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ADDRESS OF THE REV. B. M. PALMER, D.D., OF NEW ORLEANS,
AT THE SIXTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The following is scarcely more than an outline of Dr. Palmer's very impressive address, but it is all we have been able to secure, and it will serve to indicate his line of thought :

Mr. Chairman—The Bible differs from all other books because its authorship is divine. It is true, the different parts which make up that grand collection were written by human pens, and the truth contained in them was strained through human minds, but the holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost, by the divine inspiration, which, like all other inspirations of the Holy Spirit, we do not undertake to explain. But the Lord God Almighty is the responsible Author of the Book, and therefore it is that God's Word occupies the same plain with all other of God's works ; it stands upon precisely the same elevation with the work of creation ; nay, I may even say, without being charged with extravagance, that it is the culmination of them and the crowning glory of them. For where is the key which interprets to us all of God's providences through all these ages past ? How comes it to pass that we have all history concurring with the testimony of this book ? By it we know why Egypt arose and Babylon perished. Sir, all through the Old Testament the prophet stands side by side with the historian, and I contend on this platform to-day that we have in it the interpretation of history through all time. And if the prophet stood by the historian we should know why it was that God scattered a chosen seed over this vast western continent and built up a great and mighty people.

Now, it ought not to surprise us, on the other hand, that Providence should concern itself with the preservation of these marvellous records ; and so I am brought to a point of this address which I shall touch rather briefly—the wonderful manner in which the prophets could see all the tracks of human history in accord with this book. The subject is a vast one, and one that I can only pass around the borders or confines of, in one short illustra-