THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE. THE HULSEAN LECTURES FOR 1871

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The Way, the Truth, the Life. The Hulsean Lectures for 1871 by Fenton John Anthony Hort

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FENTON JOHN ANTHONY HORT

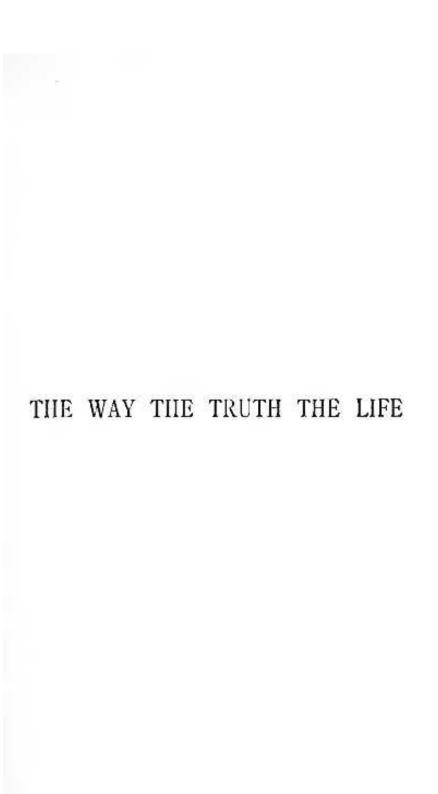
THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE. THE HULSEAN LECTURES FOR 1871



EX UNO VERBO OMNIA ET UNUM LOQUUNTUR OMNIA.

FROM ONE WORD PROCEED ALL THINGS:
AND ONE IS THAT WHICH IS SPOKEN BY ALL.
THINGS.

DE IMITATIONE CHRISTI.





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THE HULSEAN LECTURES FOR 1871

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FENTON JOHN ANTHONY HORT D.D.

SOMETIME HULSEAN PROFESSOR AND LADY MARGARET'S READER IN DIVINITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

7/2/12

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE fragmentary Introduction which was begun by Dr Hort in 1872, and continued at two later dates, gives in part the history and scope of the present volume; but the revision indicated in the opening paragraph was not completely carried into effect. The first two Lectures were set up in slip in 1872, and after careful revision were passed for press at the close of 1874. The first five sheets were printed off (pp. 1—80), the remainder of Lecture II. remained in slip, and pencillings on the copy suggest that some enlargement of the conclusion was in contemplation. The third Lecture has been printed partly from the original MS. (pp. 95—107; 146—8), and partly (pp. 108—146) from a MS. of later date⁴.

¹ This Lecture was delivered on Sunday, Dec. 10, 1871, the crisis of the illness of the Prince of Wales, and the following words were added at the close of it:

This life of Christ, as manifested first through death and then in His Resurrection, may well fill our thoughts to day, when we have present before us the possible ending of a life dear to us in itself, and doubly dear as having bound up in it much that belongs to the inward life of the nation. Let us carnestly believe that here too, whether by life or by death, Christ the Saviour will save. If He saves by life, let us give Him thanks. If He suffers death to come to pass, let us be assured that He is preparing a more glorious resurrection in the future.

The fourth Lecture has been printed as it was originally written. The MS, has not received any later additions, but something appears to be wanting on p. 166. The 'Notes and Illustrations' were taken from collections made for the Lectures and for the revision of them, and will serve in some measure to illustrate the wider range which was designed for Lectures III., IV. (p. xxvii)¹.

¹ The MSS, of Lectures III., IV. were prepared for the press by the Rev. J. O. F. Murray, M.A., Fellow of Emmanuel College, who also selected and arranged the Notes and Illustrations, and provided the sections of the analysis which are enclosed in square brackets, and passed the whole work through the press.

A few words enclosed in square brackets ([]) have been introduced into the Lectures, but no other changes have been made. In the Notes some changes have been made to complete the form of the sentences; and one or two phrases indicated as provisional in the MS, have been enclosed in half-brackets ([7]).

Since I examined somewhat closely the materials available for the volume before they were placed in Mr Murray's hands, I may be allowed to express my grateful sense of the care and judgment with which he has fulfilled a difficult and delicate task. The debt which Dr Hort's friends owe to him is not less because his labour has been a glad offering of reverence and affection to a master.

The title of the Lectures was not finally determined. 'I wish' Dr Hort wrote to me in 1871 'we could have had some talk about the title. I can think of nothing better than "the Revelation of the Way". It is not quite adequate, but it avoids some objections which I should make to others more obvious. No title single in form and simple in language could express the drift of the whole. It seems impossible to go beyond slight indication.' I do not remember that he ever recurred to the subject.

The Ordination Sermon referred to in the Introduction has been reserved for a volume of Sermons for which there is ample material.