

**LIGHT ON THE
HIDDEN WAY**

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Light on the Hidden Way by James Freeman Clarke

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JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE

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HIDDEN WAY**

LIGHT ON THE HIDDEN WAY

With an Introduction

BY

JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE

Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,
Not light them for themselves; for if our virtues
Did not go forth of us, 't were all alike,
As if we had them not. *Spirits are not finely touched*
But to fine issues. *SHAKESPEARE*



BOSTON AND NEW YORK
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY
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1886
ENGL



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DEDICATION.

*To the Sorrowing, Life-weary, and Sin-laden; to all
who may find in these pages "that cup of
strength in some great agony,"—*

This little Book is Inscribed,

*with an earnest trust that, though it contain great
potency for pain, its deeper message is one of
inspiration, strength, comfort, and that
Peace of God which passeth
all understanding.*



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INTRODUCTION.

THE following remarkable story of a personal experience is written by a lady who is herself firmly persuaded of its reality. I feel bound to testify that the writer is regarded by many intelligent and cultivated men and women, who are her personal friends, as sincere, truthful, and conscientious. I will add that she has had no connection with so-called "Spiritualism," and is unacquainted with any of the professional mediums. Her report, therefore, is an independent one, and deserves attention from those engaged in investigating this occult Borderland, where beings of the other world are reported as coming into relations with the inhabitants of our own. According to the view of this writer, those who thus present them-

selves may often be in a low state, having missed their way upward and needing advice and encouragement from those still in the body. The moral tone and influence of this little book cannot but be useful even to those who are not prepared either to accept or reject its conclusions.

JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE.

JANUARY 1, 1886.





Lo, at length the True Light! Light for every man born into the world, kindling the faces of them that receive it, till they become the children of God!

Cease, blinding glories of the heavens, which none could see and live!

Cease, gross darkness of the earth, where the righteous put forth their hands and fear!

The veil between is taken away, and the mingling dayspring comes.

No longer is the dwelling of Eternal Life too bright above, and the perishable world too dark below. No more strangers and exiles, but fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God. For Thou hast made one family, there and here, one living communion of seen and unseen. We had said, "Thou