

Kant, Axiomatics, Logic and Geometry

Review by Irving H. Anellis of Immanuel Kant, *Logic*, translated, with an introduction, by Robert S. Hartman & Wolfgang Schwarz (New York, Dover, 1988; reprint of the New York & Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, edition, 1974.)

This is the third English translation of *Immanuel Kants Logik: Ein Handbuch zu Vorlesungen*, first published in Königsberg in 1800 by Friedrich Nicolovius. The first complete English translation was the *Logic, from the German of Emmanuel Kant, M.A. To which is annexed a Sketch of his Life and Writings* made by John Richardson, and printed in London for W. Simpkin and R. Martin in 1819. The second (incomplete) English translation, which contained only the "Introduction" of the *Logik*, was made by Thomas Kingsmill Abbott, published as *Kant's Introduction to Logic, and his essay On the Mistaken Subtlety of the Four Figures (with a few notes by Coleridge)* in London by Longmans Green, & Co. in 1885, and reprinted in New York in 1963 by the Philosophical Library. The present translation includes Jäsche's "Preface", along with a one hundred page "Translators' Introduction" which discusses the role of logic within the Kantian philosophy, and a new "Preface" by Schwarz. (A consideration of the role of logic in Kantian philosophy is also to be found in [Collins 1976/77], which may perhaps also serve as an introduction to Kantian philosophy.)

In a detailed textual examination of Kant's *Logik* (1800), Terry Boswell [1988] has shown that the book is a compilation by Kant's student Gottlob Benjamin Jäsche, principally from Kant's lecture notes, of annotations to Kant's copy of the textbook *Auszug aus der Vernunftlehre* (Halle, J.J. Gebauer, 1752) of Georg Friedrich Meier (1718–1777) (which Kant used beginning with his first logic course, not merely since 1765, as stated by Jäsche), but also from Meier's *Vernunftlehre* (Halle bei Gebauer, 1752), of which the *Auszug* was an abridgement. Kant's notes included marginal notations as well as notes on interleaved sheets of paper. The