

**THE BELIEFS OF UNBELIEF:
STUDIES IN THE
ALTERNATIVES TO FAITH**

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The Beliefs of Unbelief: Studies in the Alternatives to Faith by W. H. Fitchett

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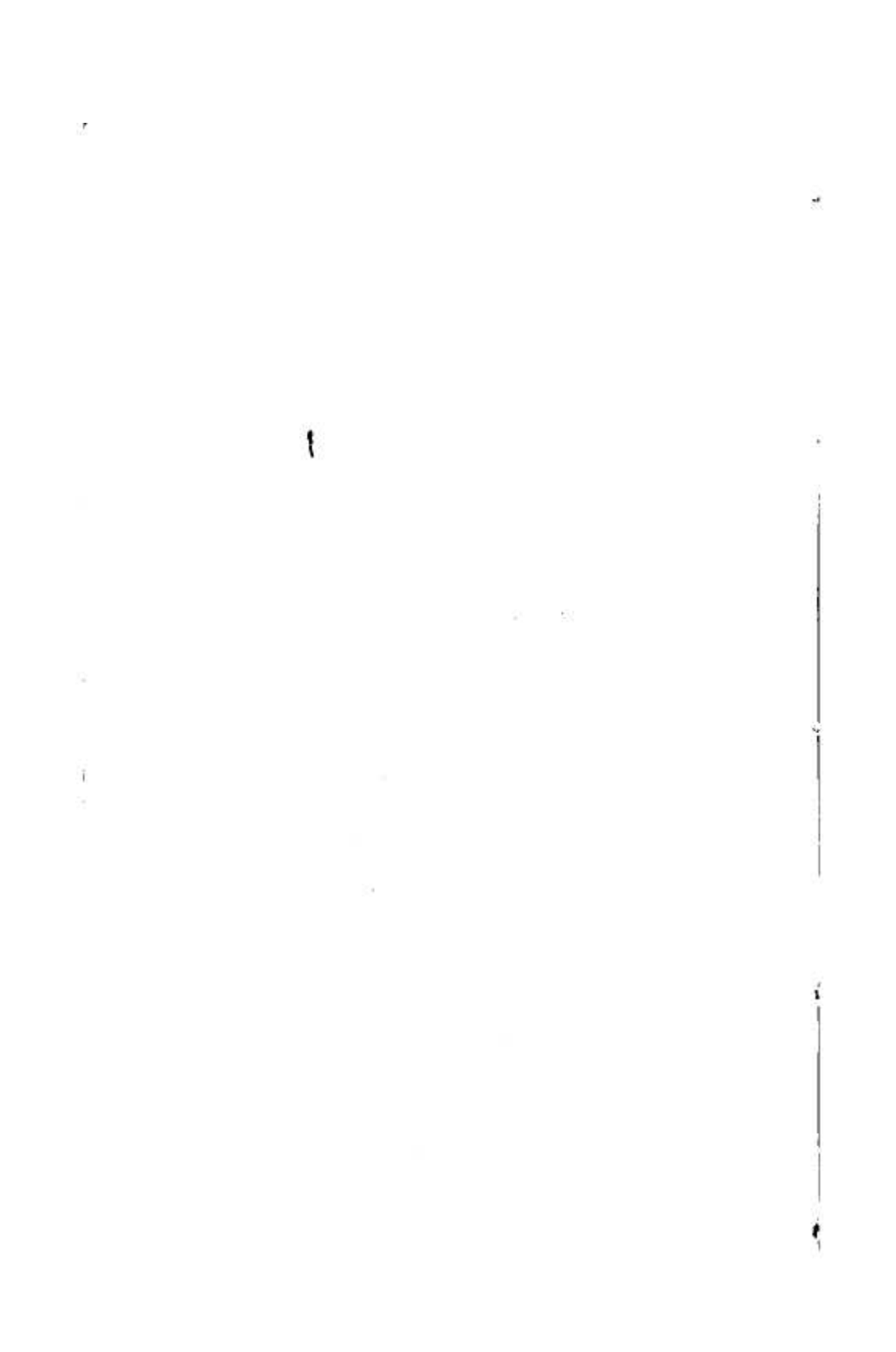
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W. H. FITCHETT

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STUDIES IN THE ALTERNATIVES
TO FAITH

BY

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of Religion," "Wesley and His Century,"
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THE BELIEFS OF UNBELIEF

PROEM

THE NEW UNBELIEF

"How many things hard to credit one must believe, in order not to be a Christian."—NEWMAN SMYTH, *Reality of Faith*, p. 46.

THE world sees, to-day, an unbelief of a new type: vague, loitering, evasive, and strangely contented. Doubt of the sterner sort, doubt which "goes sounding on its dim and perilous way," doubt which is an anguish, and which is much nearer faith than it knows, is much less common than formerly. In its stead has come an unbelief which is as indefinite as a mist, as obscuring, and as little shaken by storms. It is not a landscape, but a vapour. "Christianity," it whispers, "is, if not untrue, at least unnecessary: life can be lived well enough without it." It is a mood untouched by any disquieting sense