

A THEOLOGICAL COMPEND.

EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

SCRIPTURE is a word which, in its *primary sense*, signifies writing; any thing written. BIBLE is a word which signifies a book. THE Scriptures and THE Bible are so called by way of eminence, or distinction, because of all other writings and books these are the most important.

The Bible consists of two parts, called the *Old* and the *New Testaments*; that is, covenants, or, agreement.

The Old Testament is comprised of thirty-nine distinct books, seventeen of which are historical, five poetical, and the remaining seven-
teen prophetical.

These several books were written by different authors, at different periods of time, and were finally collected into one volume by EZRA, a famous Jewish high priest and scribe.

The order of this collection has respect to

What is the meaning of the word Scripture? Of the word Bible? Why are they called THE Scripture, &c.? Of how many parts does the Bible consist? How are they distinguished? What does Testament signify? Of what is the Old Testament composed? Were these books all written by one author? At the same time? Who collected them into one volume? What of their order?