

# A FRAGMENT ON THE HUMAN MIND.



## INTRODUCTION.

BRITISH Philosophy during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries acquired and maintained that individual character which entitles it to rank as one of the most important phases in the history of human thought. That in the comprehensive histories of philosophy, the independent character of British thought has not found adequate recognition may be explained by two principal causes.

First, those comprehensive histories have been written by foreign, mostly German, scholars. It is only within the last fifty years that British thinkers have studied the history of philosophic thought in its completeness, and though some important contributions to this branch of study have recently appeared in this country, they refer mostly to ancient philosophy.

The second reason for the not uncommon neglect with which British speculation as a whole has been treated abroad, is to be found in the close connection which exists between philosophy and general literature