

**THE GOLDEN BOOK OF JOHN OWEN:
PASSAGES FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE
REV. JOHN OWEN,
SOMETIME VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, AND DEAN OF
CHRIST CHURCH**

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The golden book of John Owen: passages from the writings of the Rev. John Owen, sometime Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and Dean of Christ Church by James Moffatt

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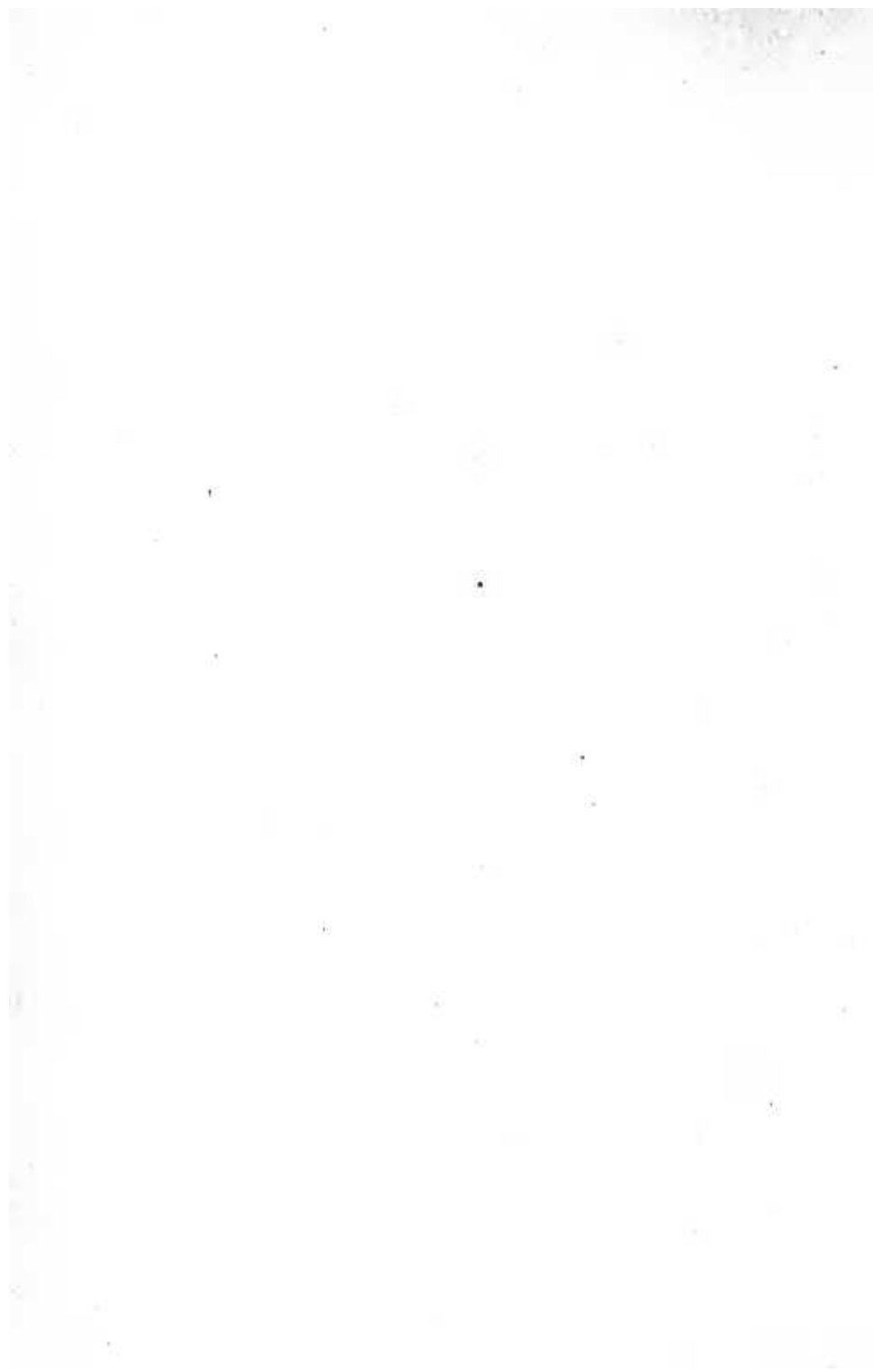
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JAMES MOFFATT

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REV. JOHN OWEN, M.A., D.D., SOMETIME VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD, AND DEAN OF CHRIST CHURCH

Chosen and Edited, with a
Study of his Life and Age

BY

JAMES MOFFATT, B.D., D.D. (ST. ANDREWS)

LONDON
HODDER AND STOUGHTON
27 PATERNOSTER ROW
1904

'I am greatly long to see some ancient godly man's experience, who had writ some hundreds of years before I was born; for those who had writ in our days, I thought (but I desire them now to pardon me) that they had writ only that which others felt, or else had, through the strength of their wit and parts, studied to answer such objections as they perceived others were perplexed with, without going down themselves into the deep.'—BUNYAN'S *Grace Abounding*.

'At last the time of his (Mr. Grimshawe's, an active English church minister) deliverance came. At the house of one of his friends he lays his hand on a book and opens it, with his face towards a pewter shelf. Instantly his face is saluted with an uncommon flash of heat. He turns to the title-page and finds it to be "Dr. Owen on Justification." Immediately he is surprised with such another flash. He borrows the book, studies it, is led into God's method of justifying the ungodly, hath a new heart given to him; and now, behold, he prayeth.'—Quoted by ORME from the *Life of Mr. Joseph Williams of Kidderminster*.

'Except for a few years, Puritanism was militant or Puritanism was depressed. We can only conjecture whether a great literature would have developed on a Puritan basis, if the commonwealth had existed even for one entire generation; we can only surmise on the question whether righteousness would have flowered in beauty and severity have worn the garments of joy. . . . But the strife of parties during the Commonwealth made it inevitable that the graver mind of England should in the main occupy itself with practical work of immediate importance. Theological folios and political pamphlets may now slumber on dusty shelves, but some of them in their day were instinct with fire; they were living forces helping to form character, to regulate conduct, to shape public action. If few of them deserve the name of literature, they yet stirred the soil from which a literature might have sprung. . . . And what else in the literature of the period can outweigh these gifts of Puritan passion and Puritan faith?'—DOWDEN, *Puritan and Anglican*, pp. 24-26.

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NOTE TO THE EDITOR FROM
DR. ALEXANDER WHYTE

7 CHARLOTTE SQUARE, EDINBURGH,
May 7, 1904.

DEAR DR. MOFFATT,—

I do not know another living man who could have done this service to John Owen. All your previous studies will but the surer gain you a multitude of astonished and admiring readers. Much as I expected from you, this far surpasses my expectations.

With high regards,

ALEXANDER WHYTE.

TO
MY WIFE

ARGENTVM ET AVRVM NON
EST MIHI : QVOD AVTEM HABEO
HOC TIBI DO

