# THE ANCIENT COPTIC VERSION OF THE BOOK OF JOB THE JUST

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The Ancient Coptic Version of the Book of Job the Just by Henry Tattam

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# **HENRY TATTAM**

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Bills. O.T. John. Coptic, 1846.

THE

### ANCIENT COPTIC VERSION

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## THE BOOK OF JOB THE JUST.

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH.

AND EDITED,

BY

## HENRY TATTAM, LL.D. D.D. F.R.S.

&c. &c.

RECTOR OF ST. CUTHBERT'S, BEDFORD. AND ARCHDEACON OF BEDFORD.

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### TO THE

# LORD PRUDHOE,

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OF THE VALUABLE ASSISTANCE

DERIVED FROM THE COPTIC AND ARABIC MANUSCRIPTS,

PRESENTED BY HIS LORDSHIP

TO THE EDITOR,

THIS WORK IS MOST BESPECTFULLY

DEDICATED,

BY HIS LORDSHIP'S MOST OBEDIENT

HUMBLE SERVANT,

HENRY TATTAM.

To the

04-6-2

Rof. M.W.

It may perhaps be sufficient to state here, that the Coptic Version of the Scriptures was made at a very early period of the Christian era.

This Version of the Old Testament, like all the other ancient Versions of it, was made from the Greek Text, and not from the original Hebrew.

The Coptic Version of the Book of Job is now for the first time presented to the public, through the medium of the press. It has been printed from a separate Manuscript of that Book, in Coptic and Arabic in parallel columns, as far as Chap. xix. v. 23, where the Arabic ceases. This was copied, while I was in Egypt, from an ancient one in the Patriarch's library in Cairo. I afterwards collated it, while in Malta, in June 1839, with an old Manuscript in Coptic, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Schleinz; and I have since collated it with another ancient Manuscript in Coptic, without an Arabic translation, kindly presented to me by Lord Prudhoe, since my return from Egypt. I therefore believe the text is as perfect as Manuscripts would enable me to make it. A few errors which

are left in the text, uncorrected by the other Manuscripts, I have noticed in the margin.

I now send forth the work to the public, in the earnest hope that the remaining parts of the text of the Coptic Version of the Scriptures will be preserved in the same way, for the future benefit of the Coptic Church, by whom it is acknowledged as their standard Version. I also feel assured, that its value and importance will be appreciated by the Biblical Critic and Divine.

I trust the English translation, which is as literal as it could be made, will be found throughout the volume to speak faithfully the sense of the original.

H. TATTAM.

BEDFORD, Nov. 17, 1846.

THE BOOK

OF

JOB THE JUST.