

**THE SHORT COURSE
SERIES. THE DIVINE
DRAMA OF JOB**

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The Short Course Series. The Divine Drama of Job by Charles F. Aked

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CHARLES F. AKED

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DRAMA OF JOB**

The Short Course Series

EDITED BY
REV. JOHN ADAMS, B.D.

THE DIVINE DRAMA
OF JOB

BY

CHARLES F. AKED, D.D.

AUTHOR OF

"THE LORD'S PRAYER" "OLD EVENTS AND MODERN MEANINGS"
"THE COURAGE OF THE COWARD" ETC.

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"I loathe my life ; I would not live always ;
Let me alone ; for my days are vanity."

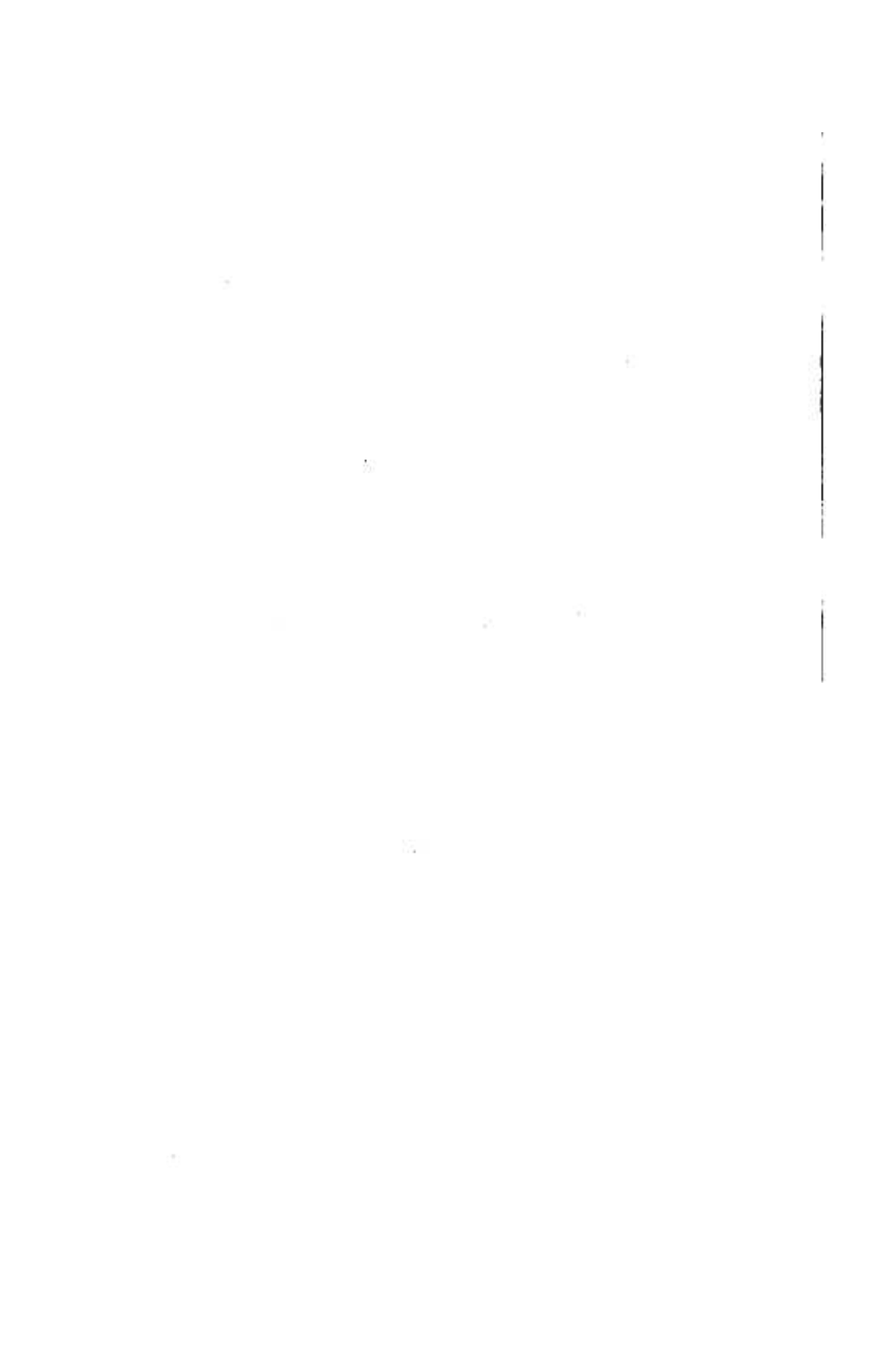
JOB vii. 16.

"MUST it not be a deep spiritual instinct that drives trouble into solitude? . . . Away from the herd flies the wounded deer ; away from the flock staggers the sickly sheep—to the solitary covert to die. The man too thinks it is to die ; but it is in truth so to return to life. 'Leave me to my misery,' cries the man, and lo, his misery is the wind of the waving garments of him that walks in the garden in the cool of the day ! All misery is *God unknown*."

GEO. MACDONALD.

I

THE INSURRECTION OF DOUBT



I

THE INSURRECTION OF DOUBT

"TOWERING up alone, far away above all the poetry of the world"—so runs the famous criticism of the Book of Job pronounced by one of the most noted men of letters of the nineteenth century.¹ Did Carlyle influence Froude in this opinion as in some others? At least Froude may have been driven to study *Job* afresh when Carlyle's *Heroes* fell into his hands, some thirteen years before he wrote his luminous exposition. Carlyle would have it that *Job*, "apart from all theories about it," is "one of the grandest things ever written with pen." "A noble book," he insists; "all men's book . . . grand in its sincerity, in

¹ James Anthony Froude, *Short Studies on Great Subjects*, vol. i.