

**THE PRIVATE
LETTERS OF ST.
PAUL AND ST. JOHN**

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The Private Letters of St. Paul and St. John by Samuel Cox

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SAMUEL COX

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PAUL AND ST. JOHN**

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THE

Private Letters

OF

ST. PAUL AND ST. JOHN.

BY THE

REV. SAMUEL COX.

LONDON: ARTHUR MIALL,
18, BOUVERIE STREET, E.C.

1867.

PREFATORY NOTE.

THE contents of this little book were originally delivered as week-evening Lectures in the ordinary course of my ministry. I have added a few notes to make them more complete, but have not attempted to change their structure. So far as my reading enables me to judge, they contain all that is known of the three Private Letters included in the New Testament, all that is requisite to enable the English reader to judge of their worth and claims, with this exception.—I have not, simply because I wished to confine myself to Exposition,

discussed the authorship or the canonicity of these Epistles. Of the authorship of the Epistle to Philemon, indeed, or of its inspiration, there is no grave or general doubt. But, if any of them are ignorant of the fact, my readers ought perhaps to be told, that the two Letters of St. John have often been denied a place in the Canon; and that by some learned and devout critics these Letters, in common with the Gospel of St. John, have been attributed to a certain Presbyter of the Church of Ephesus, and not to John the Apostle. On these two points I can only say that, after carefully weighing all the evidence that has been adduced, I hold strongly to the more general conviction of the Church, that these Epistles are the work of the beloved Apostle; and that they have an unshaken claim to their place among the Canonical Scriptures.

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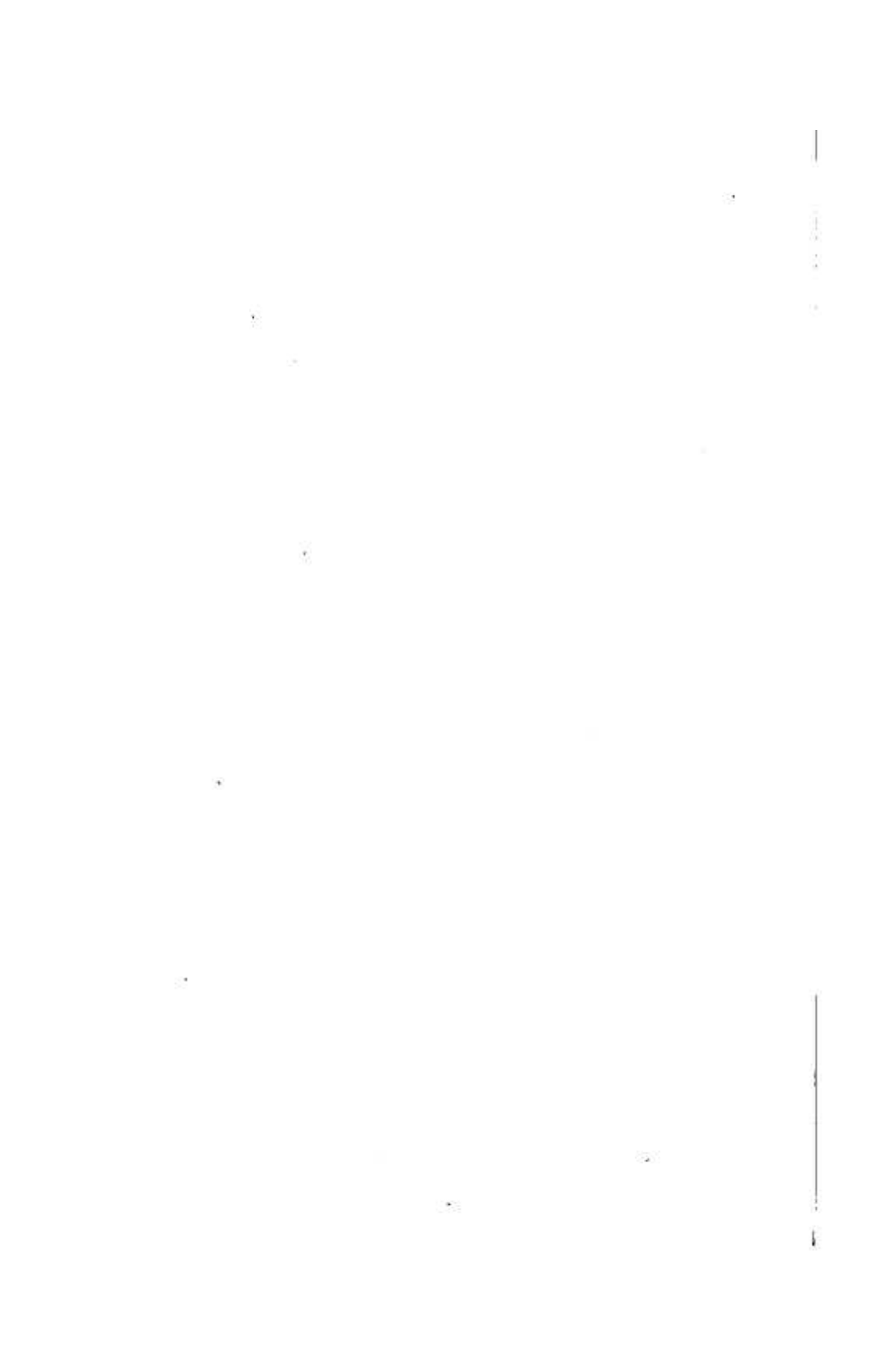
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I.

ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO PHILEMON.

