Contents

CHAPTER I

ANCESTRY AND DREAMS

Partisan Treatment of Joseph Smith's Character .-Advantages of the Standpoint of Physiological Psychology.—The Man in His Maturity Described by Eye-witnesses .- A Phenomenon to be Explained.'-Smith's Ability and His Absurdities .--His Writings Supplemented by Suppressed Sources. -The Origin of Mormonism.-Its Impelling Forces in the Eighteenth Century. - Joseph's Strange Ancestry .- His Grandfather Mack's Narrative.-The Latter's Life of Adventure and Hardship .- The Old Soldier's Ailments and His Religious Experiences.-He Sees Visions and Hears Voices.—Similar Experiences of the Grandson.— Mack's Belief in Faith Healing and Miraculous Cures .- Erratic Tendencies Transmitted .- The Prophet's Mother .- Her Book, and its Works of Wonder.-Her Revivalistic Dream.-The Smith Pedigree Traced Back to 1666 .- The Prophet's Father, His Restlessness of Mind and Body.—His Seven Dreams .- Their I ocal Color .- Their Incorporation Into the Book of Mormon .- Their xi