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Miscellaneous Articles.

SCRIPTURE DIFFICULTIES AND THEIR BEARING ON THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE.*

It has often been said by infidels that *the Bible is a book full of difficulties*; a book in which those parts which are very abstruse, if not absolutely unintelligible, bear a large proportion to the whole; that it is a tissue of immoral statement and inconclusive reasoning. The correctness of this description we not only question, but in the most distinct terms deny. Instead of being, as represented, full of difficulties, the Bible is a book which, in very many parts, is plain and simple; which a man may read who runneth; a book which, in many parts, a child may understand and be greatly delighted with. How many christian parents know that the story of Joseph and his brethren, of David and Goliath, and of Daniel and the lions, can interest their little ones as much as the most admired productions of uninspired genius? But that there are difficulties in the Bible—that there are statements which we can not easily understand—*nay, that there are statements which the noblest of human, we might say of created intellects, can not fully comprehend, we just as readily admit. Let not the sceptic, however, triumph because of this admission, let him rather follow us in our investigation into the nature and source of these difficulties and their bearing on the inspiration of the sacred volume. What if we should be able to prove that instead of invalidating the claims of the Scriptures to divine authority, they should be found to strengthen these claims. What if “out of the eater we*

* This article is the first part of an evening Lecture delivered by a Minister in Scotland to his congregation. It has lain by us almost a year, without our being able to find space for it.—ED.