

Contents

Introduction

1. Leibniz: Life and Works	vii
2. Principle of Selection and Rationale for the Volume	x
3. Selected Bibliography of the Works of Leibniz	xii
4. Selected Bibliography of Secondary Works	xiii
5. Translations and Other Texts Referred to in the Notes	xiv

Part I. Basic Works

1. Letter to Foucher (1675)	1
2. Preface to a Universal Characteristic (1678–79)	5
3. Samples of the Numerical Characteristic (1679)	10
4. On Freedom and Possibility (1680–82?)	19
5. Meditations on Knowledge, Truth, and Ideas (1684)	23
6. On Contingency (1686?)	28
7. Primary Truths (1686?)	30
8. Discourse on Metaphysics (1686)	35
9. From the Letters to Arnauld (1686–87)	69
10. On Copernicanism and the Relativity of Motion (1689)	90
11. On Freedom (1689?)	94
12. The Source of Contingent Truths (1685–89?)	98
13. Notes on Some Comments by Michel Angelo Fardella (1690)	101
14. Preface to the <i>Dynamics</i> (1691?)	105
15. Dialogue on Human Freedom and the Origin of Evil (1695)	111
16. A Specimen of Dynamics (1695)	117
17. New System of Nature (1695)	138
18. Note on Foucher's Objection (1695)	145
19. Postscript of a Letter to Basnage de Beauval (1696)	147
20. On the Ultimate Origination of Things (1697)	149
21. On Nature Itself (1698)	155
22. From the Letters to Johann Bernoulli (1698–99)	167
23. From the Letters to de Volder (1699–1706)	171
24. To Queen Sophie Charlotte of Prussia, On What Is Independent of Sense and Matter (1702)	186
25. Letter to Coste, On Human Freedom (1707)	193
26. Response to Father Tournemine, on Harmony (1708)	196
27. From the Letters to Des Bosses (1712–16)	197
28. Principles of Nature and Grace, Based on Reason (1714)	206
29. The Principles of Philosophy, or, the Monadology (1714)	213
30. Letter to Samuel Masson, on Body (1716)	225
31. From the Letters to Wolff (1714–15)	230

Part II. Leibniz on His Contemporaries

A. Descartes and Malebranche	
1. Letter to Countess Elizabeth(?), On God and Formal Logic (1678?)	235
2. Letter to Molanus(?), On God and the Soul (1679?)	240
3. On the Nature of Body and the Laws of Motion (1678-82)	245
4. On Body and Force, Against the Cartesians (1702)	250
5. Conversation of Philarète and Ariste (1712)	257
B. Hobbes and Spinoza	
1. Dialogue (1677)	268
2. Comments on Spinoza's Philosophy (1707?)	272
3. Two Sects of Naturalists (1677-80)	281
C. Locke	
1. From a Letter to Thomas Burnett, on the Occasion of Rereading Locke (1703)	284
2. From the Letters to Thomas Burnett, on Substance (1699)	285
3. From a Letter to Lady Masham, on Thinking Matter (1704)	290
4. Preface to the <i>New Essays</i> (1703-5)	291
D. Berkeley	
1. From a Letter to Des Bosses (1715)	306
2. Remarks on Berkeley's <i>Principles</i> (1714-15)	307
E. Newton	
1. Absolute and Relative Motion, from Letters to Huygens (1694)	307
2. Planetary Theory, from a Letter to Huygens (1690)	309
3. Against Barbaric Physics (1710-16?)	312
4. From the Letters to Clarke (1715-16)	320
Appendixes	
1. Notes on the Texts	347
2. Brief Biographies of Some Contemporaries of Leibniz	350
Index	358