

**HOW A MODERN
ATHEIST
FOUND GOD**

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How a Modern Atheist Found God by G. A. Ferguson

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G. A. FERGUSON

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FOUND GOD**

How a Modern Atheist Found God

BY

G. A. FERGUSON



BOSTON
AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION
1919

TO
MY MOTHER,
AT WHOSE KNEE
I FIRST LEARNED TO LOVE
TRUTH AND RELIGION

PREFACE

In the following pages the author has tried to give a true and faithful account of his own actual experience. When Science and Historical Criticism are making such inroads on the old orthodox forms of belief, there will, doubtless, be many who, to the First Part of the book, can furnish a more or less similar experience of their own.

But it is the Second Part that is really significant, for it describes the way in which a Positive Atheist, step by step, and by Reason alone, was compelled to abandon that position for a glorious unshakable Faith in the Infinite Truth, Love, and Goodness of God.

The author desires to assist others who may be also seeking the Light. Controversy is often barren of results; so he has considered that the best way is simply to give his own experience. The problems which he has had to solve, and the difficulties he has had to overcome, must be the very same as are perplexing so many seekers after Truth at the present time.

To most people, too, a story is more interesting than a mere discussion; and, though there is plenty of argument here, it all leads up, and is quite indispensable, to the happy termination.

It has been suggested that this little book is incomplete because it does not deal with the Problem of Evil, the Destiny of Man, and other perplexing themes. But a complete solution of these questions did not enter into the story of my pilgrimage. I had found God *in my highest*; and I have never doubted for an instant that, in the highest conception of God, all these problems can be finally solved.

G. A. F.

March, 1912.

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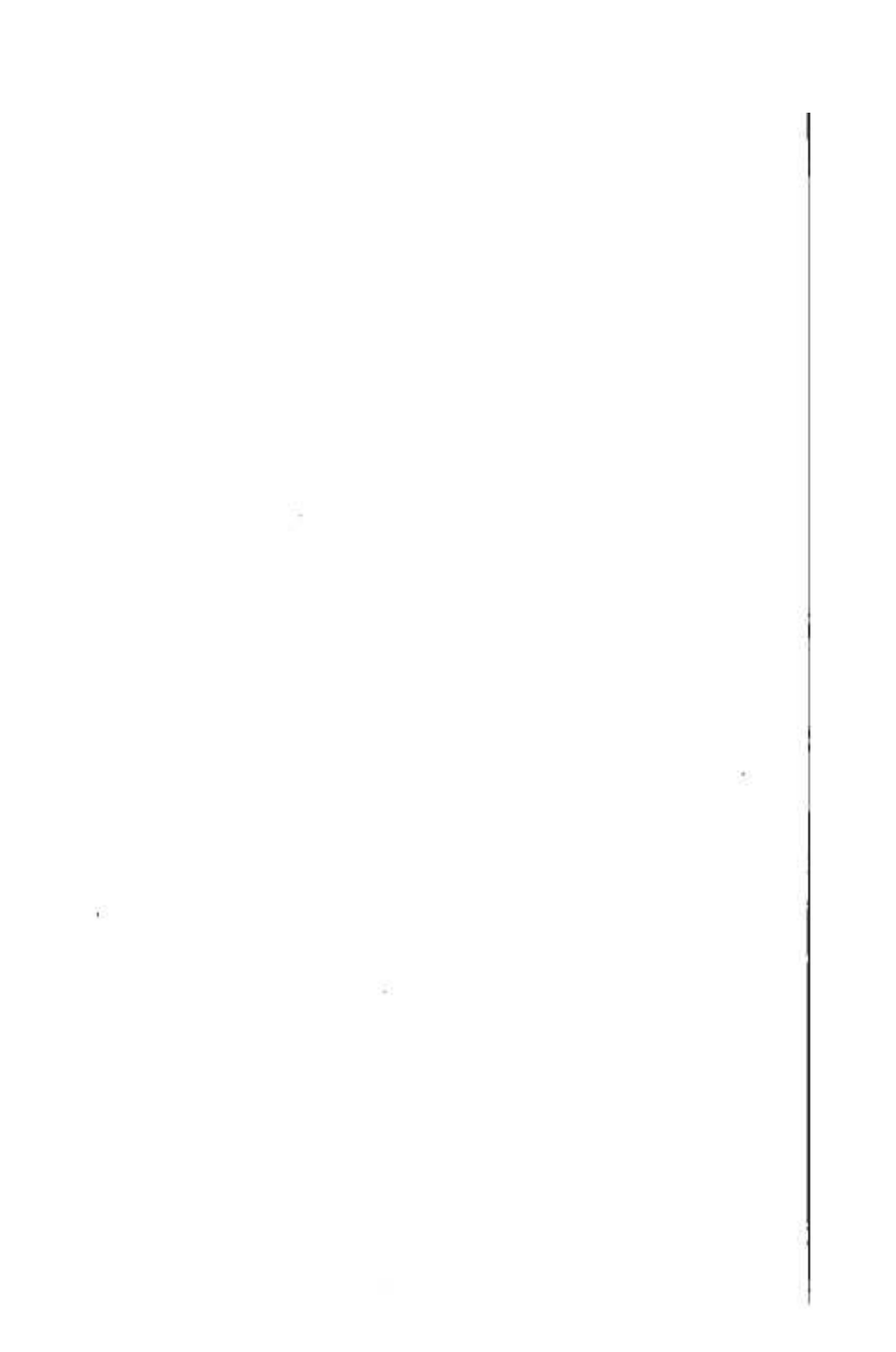
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INTRODUCTION

RELIGION at present is under a cloud. It seems to be the last thing that the world really thinks or cares about. It is true that we still have all the external agencies and paraphernalia of Religion ; but the general scepticism and unbelief of the age is taking all the life out of them, and making them count for less and less in the great social and intellectual movements of the day. The dwindling congregations, the frantic efforts to raise money for church purposes by means of bazaars and secular entertainments, the rush to the country or the seaside at week-ends, the increasing love of pleasure all tell the same significant tale. The modern civilized world is living with scarcely any consciousness of God or things Divine.

Even in the Churches themselves Faith is weak and halting. Through sheer force of habit thousands of men and women continue