

THE WITNESS

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The Witness by Edwin T. Caulfield

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EDWIN T. CAULFIELD

THE WITNESS

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THE WITNESS.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

A DISSERTATION ON THE "ADVENT, KINGDOM, AND
DIVINITY OF THE MESSIAH."

"Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city! Her princes within her are roaring lions, her judges are evening wolves. Her prophets are light and treacherous, her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law."—ZEPHANIAH.

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities!—Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine. And she shall be utterly burned with fire. For strong is the Lord God, who judgeth her!"—*Rev. xviii.*



LONDON:

J. HATCHARD AND SON, 187, PICCADILLY.

1827.
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TO THE

RIGHT HON. ROBERT PEEL, M. P.

&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

IF the liberty of an unauthorized Dedication may obtain pardon, I am acquainted with no personage to whom a writer might look with a fairer expectation of indulgence than to yourself. Urbanity and liberality are so generally ascribed to you, that I feel no apprehension lest my offering should be rejected; and your well-earned reputation,

at the same time, removes the fear lest my honesty should be compromised in expressing my admiration of your talents and character.

In common with multitudes of your fellow-countrymen, I earnestly look forward, with grateful anticipation, to your resumption of the arduous and important duties which you have so ably and so uprightly fulfilled, persuaded that the good of this empire is the sole aim of your honourable ambition. The purpose of the present publication is, I trust, so far in unison with this sacred object, and consequently, in harmony with your opinions, as to need no other apology than for the manner in which these sentiments have been conveyed,

and for the liberty I have taken in using
your name.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

SIR,

Your most obedient,

And most humble Servant,

THE AUTHOR.



THE WITNESS.

PART I.

THE word of God is at once the truth and the test of truth. The claims of the church of Rome have, long since, been tried by this test; they have, again and again, been fully and impartially weighed in the scales of reason and revelation, and they have been "found wanting." Not only her faith, but her constitution has, for several ages, been deemed adverse to man's best interests. An idea, however, has of late prevailed, that the authority and influence of the Pope are so much and so hopelessly impaired,