

**ARE THE CRITICS RIGHT?
HISTORICAL & CRITICAL
CONSIDERATIONS AGAINST THE
GRAF-WELLHAUSEN HYPOTHESIS**

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Are the critics right? Historical & critical considerations against the Graf-Wellhausen hypothesis
by Wilhelm Möller & C. H. Irwin

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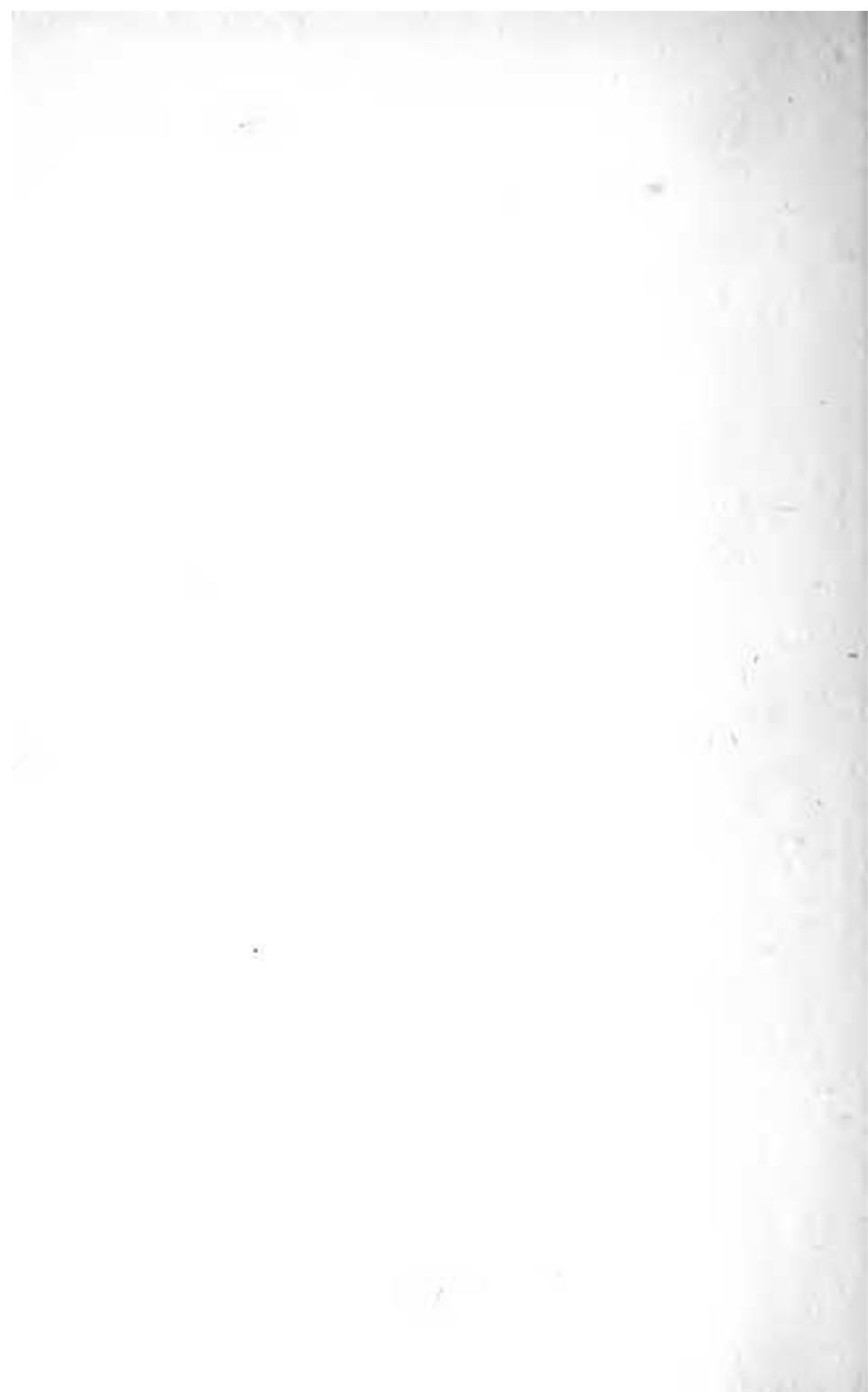
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WILHELM MÖLLER & C. H. IRWIN

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HISTORICAL & CRITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

AGAINST

THE GRAF-WELLHAUSEN HYPOTHESIS

BY

WILHELM MÖLLER

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
PROFESSOR C. VON ORELLI, D.D.

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PREFACE TO ENGLISH EDITION

IN view of statements as to the authorship and date of the books of the Pentateuch made by British supporters of the Higher Criticism, it has been thought desirable to issue this translation of the work of one who was formerly a follower of Wellhausen. The book has already been translated from its German original into Danish and Norwegian.

The translator has added the Table of Contents at the beginning, the sub-headings of the various sections throughout the book, and the Index at the end.



INTRODUCTION

I GLADLY accede to the wish of the author that I should write a word of introduction to the following pages. These pages are truly a welcome indication that there is in the field of Old Testament criticism no lack of independent workers among the younger generation, who do not accept the theories offered by the authorities of to-day as something incontrovertible, but test them without prejudice, and discover how much they contain that is untenable. Nothing indeed is more astonishing to me than the readiness with which even diligent explorers in this field attach themselves to the dominant theory and repeat the most rash hypotheses as if they were part of an unquestioned creed. Under these circumstances the elements of fact on the other side must be emphasised until they receive their due weight. This is done by the following treatise, which comprehends much that has been said already but has never been refuted. A special value attaches to it from the fact that the author himself formerly

shared the views which he now opposes, but has allowed himself to be convinced by the evidence of the facts on the other side. The youthful temperament, which sometimes betrays itself in rather hasty conclusions or in a too absolute form of judgment, gives, on the other hand, the benefit of vivacity to the writing, and will not repel the readers for whom it is intended. On all the leading points I can only agree with the train of thought, and I am convinced that the weight of the arguments here vindicated will be better appreciated by a future generation of Protestant theologians than has been the case in recent decades. That this little book, moreover, may contribute to a more unbiassed treatment of the inquiry as to the origin of the Old Testament, and one more worthy of the high subject, is my earnest wish.

C. VON ORELLI, D.D.,
Professor.

BASSEL, *May 2, 1899.*