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REMARKABLE THINGS IN THE BIBLE.

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IN a previous paper I called the attention of readers of THE MONTHLY to some very remarkable things about the Bible viewed in regard to its production, preservation and effects. These facts are so remarkable that any one attempting to account for them from a purely natural standpoint will have before him not merely a difficult but an impossible problem. In the present article I hope to be able to lead the reader into the very heart of my theme, by pointing out some very remarkable things in the Bible that separate it from all other literature and demand for it a supernatural origin.

At the outset it will be well for us to see clearly what the Bible is not. Some ardent friends of the Book have put in claims for the Bible which cannot be established, and which it is not necessary to establish in order to retain for it the character of a special revelation of God to men. The un-wisdom of this course is manifest. It gives a vantage ground to the enemies of the Bible who think that when they

have demolished one of these unessential claims they have demolished the Bible itself. It is well to bear in mind then that the Bible is not, and does not pretend to be a perfect system of theology compiled in heaven and dropped upon the earth for man's use. It is indeed as little like a system of theology as it well can be. The Bible is not a book of oracular texts, however precious it may be to devout souls when used in this way. The Bible is not a text book of science, although its scientific value is very great, and a good argument has been made for its supernatural origin even from a scientific standpoint. The Bible is a book of life, the record of a revelation of God wrought out in history.

It is therefore evident that in order to have a clear grasp of what the Bible is, the distinction between revelation and the Book must be kept constantly in view. Great confusion is wrought when this distinction is forgotten. The nature of this distinction will be readily seen when we