

**BIBLICAL MANUALS. THE
METHOD OF CREATION: A
COMPARISON OF THE BOOK OF
NATURE WITH THE BOOK OF
GENESIS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649648160

Biblical Manuals. The Method of Creation: A Comparison of the Book of Nature with the Book of Genesis by Henry W. Crosskey

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HENRY W. CROSSKEY

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BIBLICAL MANUALS.

EDITED BY PROF. J. ESTLIN CARPENTER, M.A.

THE
METHOD OF CREATION.

*A COMPARISON OF THE BOOK OF NATURE
WITH THE BOOK OF GENESIS.*

BY
HENRY W. CROSSKEY, LL.D., F.G.S.

Second Edition.

LONDON:
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION,
ESSEX HALL, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

1889.

JUL 14 1893

" I HAVE seen

A curious child, who dwelt upon a tract
Of inland ground, applying to his ear
The convolutions of a smooth-lipped shell ;
To which, in silence hushed, his very soul
Listened intensely and his countenance soon
Brightened with joy ; for from within were heard
Murmurings, whereby the monitor expressed
Mysterious union with his native sea.
Even such a shell the Universe itself
Is to the ear of Faith ; and there are times,
I doubt not, when to you it doth impart
Authentic tidings of invisible things,
Of ebb and flow, and ever-during power,
And central peace, subsisting at the heart
Of endless agitation."

--Wordsworth.

" We know also that the beginning is the chiefest part of any work, especially in a young and tender thing ; for that is the time at which the character is being formed, and most readily receives the desired impression.

" Quite true.

" And shall we carelessly allow children . . . to receive into their minds notions which are the very opposite of those which are to be held by them when they are grown up ?

" We cannot."

—The Republic of Plato. (Jowett's Translation.)

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

THE object of this little book is to enable young people, when they are taught the ancient ideas contained in the Bible respecting the way in which "*the Heaven and the Earth were finished,*" to become acquainted, at the same time, with some of those principles of investigation and ascertained facts by which light has been thrown upon the method actually employed by the Creator.

It is not intended to be a scientific manual, and does not pre-suppose a technical acquaintance with Geology as a science ; but is an attempt to make certain great laws by which the work of Creation has been carried on as intelligible to those who are not geologists as are the rudiments of Astronomy to those who are not astronomers.

The necessity of such a book is emphasised by the popular demand for the acceptance of the account given in Genesis as a condition for discipleship of Christ. The author has known many cases in which young men and women have had their faith in God rudely shaken by the discovery that what is taught concerning the creation of the world on the authority of the Book of Genesis can receive no support from the authority of Science. He is confident that any concealment of the

facts of Nature can only weaken the hold of Religion upon the heart, and he has, therefore, written with frankness, although, he trusts, not without reverence for a Book which is so widely regarded as "sacred," and contains so much to justify the devout respect paid to it.

Some few technical words are of necessity employed, but their meaning will readily be gathered. In the opinion of the author the use of the right words will be found to make his arguments clearer than they would be were vague phrases substituted.

H. W. C.

NOTE TO SECOND EDITION.

A FEW paragraphs have been added to this edition which will, perhaps, make the meaning clearer; but the alterations will not really affect the use of the new edition in schools which already have the old one.

H. W. C.

October, 1888.

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