

Ethical problem was for a long time in modern philosophy almost a monopoly of English thinkers. It was, indeed, taken up in an original manner by Kant and Fichte in Germany, but it was never adequately treated in the enormous philosophical literature which centred in Schelling and Hegel: their systems were founded on *Æsthetical* or poetical rather than upon Ethical justice.

However, since the extravagances among the after-growth of the Idealistic Movement, such as sprang up in the Romantic School and in the writings of Schopenhauer and Nietzsche, have become sufficiently alarming, serious thinkers have turned their attention to the Ethical problem.

In doing so, they have joined hands not only with Kant but likewise also with the strenuous workers in this field who have always stood foremost in this country. Their main object is to find and establish a firm and independent foundation for Ethics. What has been achieved in this direction will occupy us in the next chapter.