## THE PARADOX OF LIFE: OR, CHRISTIAN KOHELETH, A POEM. WITH A SHEAF OF SACRED SONNETS AND OTHER POEMS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649667307

The Paradox of Life: Or, Christian Koheleth, a Poem. With a Sheaf of Sacred Sonnets and Other Poems by James S. Blackwood

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

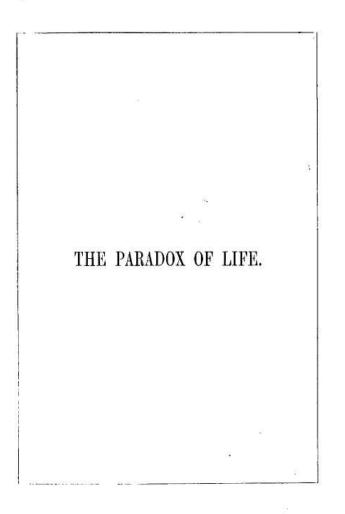
This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

## JAMES S. BLACKWOOD

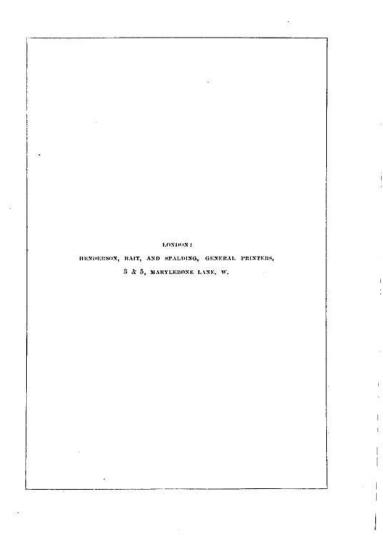
# THE PARADOX OF LIFE: OR, CHRISTIAN KOHELETH, A POEM. WITH A SHEAF OF SACRED SONNETS AND OTHER POEMS

Trieste



-

| mite      | DADADOV OF LIFE                                          |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| THE       | PARADOX OF LIFE                                          |
|           | or,                                                      |
|           | CHRISTIAN KOHELETH.                                      |
|           | A Poem.                                                  |
| WITH      | A SHEAF OF SACRED SONNETS                                |
|           | AND OTHER POEMS.                                         |
|           | BY                                                       |
| TH        | E REV. JAMES S. BLACKWOOD, D.D.                          |
|           | Late Vicar of Middleton Tyas, Forkshire.                 |
| AUTHOR OF | ALMÜTH : THE MESSIANIC ENIGMA OF THE 49TH PSALM.         |
|           | (. DEC 1781 .)                                           |
| JAMES     | LONDON:<br>NISBET & CO., 21, BERNERS STREET, W.<br>1881. |



|                                      | -       |        |        |      |      |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|------|------|
|                                      |         |        |        |      | PAGE |
| INTRODUCTION                         |         |        |        |      | iii  |
| TO AN ANXIOUS YOUNG FRIEND           |         |        |        |      | G    |
| THE PARADOX OF LUFE                  |         |        |        |      | 7    |
| A SHEAF OF SACRED SONNETS            |         |        | 53     |      |      |
| MISCELLANEOUS POEMS-                 |         |        |        |      |      |
| TO QUEEN VICTORIA, ON BEAL           | DING TH | IE THE | BD VOI | LUMR |      |
| OF THE LIFE OF THE PRINCI            |         |        |        |      | 79   |
| TO QUEEN VICTORIA, ON HER I          |         |        | 80     |      |      |
| BUSSO-TURKISH WAR, 1877              |         | •••    | 81     |      |      |
| RUSSO-TURKISH WAR, 1877              |         |        | 82     |      |      |
| SCUTARI, CONSTANTINOPLE, 187         |         | •••    | 83     |      |      |
| TO LORD BLANTYRS                     | 202     |        | 84     |      |      |
| TO BARON MAROCHETTI MODELLING A BUST |         |        |        |      |      |
| A BIRTHPLACE VISITED                 |         |        | 87     |      |      |
| TO BENJAMIN D'ISBAELI ACCEPT         |         | 97     |        |      |      |
| AT HUGHENDEN, MAY, 1881              |         |        | 98     |      |      |
| "THE NINTEENTH CENTURY" 8            |         | 100    |        |      |      |
| CONTRNTMENT                          |         |        |        |      | 102  |
| SABBATH BELLS                        |         |        | •••    |      | 103  |
| DOVE'S WINGS DESIRED                 |         |        |        |      | 104  |
| SOUND AND FRUIT                      |         |        | 106    |      |      |
| MEEKNESS                             |         |        |        |      | 107  |
| THE SOUL OF WORK                     |         |        |        |      | 108  |
| SOUVENIR                             | 200     |        |        |      | 109  |
| OTES                                 | 3232    | 12222  | 0303   | 1683 | 112  |

### THE PARADOX OF LIFE;

OR,

### CHRISTIAN KOHELETH.

HE subject proposed, in reply to a despondingly anxious young friend, perplexed by the book Koheleth, or Ecclesiastes of Solomon, the original author (as I believe, notwithstanding modern critics) of that profound treatise, whatever scribe may in any subsequent age have arranged Solomon's thoughts in the canon. The aphorism that all is vanity, has a true and appropriate sense in relation to the time and state of fallen man, but has also practical limits. It does not forbid the pursuit of happiness, nor prove happiness unattainable, nor infringe on the goodness or wisdom of God. It helps to regulate that pursuit, and direct to its attainment, in subjection to the Divine Will. It is proved true

#### Introduction.

iv

and in respect of the scientific infidels-Agnostics Positivists; also of self indulgent sensualists and debauchees, as well as of avaricious wealth worshippers, and the vulgar crowd of mere party politicians. Rising higher, it brands the loftiest and most successful ambition, instancing the Emperor Charles the Fifth as a conspicuous proof. The source of disappointment in all these cases traced to the fallen condition of man, who seeks happiness apart from God. But this being admitted, it is objected that the good and wise, and their pursuits and designs, are also subject to vanity. The answer is, that the revelation of the fall of man, of a future state, and of a condition of probation here for that state alone supplies the solution. Instance of a patient sufferer attaining happiness, present and prospective, in the most painful circumstances long endured-the story of Lucy a true one. Noble conduct of a British officer hunting in Chinese Tartary-an incident founded in fact. Allusion to the English lady nurses in the hospitals of the Crimean War, exhibiting the practical power of faith and virtue. A condemnation of war, but a justification of legitimate war as being sometimes necessary, and so the promoter of manly virtue is noted. The result of all is that Love and Faith can extract the