

PREFACE.

popular information, therefore, as regards these relations, even in the necessarily brief form in which it is hereafter presented, can scarcely fail to be of value to all those who take an interest in such matters. Outside the ranks of the clerical orders, and a limited number of lay specialists and students, very little also is known about the doctrines of what is called the Higher Criticism. Some definite information, accordingly, in that direction can scarcely fail to be useful to the public generally. The last four chapters of this book contain a fairly full review of the doctrines of the Higher Criticism, as defined by Wellhausen, the great German apostle of the cult; by Cheyne, its principal English professor; and by Driver and others. These chapters also give a full history of the new creed, from its first conception by the atheist Spinoza, and through its subsequent various rationalistic stages down to the present time.

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