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The Sphere and Duties of Government (the Limits of State Action)

By Wilhelm von Humboldt

Martino Fine Books, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.2014 Reprint of 1854 Edition. Full facsimile of the original edition. Not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. Translated by Joseph Coulthard. According to the author the grand, leading principle, towards which every argument . unfolded in these pages directly converges, is the absolute and essential importance of human development in its richest diversity. This description by Wilhelm von Humboldt of his purpose in writing this classic work animates John Stuart Mill s On Liberty and serves as its famous epigraph. Seldom has a book spoken so dramatically to another writer. Many commentators even believe that Humboldt s discussion of issues of freedom and individual responsibility possesses greater clarity and directness than Mill s. This title, written by Germany s greatest philosopher of freedom, as F. A. Hayek called him, has an exuberance and attention to principle that make it a valuable introduction to classical liberal political thought. It is also crucial for an understanding of liberalism as it developed in Europe at the turn of the nineteenth century. Humboldt explores the role that liberty plays in...



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