

**HULSEAN LECTURES FOR THE YEAR 1831;
THE VERACITY OF THE HISTORICAL BOOKS
OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, FROM THE
CONCLUSION OF THE PENTATEUCH, TO THE
OPENING OF THE PROPHETS: ARGUED
FROM THE UNDESIGNED COINCIDENCES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649269419

Hulsean Lectures for the Year 1831; The veracity of the historical books of the Old Testament, from the conclusion of the Pentateuch, to the opening of the Prophets: argued from the undesigned coincidences by J. J. Blunt

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J. J. BLUNT

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UNDESIGNED COINCIDENCES

TO BE FOUND IN THEM, WHEN COMPARED IN THEIR SEVERAL PARTS :

BEING A CONSOLIDATION OF THE ARGUMENT
FOR THE VERACITY OF THE

FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES.

BY THE REV. J. J. BLUNT,

FELLOW OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

LONDON :

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

MDCCLXXXI.

PREFACE.

PERHAPS the title-page might suffice to explain to my readers, so far as they may concern themselves about it, my motive for choosing, as the subject of these Lectures, that portion of Scripture which is here brought under their notice, and only that portion—if not, one word more will be enough.—Having already, on another occasion, delivered before the University a similar course of Sermons upon ‘the Evidence for the Mosaic Writings;’ on being appointed to the Hulsean Lectureship, I thought the argument fell precisely within the conditions of Mr. Hulse’s will, and I therefore determined, in the discharge of that office, to carry on the like investigation through some of the succeeding Books of Scripture, with the like object.—Thus, the volume becomes (what I could have wished otherwise) a continuation of a former work, rather than a whole in itself. The same explanation must serve for the form in which it is printed, and

which differs from that of previous volumes of Hulsean Lectures; though indeed the reduction in the number of Sermons, from twenty to eight, would have otherwise rendered some such change necessary.

For the nomination to the Lectureship, unsolicited, my acknowledgments are due to Dr. Wood, the Master of St. John's College; as well as to the two other Trustees, for their approval of that nomination: Dr. Thackeray, Provost of King's, the Vice-Chancellor; and Dr. Wordsworth, the Master of Trinity College. I shall be happy if they think that I have not disgraced their choice; that I may have been the means of exciting a still greater curiosity to *search* the Scriptures, amongst the students of the University; with a view to whose instruction these Sermons were written and preached, and to whose further consideration (may it be to their profit!) they are now committed.

SUBSTANCE OF CERTAIN CLAUSES IN THE WILL
OF THE REV. I. HULSE, M.A.

[Dated July 21, 1777.]

He founds a Lectureship in the University of Cambridge.

The Lecturer to be a 'Clergyman in the University of Cambridge, of the degree of Master of Arts, and under the age of forty years.' He is to be *elected annually* 'on Christmas-day, or within seven days after, by the Vice-Chancellor for the time being, and by the Master of Trinity College, and the Master of St. John's College, or any two of them.' In case the Master of Trinity, or the Master of St. John's, be the Vice-Chancellor, the Greek Professor is to be the third Trustee.

The Duty of the said Lecturer is, by the Will, 'to preach *twenty* Sermons in the whole year,' at 'Saint Mary's Great Church in Cambridge;' but the number having been found inconvenient, application was made to the Court of Chaucery for leave to reduce it, and *eight* Sermons only are now required. These are to be printed at the Preacher's expense, within twelve months after the delivery of the last Sermon; and the present volume is the first that has appeared under the new regulations.

The subject of the Lectures is to be 'the Evidence

for Revealed Religion; the Truth and Excellence of Christianity; Prophecies and Miracles; direct or collateral Proofs of the Christian Religion, especially the collateral arguments; the more difficult texts, or obscure parts of the Holy Scriptures; or any one, or more of these topics, at the discretion of the Preacher.

CONTENTS.

	Page
LECTURE I.—2 Corinthians xiii. 1. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established	1
LECTURE II.	33
LECTURE III.	69
LECTURE IV.	105
LECTURE V.	141
LECTURE VI.	175
LECTURE VII.	200
LECTURE VIII.	224

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