Hume on morality

■ James Baillie

Contents

Ac	knowledgements	vii
Lis	t of abbreviations	ix
ı	Introduction	1
	Life and times	1
	Methods and aims	10
	Moral sense	15
2	Background on the understanding	19
	Impressions and ideas	20
	Causation	24
	Denial of physical and mental substance	31
3	The passions	37
	The social self	37
	The direct passions	39
	Pride and humility	42
	Object and cause	45
	The double association of impressions	
	and ideas	51
	Refinements to the rule	53
	Sympathy	56
	Love and hatred	60
	Sympathy and comparison	65

CONTENTS

4	Motivation and will	73
	Freedom and the will	73
	Reason cannot directly motivate action	86
	Passions as 'original existents'	90
	A Humean account of motivation	97
	Calm passions	99
5	Against moral rationalism	105
	Introduction	105
	Two rationalists: Clarke and Wollaston	107
	Morals and motives	121
	Demonstrative reasoning cannot ground morality	125
	Factual error cannot be the source of immorality	131
	'Is' and 'ought'	136
	The moral sentiments	139
6	The virtues	143
	The four sources of personal merit	143
	Against egoism	147
	Justice as an artificial virtue	153
	The origin of justice and property	159
	Natural preconditions of justice	172
	The acquisition and transfer of property	177
	The artificiality of promises	180
	Self-interest in its proper place	185
7	The moral stance	189
	Sympathy and its correction	189
	A standard of taste	199
	A standard of morals	210
Bib	Bibliography	
	Index	