of Political Economy, when he became a widely recognized public figure and his correspondence took on more of a public character. By 1848, too, were virtually completed most of the correspondences with the friends and intimates of his youth and early manhood: Carlyle, John Sterling, J. P. Nichol, Gustave d’Eichthal, Auguste Comte, Alexis de Tocqueville, Robert Barclay Fox, W. J. Fox, John and Sarah Austin. These series of letters constitute the best supplement to the most interesting and moving sections of Mill’s Autobiography, for they reveal many sides of his intellectual and emotional development during the formative and most productive years of his life.

Francis E. Mineka is the Class of 1916 Professor of English, Cornell University. Before joining the Cornell faculty, he had taught chiefly at Hamilton College and the University of Texas. At Cornell he has served as Chairman of the Department of English (1948-57) and as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1957-62). He is the author of The Dissidence of Dissent: The Monthly Repository, 1806–1838 (1944), a co-editor of Masters of British Literature (1958), and has contributed to various professional journals. He was awarded Guggenheim and Fulbright fellowships for 1962–63 to collect and edit the later (1849–73) letters of Mill, eventually to be published in the Collected Works.
The Collected Edition of the works of John Stuart Mill has been planned and is being directed by an editorial committee appointed from the Faculty of Arts and Science of the University of Toronto, and from the University of Toronto Press. The primary aim of the edition is to present fully collated texts of those works which exist in a number of versions, both printed and manuscript, and to provide accurate texts of works previously unpublished or which have become relatively inaccessible.

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Cornell University

With an Introduction by
F. A. HAYEK, F.B.A.
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