

**A PLAIN  
ARGUMENT  
FOR GOD**

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A Plain Argument for God by George Stuart Fullerton

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BY

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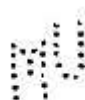


PHILADELPHIA  
J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY  
1889

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TO THE MEMORY  
OF  
MY DEAR FRIEND  
BENJAMIN BARTIS COMEGYS, JR.,  
THIS LITTLE BOOK  
IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.

The following table shows the results of the experiment. The first column shows the number of trials, the second column shows the number of correct responses, and the third column shows the percentage of correct responses. The data shows that the number of correct responses increases as the number of trials increases, and that the percentage of correct responses is consistently high, around 90%.

Number of Trials	Number of Correct Responses	Percentage of Correct Responses
10	9	90%
20	18	90%
30	27	90%
40	36	90%
50	45	90%
60	54	90%
70	63	90%
80	72	90%
90	81	90%
100	90	90%

The results of the experiment show that the number of correct responses increases linearly with the number of trials, and that the percentage of correct responses is consistently high, around 90%. This suggests that the subjects are performing the task with a high level of accuracy and consistency.



## PREFACE.

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I HAVE long been of the opinion that the argument for God, as it is usually presented, gives but little satisfaction to the vast mass of thoughtful men and women who approach the subject with an earnest desire to satisfy not only the demands of the intellect but also of the heart. The language used is so far removed from that of common life as to be not readily intelligible. Some of the arguments put forward seem to the plain man little better than metaphysical quibbles, and if he assents to them it is rather because he already agrees with their conclusion than because he sees their force. The one argument which does appeal to him as simple and natural is presented in such a way as to lead him to a God, not present and living, but of the past.

This, however, is not at all what he has meant by the word God. To him the word has signified a Being in a close personal relation to him, a Father of Spirits, "who is not far from every one of us." The reasoning does not assure him of the existence of the God in whom he has been accustomed to believe, and he has a torturing sense that either he has not grasped the arguments or the foundations of his belief will not bear too much investigation.

Now it is with a conviction that the argument for God's existence can be stated simply and plainly, and in a way to appeal to a thoughtful mind unaccustomed to following the reasonings of the schools, that this little book has been written. It has grown out of three lectures on the subject delivered before the Churchwoman's Institute in Philadelphia in the spring of 1888. The lectures, which many seemed to find helpful, were delivered to an intelligent but a popular audience; and in preparing my thoughts upon the subject for

publication I have had such an audience in view. My endeavor throughout has been to make my thought clear to all persons of fair intelligence who read with any degree of attention and reflection.

As, however, I have to some degree left the beaten track in the endeavor to employ plain and simple language, where it is customary to use what may be called technical terms, I have laid myself open to misunderstanding on the part of those who rest rather in words than in the thought they represent. In the interests of clearness and directness this was unavoidable. I ask, therefore, that my readers try to get a clear view of my thought itself before passing judgment on the argument that follows.

GEORGE STUART FULLERTON.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
January, 1889.