THE RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF ISRAEL. A DISCUSSION OF THE CHIEF PROBLEMS IN OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY AS OPPOSED TO THE DEVELOPMENT THEORISTS

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The religious history of Israel. A discussion of the chief problems in Old Testament history as opposed to the development theorists by Eduard König & Alex. J. Campbell

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EDUARD KÖNIG & ALEX. J. CAMPBELL

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DR. FRIEDRICH EDUARD KÖNIG,

Translated by

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

0.

WITHIN the last ten years the progress of a comparative science of religion has raised not a few fresh questions in the minds of those specially interested in an accurate understanding of the Old Testament theory of the Universe. In the course of my present work I have noticed how far the German writers on the Old Testament have succeeded during the past year in proving the assertions made by a comparative science of religion. As this proof lay along the line of investigation which I had marked out for myself, I have accordingly followed out its consequences in this present work.

My general aim, apart from mere criticism, is to bring out the facts of religious history, and to trace the connection which they necessarily have with their presupposed causes. This,

Preface.

accomplished in an impartial manner, is the aim of every pure historical science.

This aim I have endeavoured to carry out, not only by a full and satisfactory examination of the sources, but by a careful survey of scientific opinions — favourable and adverse. Thus unbiassed in my search for truth, I have endeavoured to provide a good position for the survey of Israel's ancient religious history, tracing the discussions connected with it up to its present position.

As the stability of the general argument is not weakened by the absence of references to the Hebrew, I am glad that I am able on this account to make this small work accessible to the general public—to the wide circle of minds at present interested in questions of religious history.

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