

**SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND
MINISTRY OF THE REV. C.
H. SPURGEON: FROM
ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS**

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Sketch of the Life and Ministry of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon: From Original Documents by
George J. Stevenson

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GEORGE J. STEVENSON

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*Yours very truly
C. H. Spurgeon*

SKETCH
OF
THE LIFE AND MINISTRY
OF THE
REV. C. H. SPURGEON.

FROM ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

INCLUDING ANECDOTES AND INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL; BIOGRAPHICAL
NOTICES OF FORMER PASTORS; HISTORICAL SKETCH OF
PARK-STREET CHAPEL; AND AN OUTLINE OF
MR. SPURGEON'S ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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By special agreement SHELDON, BLAKEMAN & Co. will
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and it is the author's wish that no parties shall infringe
this contract.



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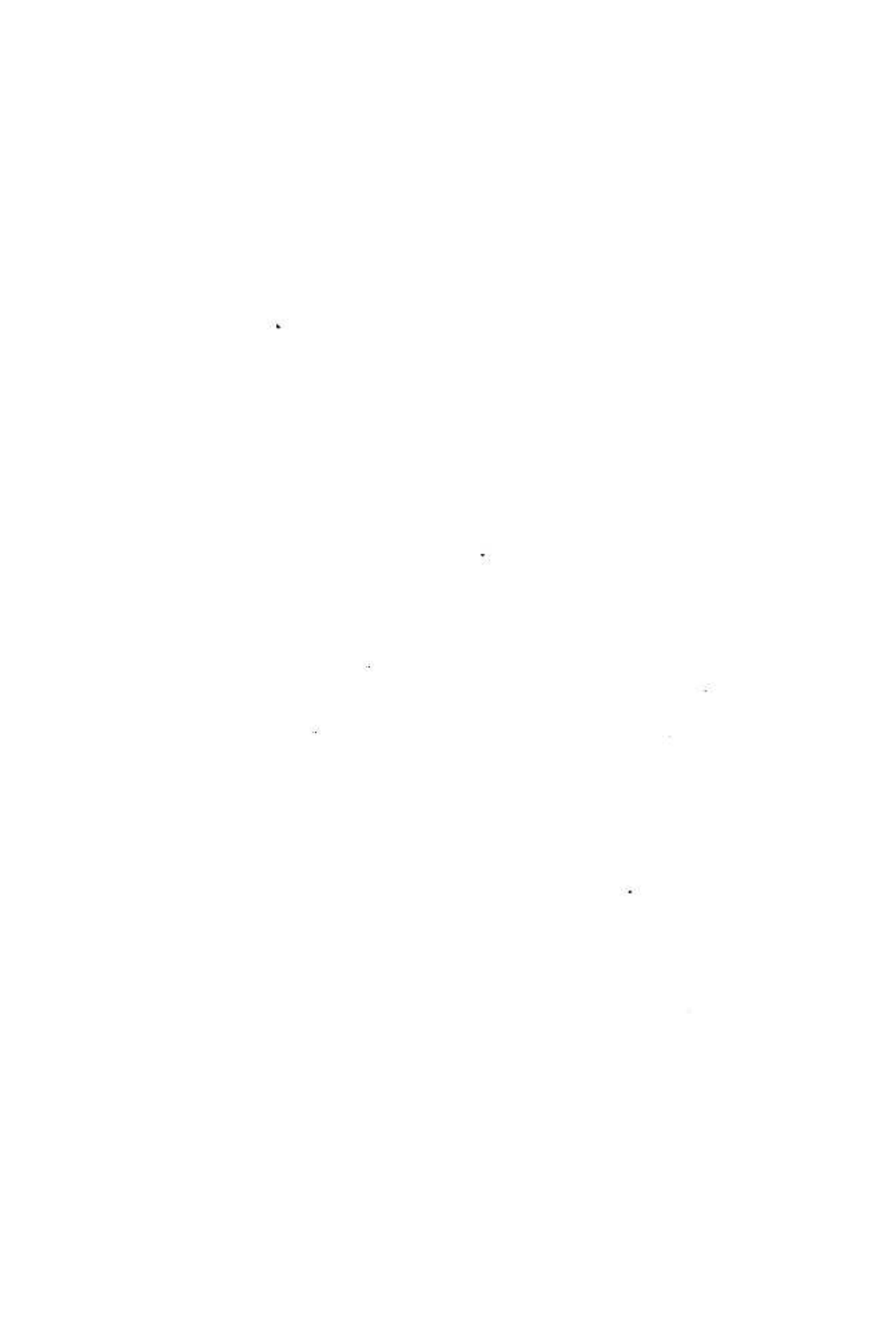
I. These pages contain a narrative of facts likely to interest many persons.

II. Young persons will find an instructive example in these pages they may imitate with great personal advantage.

III. To young Ministers of the Gospel, the example of the earnest life of this faithful Preacher, as set forth as a model, they may imitate with advantage to themselves and to their churches.

IV. The narrative will suggest many practical lessons which the intelligent reader will adopt for self-improvement.

V. Seeking only to do good by disseminating truth, the narrative is commended to the Christian church universal, and to the best judgment of the public generally.



LIFE AND MINISTRY
OF THE
REV. C. H. SPURGEON.



INTRODUCTION.

POPULAR favor has seldom been shown to any man so extensively, and so spontaneously, as it has been to the Rev. Charles Haddon Spurgeon. Although some of the worst feelings of human nature have long been in active exercise to check the benevolent labors of this philanthropic youthful divine, yet an overruling and an overruling Providence has directed the issue. The favors of friends and the frowns of foes have together resulted in promoting the great work for which this modern Whitefield seems especially raised up, namely, to preach the gospel in a manner which shall secure its welcome to the hearts of multitudes who have hitherto disregarded it.

Many have been the inquiries which have been made respecting Mr. Spurgeon's antecedents. One asks to

which of the universities he belongs; another wonders how so young a man obtained holy orders; a third puts the question plainly, Who ordained the young man? A page would not suffice to enumerate the interrogatives we have ourselves heard from all classes of people; from the plain-spoken Englishman, from the penetrating Scotchman, from the mirthful son of Erin, and from not a few of our transatlantic brethren. Indeed we have had this kind of verbal investigation continued, with the greatest possible relish by the inquirer, for an hour together, without any apparent abatement in interest. In some instances, the desire for information has led to a succession of queries so varied and so strange, that a prudent man would rather remain silent than try to satisfy such prurient curiosity. In this great London, thousands of voices have repeated the question in one day—"Who is this Spurgeon?" and, to many, a negative was not an answer; so that where positive information of a reliable kind could not be obtained, imagination has too often supplied its place, to the injury of both the subject of this sketch, and the work in which he is engaged. So intense was the desire for information respecting Mr. Spurgeon during several months, that whoever would risk a few pages of biographical anecdotes, historical incidents, or doctrinal peculiarities, at the price of a penny, was sure to sell the work by thousands. These transient phantoms have now all passed away, having satisfied the mere inquisitor; while the seekers after knowledge are still eagerly desiring to know more. The number of these is still a multitude. Were it otherwise, we