THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE: WHAT IT INCLUDES, AND WHAT AUTHORITY IT CONFERS

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The Inspiration of the Bible: What It Includes, and What Authority It Confers by D. Fraser

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D. FRASER

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PREFACE.

THE following pages have been written with a special reference to Sunday School Teachers, and the Young in Christian families and congregations. At the same time, it is hoped that the views stated will commend themselves to all thoughtful and inquiring minds, and help to remove some of the difficulties which, without just reason, have been connected with the subject.

It has been my object to present, in a simple and popular form, the substance of the Lectures on Inspiration which have been delivered to the students of Airedale College. In order to give a clear and succinct view of the question, critical examinations of works on Inspiration have been omitted, except where reference to the opinions of other writers has directly aided the elucidation of the subject.

It will cause me no surprise to find the views which I have expressed represented as old-fashioned, and too dogmatic—charges which not unfrequently imply the wider vision and higher intellectual stand-point of the critic. It is not, however, a mark of wisdom to think less of any truth because the hoariness of age gathers round it.

Wise and practical men will admit facts, and will test them for what they claim to be, and to teach. The existence of the Bible in the world is a fact. It claims to be the Word of God, and, as such, demands our faith and obedience. Are the claims it puts forth true and just? Surely this is a question which equally concerns every one. To that question I have endeavoured to give a fair and candid answer.

It may seem to some that, as Miracles are adduced as the External Evidence of the Divine commission of the Inspired Writers, a consideration of "Law and Miracle" might have appropriately preceded that of Inspiration. This omission may perhaps be supplied on some future occasion.

Airedale College,

March, 1874.



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