

**ACADEMIC NOTES
ON THE HOLY
SCRIPTURES**

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Academic notes on the Holy Scriptures by John Rustat Crowfoot

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ACADEMIC NOTES
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HOLY SCRIPTURES.
FIRST SERIES.

BY

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"The Scriptures are a deep that few can wade far into, and none can wade through, 'Waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over' (Isaek. xlvii. 5); but yet all may come to the brook and refresh themselves with drinking of the streams of its living water, and go in a little way according to their strength and stature." LEIGHTON.

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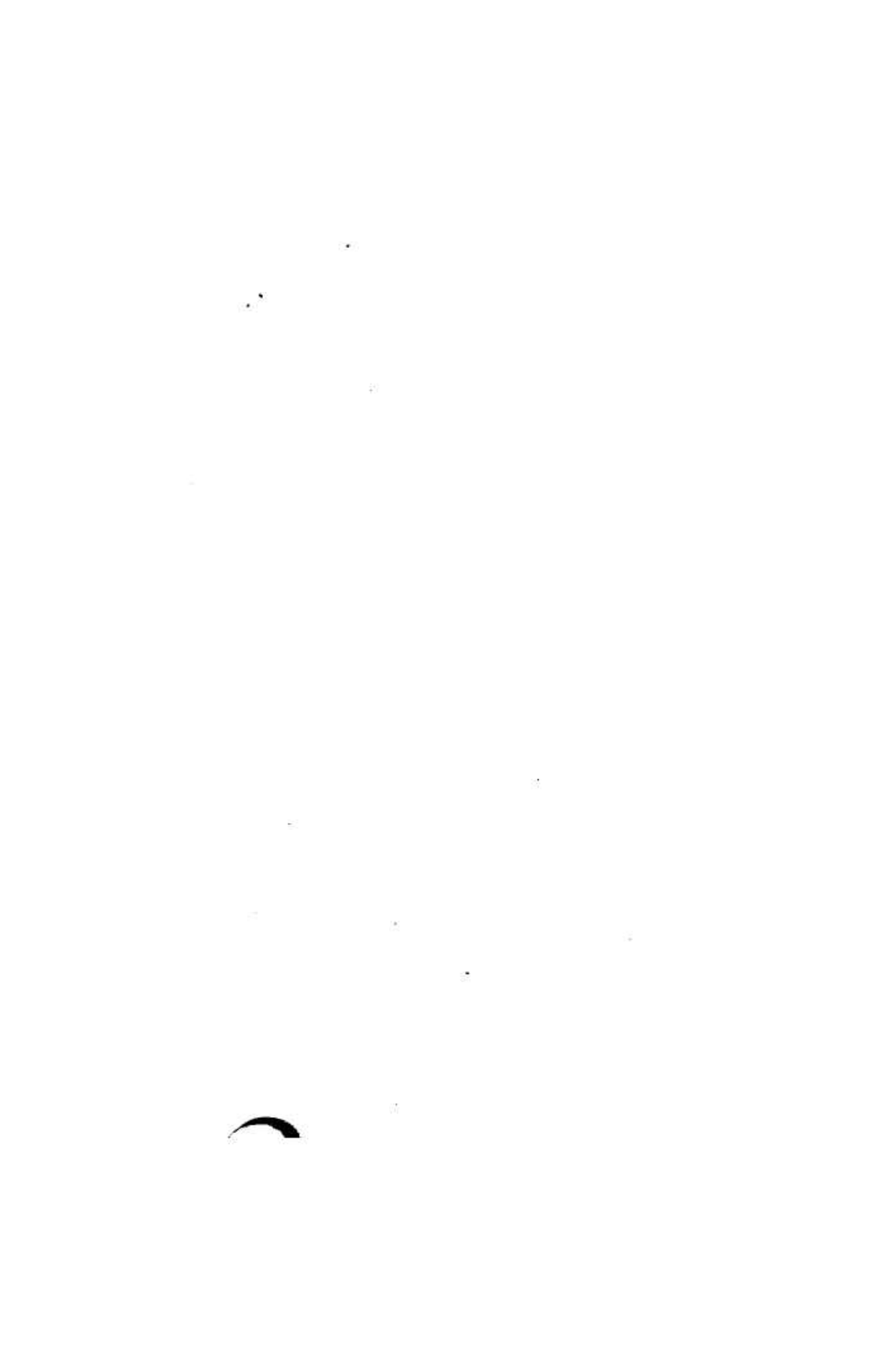
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PREFACE.

THE following Notes have for the most part been made while the author was preparing for College Lectures. Of some of them the substance has already been printed among the Miscellanies in the Classical Museum. They are all, as the author believes, *new* contributions to the sounder interpretation of the Scriptures, and are therefore proposed rather for criticism than for immediate acceptance. On no subject probably in Literature has more labour and ingenuity been expended than on Biblical Interpretation, so that a novel rendering of any passage, or an unauthorized remark upon the idiom or styles of the several inspired writers, should be received with becoming caution, and it is far from being desired that these Notes should have an exception made in their favour.



ACADEMIC NOTES,

&c.

- I. *On a peculiar feature of Hebrew poetry suggested by the structure of the Song of Deborah.*
(Judges v.)

WHEN Hebrew writers compare their poetic literature with that of Greece or Rome or modern Europe, they exult not a little in the circumstance that rhythm is there a rhythm of sentiment, while here it is a rhythm of diction: in Hebrew poetry the *thoughts* are in a manner subjects of rhyme and measure and scansion, while the words are for the most part kept in that subordinate place which belongs to them as instruments of expression.

We, who delight to find in Hebrew literature not only food for the imagination but also instruction for the moral sense, can be at no loss to discover the reason for this superiority. We believe that the Hebrew Scriptures came through inspired men from the source of truth, and are adapted to the wants and capacity of those who have received them: we regard them as Words of God accordingly, and we therefore expect to find