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SERMONS WITH A
COMMENDATION. NEW ARRANGE. IN
THREE VOLUMES, VOLUME THREE:
SERMONS ON BIBLE SUBJECTS**

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FREDERICK W. ROBERTSON & ERNEST RHYS

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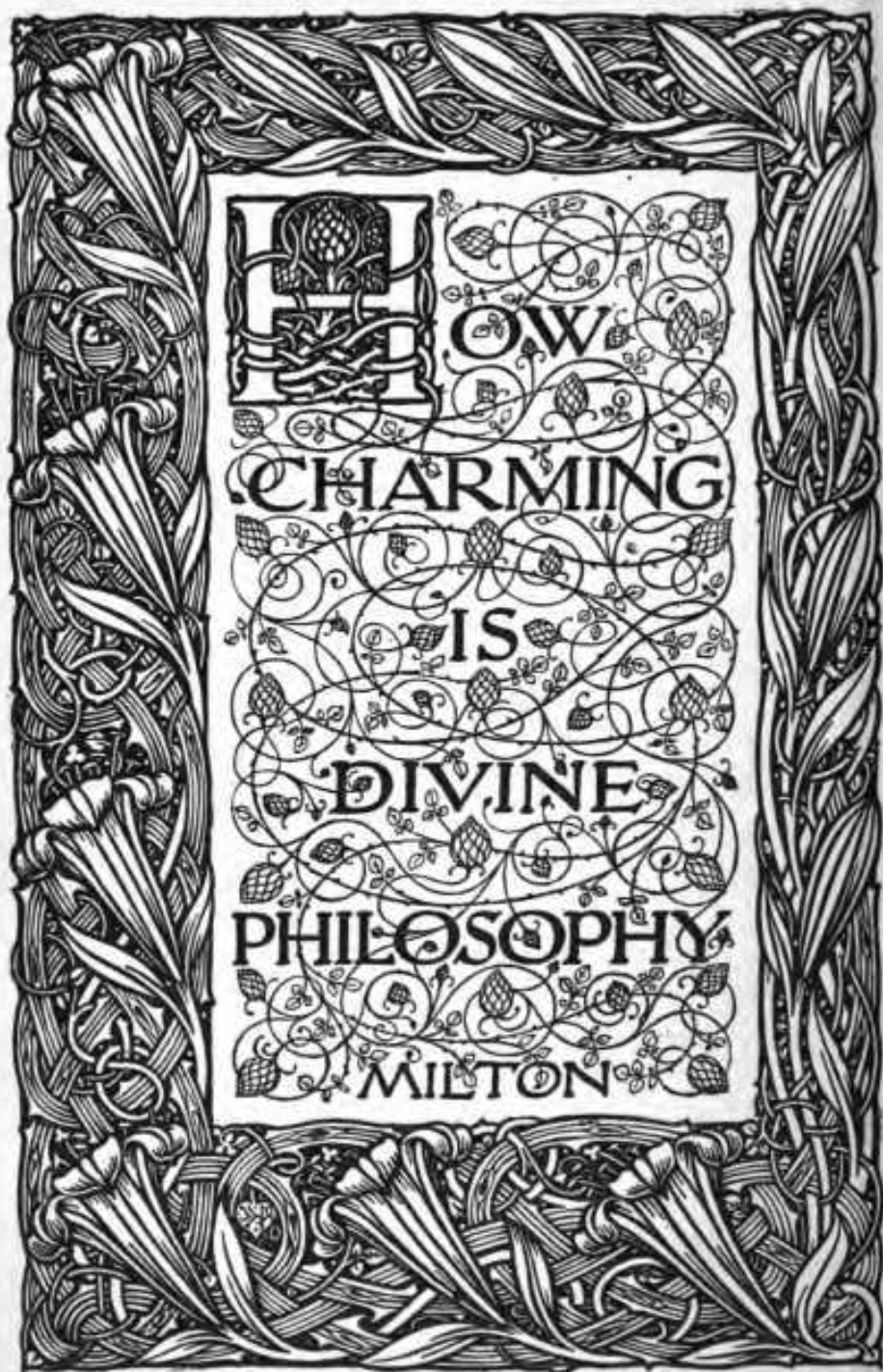
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SERMONS
ON BIBLE
SUBJECTS
by
FREDERICK W
ROBERTSON



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The following is a list of the works of F. W. Robertson :—

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UNIV. OF
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SERMONS ON BIBLE
SUBJECTS

JACOB'S WRESTLING

GENESIS xxxii., 28, 29.—“And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.”

THE complexion of this story is peculiarly Jewish. It contains three points which are especially interesting to every Jew in a national point of view. It explained to him why he was called Israelite. It traces the origin of his own name, Israelite, to a distant ancestor, who had signally exhibited religious strength, and been, in the language of those times, a wrestler with God, from whence he had obtained the name Israel. It casts much deep and curious interest round an otherwise insignificant village, Peniel, where his transaction had taken place, and which derived its name from it, Peniel, the face of God. And, besides, it explained the origin of a singular custom, which might seem a superstitious one, of not suffering a particular muscle to be eaten, and regarding it with a kind of religious awe, as the part in which Jacob was said by tradition to have been injured, by the earnest tension of his frame during this struggle. So far all is Jewish, narrow, merely of local interest.

Besides this, much of the story is evidently mythical.

It is clear at once, that it belongs to that earlier period of literature when traditions were preserved in a poetical shape,