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TO THE MEMORY OF MY PARENTS

Frederick Roy Hume
and
Alice Clare Hume, née Stapleton

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PREFACE

This work has been in preparation for many years, although for several of those years I was not aware that it was to be a volume of this kind. During its preparation, many people have contributed to it in various ways, and I am grateful for their help.

It was made possible in the first place because the Australian National University granted me study leave in 1967 and 1975 to examine Bentham's manuscripts and printed materials in London and other places. The University has also provided me with other facilities and opportunities. In particular, successive heads of the Department of Political Science have encouraged me to persevere with a topic which, it must be conceded, is not central to the work of the Department.

In the course of my research on Bentham, I made very heavy use of the Library of University College, London, and I want to thank the Librarian of that institution, Mr J. W. Scott, and those of his officers who had to deal with my many requests for help and information, especially Miss M. Skerl, who guided me through the Bentham Mss. for the first time in 1967. At University College, too, Professor J. H. Burns and other members of the Bentham Committee gave me direction and advice when I took my problems to them. I also drew extensively on the resources of the British Library (for both printed works and manuscripts), the Goldsmiths' Library of the University of London and the Public Records Office in London, and the National Library of Australia in Canberra. For shorter periods I was able to consult manuscripts of or relating to Bentham in La Bibliothèque Publique et Universitaire at Geneva (Dumont Papers), in the Cornwall County Record Office at Truro (Carew-Pole Muniments), at Althorp (Spencer Papers) and in the Library of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (George Bentham Papers). I am conscious

of the help and courteous attention that I received at each place.

As the years have passed, the members of my family, my colleagues and many of my friends have grown accustomed to the presence of Jeremy Bentham as my constant if invisible companion, and they may even have come to accept him. He has been a more obtrusive figure for my wife, for she has sometimes had to act as my unpaid research assistant and has more often had to manage in the periods when he made excessive demands on my time or seemed likely to defeat me entirely.

Because I have been writing about Bentham for so long, many typists have worked on parts or versions of my draft. I must mention in particular Mrs Judy Rix, who typed the bulk of the final draft as well as some earlier material; Mrs Lyn King, who coped with my earliest efforts when I was uncertain about the shape of my future argument; Miss J. Collins and Mrs P. Naylor, who typed the first substantial drafts of the opening chapters; and Miss Ellen Ruffles, who helped to incorporate my afterthoughts and to attend to the consequent tidying-up.

I am listing below certain formal acknowledgements for material reproduced in the text. I want, finally, to acknowledge certain intellectual debts, going back more than thirty years, to some of my former teachers: to Professor P. H. Partridge, who first introduced me to the study of political thought; to Mr J. L. Mackie, who first convinced me that what the text-books said about Bentham was not necessarily true; and to Professors S. J. Butlin and J. A. La Nauze who, by precept and example over a number of years, tried to convince me of the merits and the possibility of exact scholarship.

L.J.H.
Canberra
May 1980

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| B.L. Add. Mss. | British Library Series of Additional Manuscripts. |
| <i>Bowring</i> (i, etc.) | <i>The works of Jeremy Bentham. Published under the superintendence of his executor, John Bowring</i> (11 vols., Edinburgh, 1838–43), vol. 1, etc. |
| <i>C.W.</i> | <i>The collected works of Jeremy Bentham.</i> General Editor, J. H. Burns (London, 1968–). |
| G.B. | George Bentham (Jeremy's nephew). |
| J.B. | Jeremy Bentham. |
| <i>Lambert</i> | <i>House of Commons Papers of the Eighteenth Century</i> , ed. by Sheila Lambert (Wilmington, Delaware, 1975). |
| S.B. | Samuel Bentham (Jeremy's brother). |
| <i>Stark</i> | <i>Jeremy Bentham's economic writings</i> , ed. by W. Stark (3 vols., London, 1952–54). |
| U.C. (iv, etc.) | The Bentham Mss. at University College, London, Box iv, etc. |