

THE INSPIRATION OF HISTORY

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The Inspiration of History by James Mulchahey

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JAMES MULCHAHEY

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OF HISTORY**

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER I. Introductory ; The Credibility of History	1
CHAPTER II. The Bible a Historical Book	19
CHAPTER III. The Significance of the Biblical History, Simply as History	33
CHAPTER IV. The Substantial Truth of Biblical History, not Invalidated by "Higher Criticism"	43
CHAPTER V. The Inspiration of the Old Testament History	65
CHAPTER VI. The Witness of History to the Divine Personality of Jesus Christ	95
CHAPTER VII. Conclusion : A Living Consciousness of Communion with the Living God—the God of Righteousness and of Love—the Present Need of the Church, and its True Inspiration	117

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THE CREDIBILITY OF HISTORY.

THE INSPIRATION OF HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory :

THE CREDIBILITY OF HISTORY.

HISTORY is in our time emphatically under suspicion. So many of its alleged and heretofore universally accredited facts have, within the last half century, been resolved by the new methods of historical criticism into fictions, that, in the popular mind, there is a general disposition to question its old claim to trustworthiness.

Indeed, not only in the popular mind, but even among the really thoughtful and scholarly, the question is seriously raised whether the credibility to which the records of history are entitled can be accounted scientific in any true sense of the word.

And yet the old foundation ground remains firm. There is to mankind an existence in the past as sure as in the present, and history is the record which that past has made. Fiction and history are a con-