

Preface

Mill's *On Liberty* was published in 1859. The Royal Institute of Philosophy lectures delivered in 1980–81 were stimulated by a reconsideration of that work. They all surely show that the problems to which Mill addressed himself are still as taxing today as they were then.

In editing this series it has been borne in on me that a conventional introduction to them would not be appropriate. They are so many and relevant cross-currents that to give a conspectus of *Of Liberty* would require a space as large as the main body of the articles: to which the reader no doubt wishes to hurry on.

One of the lectures, entitled 'Liberty and Justice' was given by J. C. Rees of University College, Swansea. Sadly, he died a few weeks later. We have a manuscript, but the author annotated it in his own hand to the effect that it should not be published without considerable revision. That wish must be respected. This volume is dedicated to his memory.

I would thank Professor H. D. Lewis, Mr Renford Bambrough and Dr Stuart Brown for their help during the lecture sessions. I am also grateful to Dr Benjamin Gibbs for contributing a supererogatory addition to the following contents in the form of a spirited reply to Professor Antony Flew's spirited paper.

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