John Maynard Keynes (1883–1946) was without doubt one of the most influential thinkers of the twentieth century. His work revolutionised the theory and practice of modern economics. It has had a profound impact on the way economics is taught and written, and on economic policy, around the world. The Collected Writings of John Maynard Keynes, published in full in electronic and paperback format for the first time, makes available in thirty volumes all of Keynes’s published books and articles. This includes writings from his time in the India Office and Treasury, correspondence in which he developed his ideas in discussion with fellow economists and correspondence relating to public affairs. Arguments about Keynes’s work have continued long beyond his lifetime, but his ideas remain central to any understanding of modern economics, and a point of departure from which each new generation of economists draws inspiration.

Most of the essays in this book were first collected and published in 1933, when Keynes had reached a turning point in a highly successful career as an academic economist, as an official economic advisor, opponent of the reparation imposed on Germany, and critic of the orthodox economic policies of British governments. Before devoting himself fully to the final stages of his journey towards the General Theory, Keynes put together these examples of one of his favourite literary genres, the psychological portrait and biographical sketch. With the additions made in 1951 and 1972, the book contains almost all of Keynes’s biographical writings: his savage portraits of the architects of the Treaty of Versailles and sketches of other politicians, including Asquith and Churchill; some classic accounts of the lives of economists; a pair of autobiographical memoirs; a short study of Newton; and many acute and affectionate character sketches of friends.
THE COLLECTED WRITINGS OF
JOHN MAYNARD KEYNES

VOLUME X

ESSAYS IN BIOGRAPHY

WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION
BY DONALD WINCH

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