

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION Philip P. Wiener

I. ON METHOD

	PAGE
1. From <i>Elements of Law and Justice</i> (1669-1670)	1
2. On the Method of Universality (1674)	3
2a. General Geometry and the Method of Universals (1674)	5
3.) Dialogue on the Connection Between Things and Words (1677)	6
4. Preface to the General Science (1677)	12
5. Towards a Universal Characteristic (1677)	17
5a. Principles of a Logical Calculus (c. 1679)	26
5b. A Fragment on Logical Syntax	28
6. Precepts for Advancing the Sciences and Arts (1680)	29
7. Discourse Touching the Method of Certitude and the Art of Discovery	46
8. The Art of Discovery (1685)	50
9. On True Method in Philosophy and Theology (c. 1686)	58
10. On a General Principle Useful for the Explanation of the Laws of Nature (Letter to Bayle, 1687)	65
1. On Some Philosophical Axioms and Mathematical Fictions (Letter to Foucher, 1692)	70
2. The Horizon of Human Doctrine	73
3. On Wisdom (c. 1693)	77
4. On the Logic of Probability (1704, 1714)	82

	PAGE
15. On Geometrical Method and the Method of Metaphysics (1712)	89

II. FIRST PRINCIPLES: FOUNDATIONS OF THE SCIENCES

1. On Aristotle's and Descartes' Theories of Matter: Fragment (c. 1677)	90
2. The Exigency to Exist in Essences: Principle of Plenitude	91
2a. The Principle of Sufficient Reason	93
2b. Identity in Individual Substances and True Propositions (1686)	96
2c. On the Actual Infinite	98
3. Whether the Essence of a Body Consists in Extension (1691)	100
3a. Further Discussion of the Same Subject (1693, 1697)	102
4. New System of Nature (1695) and Second Explanation of the New System (1695)	106
5. <i>Specimen Dynamicum</i> (1695)	119
6. On Nature in Itself (1698)	137
7. On Substance as Active Force (<i>Vis Viva</i>) vs Mere Extension (Letters to De Volder, 1699-1703)	156
7a. Further Discussion of <i>Vis Viva</i> (Letter to Bayle, 1702)	181
8. On the Principle of Continuity (Letter to Varignon, 1702)	184
8a. Further Discussion of Continuity (Letter to Remond de Montmort, 1715)	188
9. Considerations on the Principle of Life, and on Plastic Natures, by the Author of the Pre-established Harmony (1705)	190

CONTENTS

ix

	PAGE
10. On Biology and Geology (From Letter to Bourguet, 1714)	199
11. Metaphysical Foundations of Mathematics (1715)	201
12. On Newton's Mathematical Principles of Philosophy (Letters to Samuel Clarke, 1715-1716)	216

III. THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE AND METAPHYSICS

①. What is an Idea? (c. 1676)	281
②. Reflections on Knowledge, Truth, and Ideas (1684)	283
3. Discourse on Metaphysics (1686)	290
4. On the Ultimate Origin of Things (1697)	345
5. On the Supersensible Element in Knowledge and the Immaterial in Nature (1702)	355
6. New Essays on the Understanding (1704)	367
7. On Necessity and Contingency (Letter to Coste, 1707)	480
8. Refutation of Spinoza (c. 1708)	485
9. Remarks on Malebranche's Opinion that <i>We See All Things in God</i> , with References to Locke's Examination of It (c. 1708)	497
0. On the Active Force of Body, On the Soul and on the Soul of Brutes (Letter to Wagner, 1710)	503
1. The Theodicy: Abridgement (1710)	509
2. Principles of Nature and of Grace (1714)	522
3. The Monadology (1714)	533
4. On the Doctrine of Malebranche (Letter to Remond de Montmort, 1715)	552

IV. ETHICS, LAW, AND CIVILIZATION

	PAGE
1. On the Notions of Right and Justice (1693)	559
2. Ethical Definitions (1697-1698)	564
3. On Destiny or Mutual Dependence	570
4. New Proposals	576
5. Essay on a New Plan of a Certain Science	582
6. An Odd Thought Concerning a New Sort of Exhibition (1675)	585
7. On an Academy of Arts and Sciences (Letter to Peter the Great, 1716)	594