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CONVERSATIONS.



VOL. I.

Rare section

CONVERSATIONS

WITH

M. THIERS, M. GUIZOT,

AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED PERSONS,
DURING THE SECOND EMPIRE.

BY THE LATE

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"A TREATISE ON POLITICAL ECONOMY," "BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES," "ESSAYS ON FICTION,"
"HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL ESSAYS,"
"JOURNALS KEPT IN TURKEY AND GREECE," "JOURNALS KEPT IN IRELAND,"
"JOURNALS KEPT IN FRANCE AND ITALY,"
"CORRESPONDENCE AND CONVERSATIONS WITH ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE," ETC.

EDITED BY HIS DAUGHTER

M. C. M. SIMPSON.

TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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PREFACE.

MR. SENIOR'S conversations in Paris, from 1848 to 1852, appeared in print soon after the close of the disastrous war during which the Second Empire crumbled away.

The lapse of time has at length made it possible to bring out another series. The last journal that my father ever wrote was in 1863, and at first I thought of publishing extracts from the whole succession; but the wealth of materials was so great that it would have been impossible to keep the work within reasonable limits. The present publication, therefore, ends with our visit to Val Eicher in 1860.

There was still so much interesting matter that the task of selection has been very difficult, and much that has been rejected would probably have proved as interesting as that which has been retained. I have thought it prudent to leave out almost all the conversations with living persons, except where they come in incidentally; consequently the names of some of my father's most distinguished friends—MM. Buffet, Jules Simon, Duvergier de Hauranne, Drouyn

de Lhuys, François de Corcella, Barthélemy St. Hilaire, Alphonse de Circourt, Léonée de Lamoignon, Michel Chevalier—occur but seldom in these pages.

The conversations with M. de Tocqueville, which were so full and so frequent up to 1859, have already been published.

Some passages from the Thiers, Cornu, and Guizot conversations have appeared in the *Fortnightly* and *Cornhill* magazines, and I am much obliged to the Editors for allowing me to reproduce them.

M. C. M. SIMPSON.

KENSINGTON, *May*, 1878.

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