VOICES OF THE SPIRIT

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Voices of the Spirit by George Matheson

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GEORGE MATHESON

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GEORGE MATHESON, M.A., D.D.

RINGSTER OF THE PARES COP SET PERSONS, EDGE CO. 1

AUTHOR OF "MOMENTS ON THE SIGLAT," "MY ASSESSMENTS," ETC.

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PREFACE.

HIS book is offered to the religious publicas an attempt to aid the moments of devotional life. I do not believe however that moments of devotion are moments of mental vacancy; the wings on which the spirit soars must always be wings of thought. Therefore in every one of these meditations I have tried to express a distinct idea. I have endeayoured to exhibit in their fulness and in their variety the different phases of the spiritual life and the different emotions which are awakened by them. I have not sought out these phases; I have allowed them to find me. I have come to the task with no previous system in my mind; I have just walked beside the stream and taken my impressions from its windings. The stream by which I have walked is the Bible. I have followed in the order of our books from Genesis

to Revelation the track of those inuflences which are attributed to the Divine Spirit, and have endeavoured to photograph them in the light of devotio. If as the result of the whole the Christian life has been revealed in a multiplicity of aspects which has constituted an appeal to many and varied minds, the effect must be credited to the photograph and not to the photographer; I have only recorded what I have found. If but one of those many and varied minds to whom this book would seek to appeal shall find in its pages some moment of help or strength or joy, I shall not think it has been written wholly in vain.

GEORGE MATHESON.

ST BERNARD'S, EDINBURGH.

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