THE FOREGLEAMS OF CHRISTIANITY: AN ESSAY ON THE RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF ANTIQUITY

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The Foregleams of Christianity: An Essay on the Religious History of Antiquity by Charles Newton Scott

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THIS EDITION IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OF WHAT I OWE TO THEIR WRITINGS

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PREFACE

Since the publication of the first edition of this work in 1877, there has been so much new light shed on the ancient religions of the world by discoveries of every kind, and hardly less by the comparative study thereof, that to bring the present edition up to date I have had to write almost the whole volume over again, and the appendix on races has been recast mainly in accordance with the *last* conclusions of François Lenormant. I have been, however, very happy to find that, if, besides much to add and improve, I had also not a little to correct, such correction was needed almost entirely for details bearing but slightly, if at all, either on the conclusions or on the arguments which I now submit again, even more confidently than before, to readers interested either in Christian apologetics or in ancient history.

I repeat, too, the statement of the preface to the former edition, that the ambition of my volume is to be in a humble manner supplemental to the Boyle Lectures

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of Maurice (*The Religions of the World and their Relations to Christianity*); and this purpose could not be better served than by free resort to more recent authorities.

Nor do I apologise for having left numerous quotations from French authors in the original, not only to escape the suspicion of 'traduttore traditore,' but also because I hope to deserve the thanks of many of my readers for serving them with some choice bits of writing, there being no branch of literature in which the French are more masters of style than the prose of history and criticism.

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