

**A PRIZE DISSERTATION ON THE  
DOCTRINE OF FAITH IN THE HOLY  
TRINITY, READ IN THE DIVINITY  
SCHOOL, OXFORD, JUNE THE  
4TH, 1840**

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**CHARLES BROOKSBANK**

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BY THE

REV. CHARLES BROOKSBANK, M.A.

*Of Christ Church, Oxford, and late Curate of Haresfield, Gloucestershire.*

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"Keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science, falsely so called; which some professing, have erred concerning the Faith."—1 Tim. vi. 20, 21.

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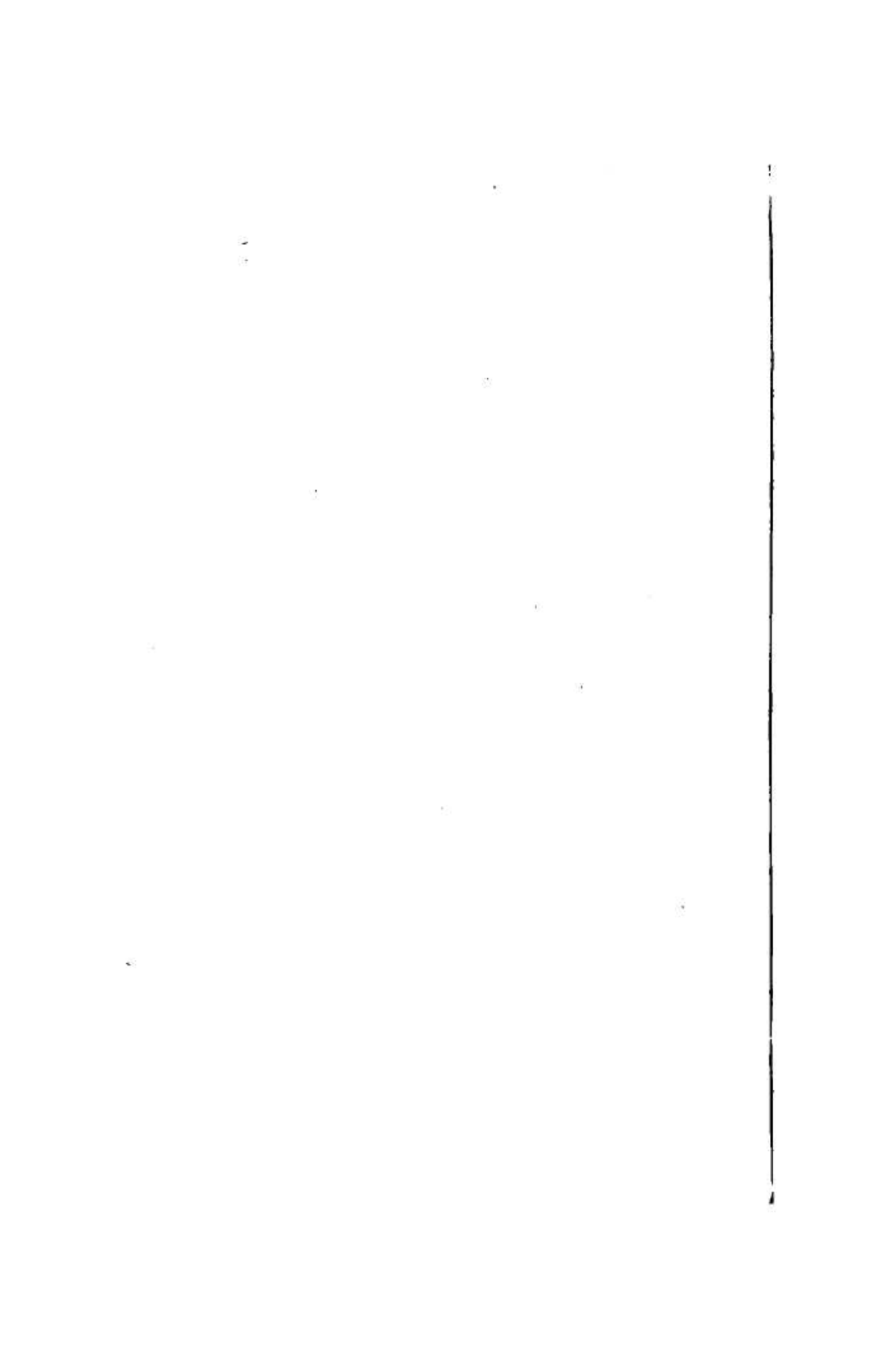
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THE late Mrs. ELIZABETH DENNIS DENYER, by her last will, bequeathed a sum of money to the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford, in order to found Two Prizes of Thirty Pounds each, for the two best Discourses in English on certain Theological subjects.

