

**THE DIFFICULTIES OF BELIEF,  
IN CONNEXION WITH  
THE CREATION AND THE FALL,  
REDEMPTION AND JUDGMENT**

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The difficulties of belief, in connexion with the creation and the fall, redemption and judgment  
by Thomas Rawson Birks

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BY

THOMAS RAWSON BIRKS, M.A.  
" "  
PROFESSOR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY,  
AND  
VICAR OF HOLY TRINITY, CAMBRIDGE.

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## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE object of the following Essay is to remove some of those difficulties which have often haunted thoughtful and inquiring minds, when they reflect on the deeper truths and more solemn aspects of religion, both natural and revealed. As it is to readers of this class alone that it is addressed, the work should be read with reference to its own object. There are some, perhaps, whose childlike faith is content to follow the plainer lessons of natural conscience and of Christian revelation, without being ever troubled by the dark shadows that lie around them. The aim of these pages is not to awaken the sense of difficulty in their minds, but to relieve the depth of these shadows, where they have been felt in their chilling and depressing power. In the hope that the views here partly unfolded, and which are not hastily entertained, may be to some weary spirits like a streak of morning light upon the distant mountains, when the gloom of night is passing away, they are committed to the blessing of the true Fountain of all wisdom.

KELSHALL, Nov. 1855.