

**THE SURE ANCHOR; OR,
SALVATION INSEPARABLE
FROM REGENERATION**

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The Sure Anchor; Or, Salvation Inseparable from Regeneration by George Albert Rogers

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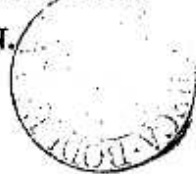
GEORGE ALBERT ROGERS

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BY

GEORGE ALBERT ROGERS, M.A.,

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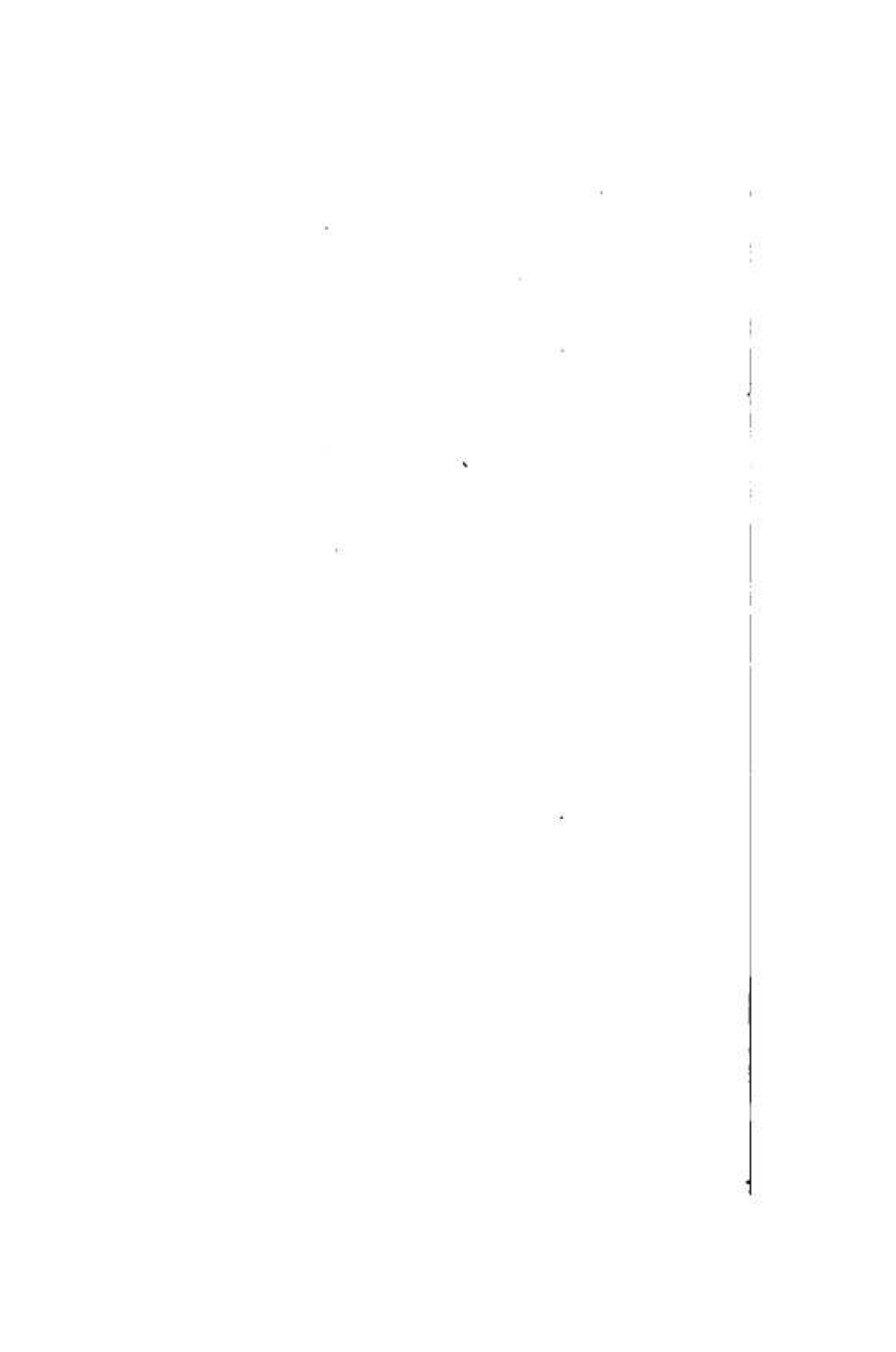
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MDCCCLV.



“The utmost care should be taken, especially in a declining and dead state of the church, or when corruptions of doctrine are rife, or fundamental controversies on the sacraments agitated, and when there is an imminent danger of the abuse of sacramental expressions, to use with more caution the ECCLESIASTICAL AND WIDER MEANING in our popular addresses, and to dwell more on their SIMPLE AND ABSTRACT, AND DIRECTLY SPIRITUAL AND SAVING IMPORT.”—
Bishop of Calcutta's Exposition of the Colossians.



INTRODUCTION.

"BRETHREN, give diligence to make your calling and election sure." Such are the emphatic words addressed by the apostle Peter to the church. We learn from them three great truths.

First, THAT ASSURANCE OF SALVATION IS ATTAINABLE IN THIS LIFE; otherwise the exhortation would be useless.

Secondly, THAT ASSURANCE OF SALVATION IS IMPORTANT; otherwise the exhortation would not be given at all.

And thirdly, THAT BELIEVERS MAY ATTAIN ASSURANCE OF SALVATION BY DILIGENCE. The command to "give diligence," implies the certainty of attaining it upon diligence being given.

And yet, how few professing Christians have given any diligence at all to attain this assurance! How painfully just is the remark of an old divine, who says, "Go through a congrega-

tion of a thousand men, and how few of them shall you meet with, that ever bestowed one hour in all their lives in a close examination of their title to heaven." Matters which relate to this life are subjected to the closest investigation. Men repose their confidence upon satisfactory evidence only. But in the weightiest of all matters—those which relate to the next life, they are found to despise, or at least to neglect, such investigation and evidence? If the individual inquiry were made, "In what state is thy soul? Is it regenerated, and sanctified, and justified, or not? Is it in a state of life, or in a state of death?" their reply, in numberless instances, would correspond with the infidel answer of Cain, when God asked him for his brother Abel. They would be ready to say, "I know not; am I my soul's keeper? I hope well, I trust God with it. I thank God the subject never greatly troubled me. I never made any doubt of my salvation." It is a fearful thing that men should thus suffer themselves to be ruined by the great deceiver of souls. What would they think of the mariner if he were to act like them? What would they think of him if he were to weigh his anchor, spread his sails, and venture among hidden rocks and treach-

erous quicksands, and then say, "I know not whither the winds are carrying me, I give no heed to the buoys or headlands, I hope well, I trust God with my vessel!" Or, what would they think of the traveller, if he were to hold on in his way, not knowing whether he were right or wrong, and say, "I hope I am right; I will not doubt of it: I have never taken the trouble to compare my route with the map of the country: but I will go on, and trust God?"

Reader, we are all on a journey of momentous importance. We are travelling at an irresistible speed in a path which leads us to an eternity of ineffable joy, or to an eternity of unutterable woe. We are at this moment on our way, hurrying onwards. Have you compared your route with the infallible chart of God's word? Have you discovered satisfactory evidence that you are in the right road? Have you, in obedience to the apostle's exhortation, "GIVEN DILIGENCE to make your calling and election sure?"

It is an overwhelming thought to those who "watch for souls" that so few professing Christians are in earnest about securing salvation. God only can read men's thoughts, and examine