THE LIGHT OF MEN, AN INTERPRETATION

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The Light of Men, an Interpretation by John Bass

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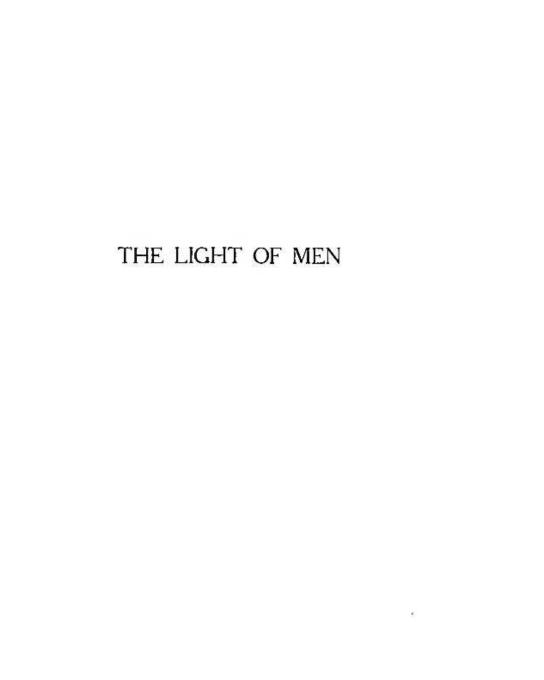
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"Sempiterna Lux! Nec divitias, nec honores peto; me modo Divinia Lucis radio illumines."



FOREWORD

This book is not offered as a scientific treatise, in the sense in which science is accepted here in the Occident, but as a personal interpretation—exactly as Schuré's Jesus and Renan's Vie de Jésus are personal interpretations. It has been written after years of deep and reverent study, not only of our own Scriptures, but in comparative religion, and above all of the great Ancient Philosophy of the Orient—that science of the soul which reaches back to the very horizons of Aryan civilisation.

It is the conviction of the writer that our own Christian Revelation, interpreted in the light of the illuminating mysticism of the east—one may indeed call it the universal mysticism—takes on a more satisfying significance, a more glorious power. Phenomena now mistakenly called supernatural, cryptic truths in these days brushed aside

and discredited as superstition, will, seen with the clearer, more sublimated vision, fall into their natural and inevitable sequence and take on a revealing light.

There are a great number of persons in our day who have discarded allegiance to any formal theological teaching, but to whom modern science offers only a stone to the passioning soul which asks for bread. Neither does the so-called "religion of humanity" satisfy that inward craving which outward activity fails to fill.

It is to these that this book is dedicated, in the hope that it may bear to some of them a message — the same message that the studies which have led up to it have borne to the writer.