

THE BOOK OF JOB

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The Book of Job by William Batchelder Greene

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WILLIAM BATCHELDER GREENE

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OF JOB**

⊙ Bible. Job. Eng. (1866.)

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"Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in the land, they should deliver their own souls only by their righteousness, saith the Lord God." — *Ezek. xiv. 14.*

"Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end brought about by the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." — *JAMES V. 11.*

BOSTON:

PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR.

1866.

P R E F A C E.

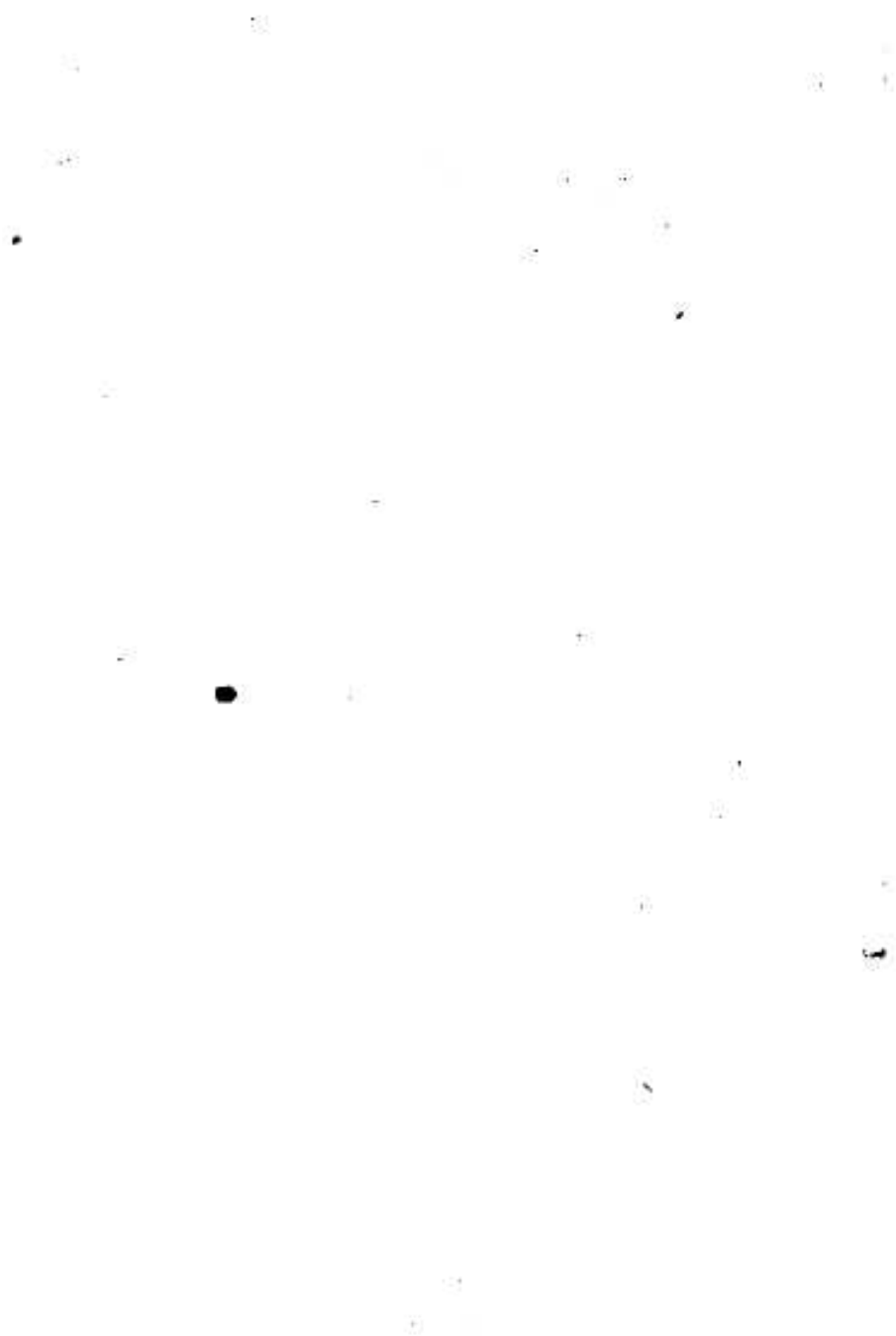
THERE are one hundred and twenty different translations of the Book of Job, and it is supposed that there is no pressing call for any addition to the number. The version now submitted to the judgment of the reader is not a translation, but an interpretation. In preparing it, the editor has had constantly before him several of the most approved translations; and he has carefully selected from them such renderings of the different passages as seemed to him best adapted to bring out, in English, the general meaning of the poem; preference being given, whenever possible, to the words of King James's version. It is only in cases of doubt respect-

ing the signification of particular words that recourse has been had to the Hebrew. It is confessed, however, that, in several very important passages, the renderings are new. In many instances, one or more parallelisms have been supplied, in order to bring the meaning into relief; and, in these places, the version is a paraphrase. In other instances (and they are very few in number, and of no importance whatever in their bearings on the poetry or doctrine of the book), omissions occur, because the editor found it impossible to clothe some of the illustrations of the author in presentable English. It would perhaps have been better if these omissions had been made to occur more frequently.

It has been acknowledged that this version is an interpretation; but it is supposed that there is no existing version of the Book of Job (the received Hebrew text not excepted) that is not an interpretation. The original text of the poem is thought to be no longer

extant. If the reader find in this version an evident effort to allow Job and his comforters to express their own views in their own way, it is confidently submitted that he will find in King James's version an equally evident effort to make Job stultify himself, and talk orthodoxy.

W. B. G.



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