

**THE BOOKS OF THE OLD AND NEW
TESTAMENTS PROVED TO BE CANONICAL,
AND THEIR VERBAL INSPIRATION
MAINTAINED AND ESTABLISHED; WITH AN
ACCOUNT OF THE INTRODUCTION AND
CHARACTER OF THE APOCRYPHA**

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ROBERT HALDANE

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BY THE LATE
ROBERT HALDANE, Esq.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE PRESENT EDITION.

THE following is a new edition of one of the most important and valuable works of the late venerable Robert Haldane. It concerns a question which is every day acquiring more and more importance, whether we regard the aggressive movements of Romanism, or the still more subtle progress of rationalistic and infidel neology. From two different and opposing quarters the Holy Scriptures are assailed: on the one hand by Popery, and on the other by scepticism. It has been truly said that "in the Bible and the Bible only, is contained the religion of Protestants." Against the free use of the Bible, Rome has ever launched her most envenomed shafts; and although Rome never dared to deny either the genuineness, the authenticity, or the inspiration of the sacred Books, yet the Tridentine decrees have corrupted the pure Word of God, by interspersing with it the fables, false doctrines, and uninspired productions of the Apocryphal writers. In contending against the errors of Popery, it is the wisdom of Protestants to stand by the unadulterated Bible, as the mighty bulwark of their faith, and to follow the example of our blessed Lord, who in his temptation in the wilderness quenched all the fiery darts of Satan, by presenting the Scriptures as the shield of faith, pointing to the "true sayings of God," and exclaiming, "IT IS WRITTEN."

BUT WHAT ARE THE SCRIPTURES? In our Lord's time the Scriptures which he commanded the Jews to search, and to which he appealed, whether in contending with the devil, or in reasoning with the Jewish doctors, were the writings of the Old Testament. These writings had been committed