One of the major works of English political philosophy, Hobbes’ Leviathan was written during the English Revolution. It deals with the nature of sovereignty, how stable political power might be created, how wars might be avoided, and what is the proper relationship between a sovereign authority and the individual. Copyright information: The text is in the public domain. CHAPTER I.: of sense. CHAPTER II.: of imagination. CHAPTER III.: of the consequence or train of imaginations. CHAPTER IV.: of speech. CHAPTER V.: of reason and science.
To render the work more useful to the English reader and those not deeply versed in Grecian history, some historical notes have been added, drawn for the most part in substance from Mueller’s history of the Dorians, Hermann’s Grecian Antiquities, Thirlwall’s history of Greece, Niebuhr’s history of Rome, c. Wheresoever Aristotle is cited, his Politics will be understood to be the work referred to. Several phrases having been marked by Hobbes himself with square brackets, to designate them as interpolations, the same marks have been added for the same purpose to other words and passages.