

**QUESTIONS ON THE
GOSPELS OF ST.
LUKE, JOHN AND THE
ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

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Questions on the Gospels of St. Luke, John and the Acts of the Apostles by W. G. Ormsby

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QUESTIONS
ON THE
GOSPELS OF ST. LUKE, JOHN,
AND
ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

INTENDED FOR
The Use of Sunday and Daily Schools.

BY
THE REV. W. G. ORMSBY, A.B.,
Curate of Swords,

SECOND EDITION.

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40, FLEET STREET.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

It will be acknowledged by all, that reading without thinking is of little advantage. The perusal of any work *may* be accomplished as a mere mechanical effort, without exercising and improving the mind. "Cultivate," (says a wise and good man,)* "the habit of intense attention to whatever subject is before you, whether in reading, observation, or in listening to the instruction of others, and check the first tendency to a listless inactivity of mind."

If this advice be valuable as regards the attainment of secular information, how much more with respect to the acquirement of Scriptural knowledge; and yet the sacred volume from which that inestimable blessing is obtained, is frequently read, especially by children, with that vacuity of mind which not only renders the perusal uninstructional, but also tends to establish a careless habit highly injurious to the mind.

* Dr. Abercrombie.—Moral Essays.

It may be said, let the word of God be explained to the young, by persons *properly qualified* to give that instruction which the children require. To this we agree, and therefore consider that ordained ministers are the persons to undertake that responsibility, they being supposed to be *especially qualified*. As, however, their numerous engagements preclude their *daily* attendance, at the parochial school, to afford catechetical instruction, and as the generality of teachers are, for many reasons, unsuited for the discharge of this important duty, we have either—1. To permit the children to read the Scriptures without examination in the meaning of what is read. 2. To allow the teachers to question at their own discretion. Or, lastly, To provide them with questions calculated to elicit the information contained in each passage, and thus to define the limits beyond which the teacher shall not proceed without permission.

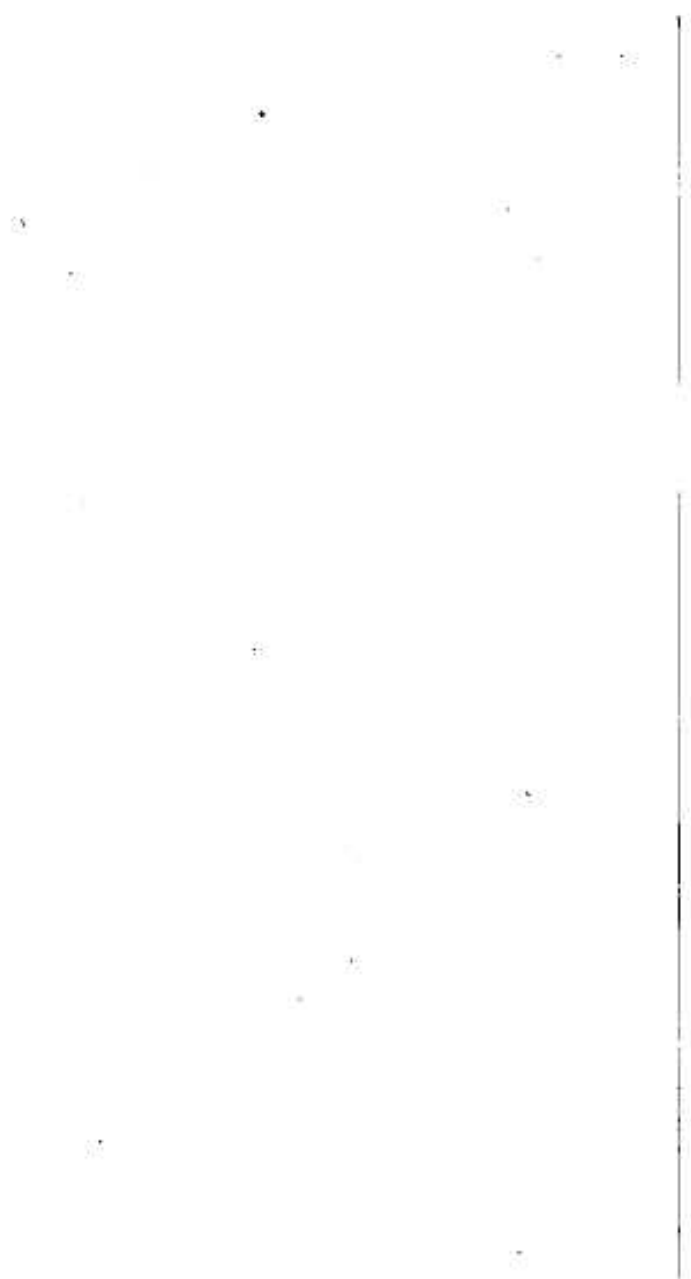
It was to effect the latter object that these Questions were prepared. They were commenced at the suggestion of a person experienced in these matters, who also looked over the work previous to publication, and expressed his approbation of

it. They are at present in use in a large school attended by nearly 300 children, of different persuasions, who, along with their teachers, appear to derive pleasure and information from the help thus afforded them in the reading of the New Testament.

The course adopted in affording Scriptural instruction is as follows:—

The children read a chapter; the teachers then taking the Questions examine the class, each child having the Testament open. They are thus induced to *search* ere they can reply, which exercise tends to impress the subject upon their minds far more than if the answers were also given; a plan which, although frequently pursued, cannot be too strongly deprecated, encouraging, as it does, inattention, and promoting the tendency to learn by rote, which, with all our care, is so hard to be counteracted.

N. B.—It is expected that the teachers will prepare themselves in the portion of Scripture appointed for each day's reading, before they proceed to examine the children.



NOTICE.

IN consequence of the approbation expressed by some persons, qualified to give an opinion respecting the usefulness of this work, a second edition of the Gospels of Luke and John, and the Acts of the Apostles, carefully revised and corrected, is now published.

I trust ere long to be enabled to reprint, with considerable additions, the first part, containing the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, in which, (being a first effort,) the number of questions is far more limited, than in that now offered to the public.

In preparing the work I have *purposely* restricted myself, almost entirely, to such questions as may be answered from the Book, being rather desirous that the children should be examined in those doctrines and precepts of the Gospel obviously contained in the Text, than that their attention should be directed to inferences, respect-