

INTRODUCTION.

Knowledge is progressive, and in this progress every age is placed in a more advantageous position for the comprehension of any subject than the last. Every enquirer, therefore, finds himself on higher ground than his predecessors; he can avail himself of their latest acquisitions without the labour of original discovery, and thus with unbroken spirits and unsubdued vigour, he can commence his career at the boundary of theirs.—*Bailey.*

The present work contains part of the results of the study engaged in, and the experience gained, in a ministry of over a quarter of a century. For little less than the half of this period the ministry was exercised in two congregations successively in Scotland, the country where the writer was born and bred; and the remainder of the ministry was exercised in two congregations successively in the Dominion of Canada.

The present volume may perhaps be described as semi-popular in style, and is the first one published of a series of four volumes on the subject of *Soul-Science*. The first volume, which will be the second published, has for its subject *Soul-Science*, and is more scientific and philosophic than the present one; but each volume is complete in itself, and each is nearly ready for the press.

Volume I. discusses *inter alia* the application of science and of philosophy to the soul and its religion. It also discusses the significance, and part of the history, of religious *Epistemology*. *Epistemology*