

**AN EVENTFUL LIFE:
ADVENTURES, INCIDENTS,
INFERENCES; BEING
AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

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An eventful life: adventures, incidents, inferences; being autobiographical notes by Alexander James Harrison

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*ADVENTURES
INCIDENTS
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BEING
AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

BY

ALEXANDER JAMES HARRISON, M.A.,
B.D., TH.D.

*Missioner to Doubters; Incumbent of the Church of
St. Thomas the Martyr, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Author of "Problems of Christianity and Scepticism," etc. etc.*

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PREFACE.

THIS book consists of a sketch of a somewhat unusual career, and a statement of convictions slowly formed under the pressure of circumstances, and during frequent contact with almost all classes of doubters. It is the story of a fighter, optimist, sceptic, preacher, priest and missionary, and a record of lessons learned under these varied aspects. I think it may be of interest to those who have known me only as a lecturer or author, and, perhaps, to some besides; but my chief reason for writing is the belief that much of it will be useful to those who care more for the lessons than for the story. In my various books there have appeared bits of autobiography, and I have to thank very gratefully Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co. for their courteous and ready permission to use, in the present volume, the fragments of my story contained in my "Problems of Christianity and Scepticism," "The Church in Relation to Sceptics," and "The Repose of Faith."

A. J. H.

*Magdalene Lodge,
Newcastle-on-Tyne,
1901.*

LECTURES

BY

REV. A. J. HARRISON, M.A., B.D.,

(Lambeth Honorary), Hon. M.A. Durham, Hon. Th.D. Jena,

Evidential Missioner of the Church Parochial

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NOTE.—Mr. Harrison invites information as to the kind of lectures most needed in any particular locality, and will then furnish suitable titles.

[P.T.O.]

THE LECTURER.

Mr. Harrison is well known as author and lecturer on Christian Evidences. He was connected with the Christian Evidence Society from its foundation until he became Evidential Missioner of the Church Parochial Mission Society. He held for three years (the longest time possible) the Boyle Lectureship, and was for the same time Examiner in Christian Evidences to the Associated Nonconformist Colleges. Many will remember him as having fearlessly debated with Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. Foote, &c. Others will know him best by his books. He has lectured in almost every considerable town in England. His method is to put his case clearly, and then to invite questions from any one who does not understand or wishes for further information. (For "Conditions," &c., apply to Rev. Herbert Muir, M.A., Secretary of Church Parochial Mission Society, Church House, Westminster).

SOME TITLES OF LECTURES.

- "IS GOD A PERSON?"
- "HAS MAN A SOUL?"
- "IS THERE ANOTHER LIFE?"
- "IS THE BIBLE TRUE?"
- "WHAT ARE THE CLAIMS OF CHRIST?"
- "WHAT IS THE USE OF BEING A SECULARIST, A SCEPTIC, AN ATHEIST, AN AGNOSTIC, OR A POSITIVIST?"
- "WHAT IS THE GOOD OF THEOSOPHY, SPIRITUALISM, OCCULTISM, HYPNOTISM, &c.?"
- "IS CHRISTIANITY DECLINING, AND IF SO, WHAT IS TAKING ITS PLACE?"
- "IS THERE REALLY A CONFLICT BETWEEN RELIGION AND SCIENCE?"
- "WHAT IS MEANT BY SAVING FAITH?"
- "WHAT IS MEANT BY THE CHURCH?"
- "IS A MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS BELIEF?"

SOME TITLES OF BOOKS.

- "Problems of Christianity and Scepticism." Longmans, Green, & Co. 7/6.
- "The Church in Relation to Sceptics." Longmans, Green, & Co. New Edition. 3/6.
- "The Ascent of Faith." Hodder & Stoughton. 6/-
- "The Repose of Faith." Longmans, Green, & Co. 7/6.
- "The Unreasonableness of Unbelief." Church of England Sunday School Institute. 1/6.

MR. HARRISON'S BOOKS.

Problems of Christianity and Scepticism.—This is a fairly wide survey, and contains lessons from experience of Sceptics extending over twenty years.

The Church in Relation to Sceptics.—This work is intended to help those who have much to do with (1) Doubters and (2) Opponents of the Christian Faith. It is broadly an answer to the question: How to deal with Unbelief?

The Ascent of Faith.—This book makes a rather severe demand on the ordinary reader's power of thinking. It is intended to show that an unbeliever who is true to what he *does* believe *must*, if he continue to enquire, arrive at other beliefs that will at last bring him within sight of Christ.

The Repose of Faith.—In this volume the author reviews the difficulties ordinarily felt, and shows what that Faith is which never needs to be disturbed by criticism of contemporary Christianity.

The Unreasonableness of Unbelief.—In this the author carries honourable "war into the enemy's camp."