

**DIVINE COUNSELS; OR, THE
YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S GUIDE TO
WISDOM. TRANSLATED FROM
ARVISENET, AND ADAPTED TO THE
USE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH**

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Divine Counsels; Or, the Young Christian's Guide to Wisdom. Translated from Arvisenet, and Adapted to the Use of the Anglican Church by William B. Caparn & John Sharp

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WILLIAM B. CAPARN & JOHN SHARP

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TRANSLATED FROM ARVISENET,
And Adapted to the Use of the Anglican Church,

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With a Preface

BY
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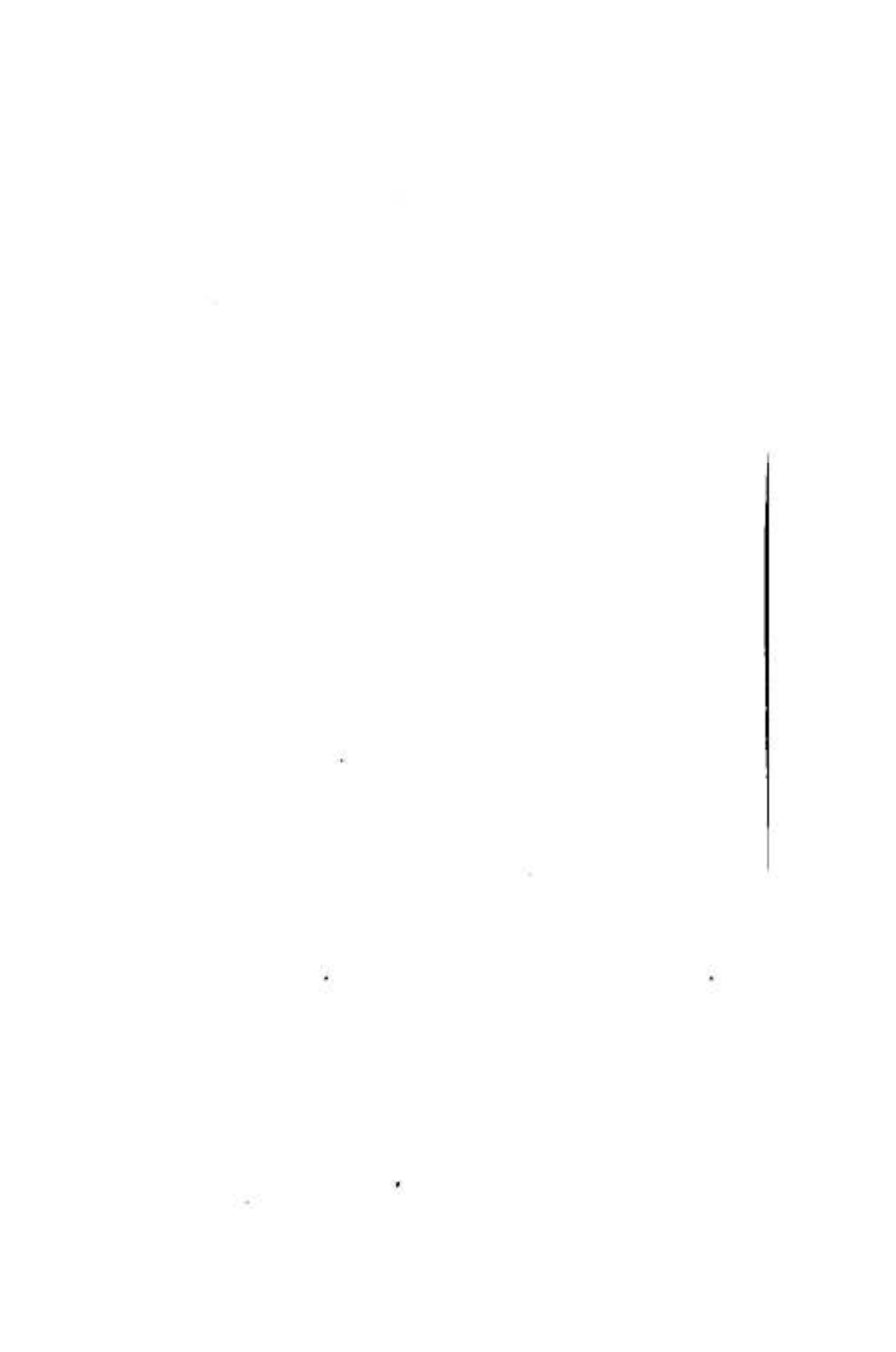
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TO
THE REVEREND JOHN KEBLE, M.A.,
THE AUTHOR OF
"THE CHRISTIAN YEAR,"
I RESPECTFULLY DEDICATE,
WITH HIS PERMISSION,
THIS LITTLE WORK.

W. B. C.

Christmas, 1864.





PREFACE
TO THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

TWO mistakes are not unfrequently made in dealing with the young. The one is, to suppose that folly is so essential a characteristic of youth, that it is in vain to look for anything in them like deep religion. The other is, to require the suppression of everything approaching to mirth and hearty joyousness as the test of religious earnestness and the ground of maintaining any fixed religion at all. It can scarcely be needful to remark here, that either the one or the other of these views must entirely fail in accomplishing the end at which every true Christian would wish to aim. All who have any experience in the matter know full well, that although there is in young persons generally a great hatred and abhorrence of a religious sham and pretence, yet there is at the same time,—unless they have been placed in more than ordinarily adverse circumstances,—a strong consciousness of right and wrong which is ready to be appealed to by those who can really sympathise with their trials, and to be expanded, as God prepares the way, into the fulness of the spiritual life. Though temptation be strong both from within and from without, yet it takes a great deal to destroy the evident working of Baptismal grace, which is ever struggling for life amid the swellings of the great tide of the World, the Flesh, and

the Devil. The readiness with which young people grasp a helping hand, if only it be trustworthy, and be offered in unpretending heartiness, need not be explained to those who have tried it: and this excellent little Treatise is now earnestly commended to the attentive perusal of those youthful members of the Church who are seeking the true Wisdom; in the belief that it will greatly aid them in that search, and supply them with additional armour against their spiritual foes.

May God prosper this attempt to promote His glory, to Whom alone be all the praise!

J. S.

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