PAUL AND THE REVOLT AGAINST HIM

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Paul and the revolt against him by William Cleaver Wilkinson

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BY

WILLIAM CLEAVER WILKINSON

Author of "Some New Literary Valuations"; "Modern Masters of Pulpit Discourse"; "Daniel Webster: a Vindication, with Other Historical Essays"; "The Epic of Saul"; "The Epic of Paul"; "The Epic of Moses"; etc., etc.

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A living and life-giving soul! A source
And origin, exhaustless like the sea,
Of impact, impulse, movement, energy!
A radiant centre throbbing thick with force,
In pulses of momentum sped their course
Wherever, down the lines of history,
Thought has been moulding human destiny!

A glorious voice, unchangeable to hoarse,
Or mute, but ever ringing loud and clear
Its one great message in the ears of men:
"Christ Jesus risen, ascended, from His sphere
Above all height, beyond all finite ken,
Bending to sway a sovereign sceptre here,
And one day to return to earth again!"



PREFACE

Many readers will remember the story told of some advocate of renown—probably it was Rufus Choate—that after he had addressed a jury in an important case (which, of course, if it was Choate, he won), a friend of his who had listened to his argument rallied him by saying: "Do you know, Mr. Choate, there was one point in your address to the jury that you went over not less than six times?" "Yes, I know that very well," was the reply; "I got six men of the jury the first time I made that point. The rest, all but one man, fell in one after another, as I went on; but to get the twelfth man I had to go over that point, as you noted, up to six times—but on the sixth I got him."

I fear there may be among my readers some so firmly set against the contention of my book—the contention, namely, for Paul as authoritative teacher of Christian doctrine—that I shall fail to win them over at last; but, as they will find, if they continue to read, it will not be for lack of the sixth repetition! I do not apologize, but I show that I am aware of the repetitions that occur of certain topics, under varying forms of expression, and answering to different aspects observed from different points of view. Without these repetitions, I could not satisfy myself that I was emulating that trait of Paul which one hostile German critic, with choice of word very happy for his unfriendly purpose, calls