CHRISTIANITY AND MORALITY, OR THE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOSPEL WITH THE MORAL NATURE OF MAN. THE BOYLE LECTURES FOR 1874 AND 1875

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649779550

Christianity and Morality, or the Correspondence of the Gospel with the Moral Nature of Man. The Boyle Lectures for 1874 and 1875 by Henry Wace

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HENRY WACE

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THE BOYLE LECTURES

FOR 1874 AND 1875

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FIFTH EDITION

LONDON PICKERING AND CO.

1882

TO MY WIFE

IN CRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE

OF LABOUR SHARED AND FAITH SUPPORTED

PREFACE.

 $T^{\mathrm{HE}\ \mathrm{general}\ \mathrm{subject}\ \mathrm{of}\ \mathrm{the}\ \mathrm{two\ courses}\ \mathrm{of}\ \mathrm{Boyle}}$ Lectures contained in this volume is the Evidence in behalf of the Christian Faith afforded by the Moral Nature of Man. The author proposed to deal more particularly with those objections which, admitting the supreme obligation of Morality, deny that it requires any such religious support or superstructure as Christianity affords. Starting from the sense of Right and Wrong, he has endeavoured to show that it can only be explained upon the supposition of our standing in intimate relation to a spiritual world and to a Divine Person, and that it involves spiritual cravings for which Christianity alone offers an adequate satisfaction. He has at the same time attempted to vindicate Christian Truths from some of the misapprehensions which are displayed respecting them

PREFACE.

in current objections, and to exhibit their correspondence with the conscience and the experience of Man.

In the second course of Lectures this general subject is treated with especial reference to the objections prominently urged of late, especially by Mr. Matthew Arnold and Mr. W. R. Greg, against the possibility of our recognizing a Personal God, and of receiving a supernatural Revelation from Him. Speaking generally, the author has endeavoured in the first course of Lectures to exhibit the moral and spiritual reality of Christian truths; while in the second course he has dealt with the vital question of the validity of the primary assumptions which those truths involve.

January, 1876.

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I^N this edition the text has been carefully revised, and in some instances, as in the Lecture on *The Province of Faith*, the argument has been more fully or more clearly developed. In this part of his task the author has been greatly assisted by the criticisms bestowed upon his work, and he takes this opportunity of expressing his gratitude for the generous appreciation with which his efforts have been received.

November, 1876.

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 $T_{
m the\ Second.}^{
m HIS\ Edition,\ like\ the\ two\ former,\ is\ a\ reprint\ of\ the\ Second.}$

June, 1881.

