

**EARLY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CONSIDERED AS THE DIVINELY
APPOINTED WAY TO THE
REGENERATE LIFE, PP. 1-126**

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Early Religious Education Considered as the Divinely Appointed Way to the Regenerate Life,
pp. 1-126 by William G. Eliot

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WILLIAM G. ELIOT

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EARLY
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONSIDERED AS
THE DIVINELY APPOINTED WAY
TO THE
BOSTON, MASS.
REGENERATE LIFE.

BY
WILLIAM G. ELIOT,
PASTOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION, ST. LOUIS.

"Feed my lambs."

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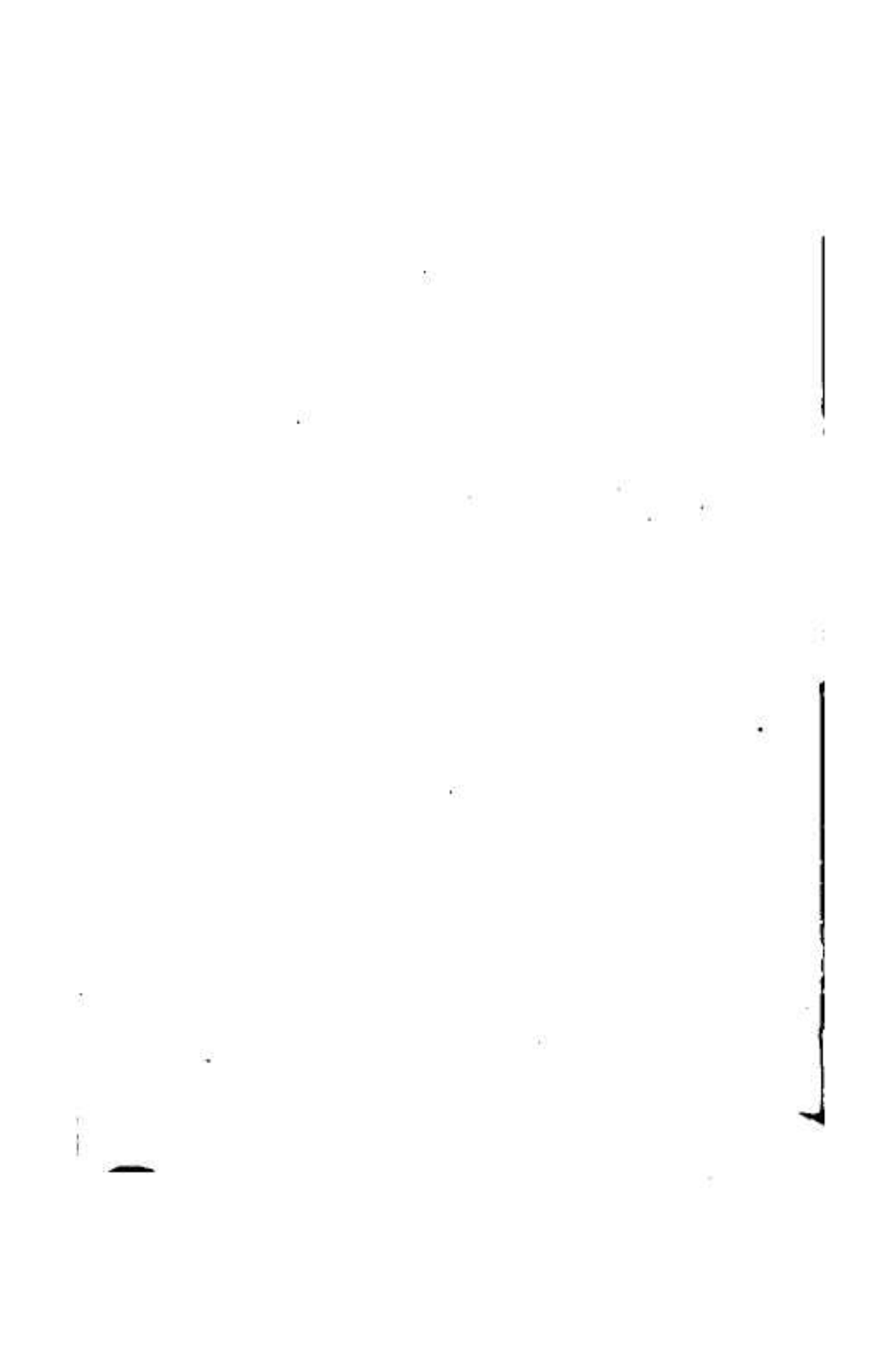
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TO
MY MOTHER,
THE ONLY SURVIVING PARENT
OF CHILDREN WHOSE DEBT OF GRATITUDE,
FOR HER UNWEARIED CARE IN LEADING THEM
BY CHRISTIAN PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE
TO THE CHRISTIAN FAITH,
CAN NEVER BE ADEQUATELY EXPRESSED,
THIS ESSAY
IS APPROXIMATELY INSCRIBED



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CHAPTER I.

THE REGENERATE LIFE.

In the following Essay, I propose to speak of the Religious Education of the Young, considered as the divinely appointed means of Christian Regeneration. My object is to call the attention of parents to duties and responsibilities which are too apt to be neglected, and by neglect of which the spiritual welfare of their children is sometimes sacrificed.

But, to avoid misapprehension, a few words may first be said concerning the spiritual or regenerate life of which we speak. What is Christian Regeneration? Is it a reality, or only a figure of speech to which no definite meaning needs to be given? Is it something that every one must, sooner or later, experience, in the formation of the Christian char-