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THE TESTIMONY OF PROPHECY TO THE DIVINE
AUTHORSHIP AND CHARACTER OF THE BIBLE.

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The general subject upon which I have been appointed to speak is the testimony of prophecy to the Divine authorship and character of the Bible ; and the plenary inspiration of the Scriptures has been set down as my special division of that subject ; and I am not to forget that this is a Conference on the Second Advent. I shall do my best to bring those three aspects of the subject together in what I say, and to draw them into one.

When I first saw this subject, it struck me that on the face of it there seemed to lie an objection. "The testimony of prophecy to the Divine authorship and character of the Bible." But what is prophecy? Where is it to be found, except in the pages of the Bible? Then is not that a testimony of the Bible to itself? Is not that a form of self-assertion? Does not it look like arguing in a circle?

The objection is only on the surface. There is really nothing in it. But I think that I ought to say a few words about it, because in the task assigned to me I have to deal with the foundations on which all that is to be spoken must rest. And unless the foundations are laid secure and strong there can be no sound building. Is the testimony of the Bible to itself only self-assertion? Is it only arguing in a circle? No. The Bible is a book at once of history and prophecy ; history and doctrine if you like to call it so, only remember that all