By a decree of the High Court of Chancery, the dividends are paid in equal moieties to two members of the University, for two several Prize Dissertations in English, on two subjects to be selected yearly, and the Prizes in respect of such Dissertations to be adjudged by the Vice-Chancellor, the two Divinity Professors, and the two Proctors for the time being. The persons entitled to write for the Prizes to be in Deacon's Orders at least, and, on the last day appointed for the delivery of the compositions to the Registrar of the University, to have entered on the eighth, and not exceeded the tenth year from their matriculation.

1836. *On the Doctrine of Faith in the Holy Trinity.*—H. William Wilberforce, M.A., Oriel.
- *On the Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for the Salvation of Man.*—James Stephens, M.A., St. John's.
1837. *On the Divinity of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*—William Wellwood Stoddart, M.A., Fellow of St. John's.
- *On Original or Birth Sin, and the Necessity of New Birth unto Life.*—Henry Constantine Brooksbank, M.A., Wadham.
1838. *On the Divinity of the Holy Ghost.*—Robert Scott, M.A., Fellow of Balliol.
- *On the Influence of Practical Piety in promoting the Temporal and Eternal Happiness of Mankind.*—Thomas William Allies, M.A., Fellow of Wadham.
1839. *On the Justification of Man before God only by Christ, proving also that true Faith must be accompanied with good Works.*—John Wilson, M.A., Fellow of Corpus Christi.
- *On the Necessity of the Two Sacraments retained in the Church of England, and that they only are necessary to be retained.*—(Not adjudged.)





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## THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH IN THE HOLY TRINITY.

THE Doctrine of the Holy Trinity, as it is explained by the Postnicene Church, acknowledges that there are Three distinct Persons united in one common Essence.

The Persons are declared to be *Three*, because they are supposed to be numerically Three; each being different and distinct from each other by office, by relationship, and by a particular mode of subsistence.

The Substance which unites the Three Persons is declared to be *One*, not by reason of number,<sup>1</sup> as if

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<sup>1</sup> It is in this sense that St. Basil speaks of the Unity of the Divine Substance: "Πρὸς δὲ τοὺς ἐκπράζοντας ἡμῖν τὸ τρίθειον, ἐκεῖνο λεγέσθω, ὅτι περ ἡμεῖς ἓνα Θεόν, οὐ τῷ ἀριθμῷ, ἀλλὰ τῷ φύσει ὁμολογοῦμεν, πᾶν γὰρ ὃ ἐν ἀριθμῷ λέγεται, τούτο οὐχ ἐν ὄντως, οὐδὲ ἀπλοῦν τῷ φύσει ἐστίν. ὃ δὲ Θεὸς ἀπλοῦς καὶ ἀσύνθετος παρὰ πᾶσιν ὁμολογεῖται. οὐκ ἄρα εἰς ἀριθμῷ ἐστὶν ὁ Θεός. ὃ δὲ λέγω τοιοῦτον ἐστίν. ἐν ἀριθμῷ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι φημέν, ἀλλ' οὐχ ἓνα τῷ φύσει, ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἀπλοῦν τινὰ τοῦτον. τέμνομεν γὰρ αὐτόν, εἰς τὰ ἐξ ὧν συνέστηκε στοιχεῖα, εἰς πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ, καὶ αἶρα καὶ γῆν· πάλιν δ' ἄνθρωπος εἰς ἀριθμῷ ὀνομάζεται ἓνα γὰρ ἄνθρωπον