This has been an exciting year for new writings on Wittgenstein. As usual there has been a great deal of exegesis and neo-Wittgensteinian philosophizing, but there has also been much new light on Wittgenstein's life, personality and texts. Students of Russell and of his own most illustrious student have always found the philosophical and personal relationship of the two puzzling, but until recently little has been published on which judgement could replace conjecture. We now know a very great deal about the publication of the Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus (including Russell's part in it) and about the genesis of its text. After the Prototractatus (1971), with its historical introduction by Professor von Wright, has come Wittgenstein's Letters to C.K. Ogden (London: Blackwell and Routledge, 1973), which includes a facsimile of a questionnaire about the translation of the Tractatus which Wittgenstein filled out. Letters to C.K. Ogden also includes letters from Russell and Ramsey, with interesting comments by Ramsey as he helped Russell in preparing the second edition of Principia Mathematica. More personal, we have had a reminiscence by Wittgenstein's tutor in Russian, Fania Pascal, herself...
young Wittgenstein's regard for Russell was perhaps less reverential, but apparently not less immense. Yet there are few studies of how Russell influenced Wittgenstein, and none (to my knowledge) of how Wittgenstein influenced Russell. Owing to their later personal and philosophical antipathies, it seems, not many people make a sympathetic study of both men. Students of Russell sometimes need to be shown that Wittgenstein is worth learning about on his own account. All of the above-mentioned works are useful either for that reason, or for studying the interaction of these two "actual sons of God" - as Wittgenstein called Mozart and Beethoven in a letter to Russell. - K.B.