

JAMES CARMICHAEL

Like most men who have possessed the capacity of making friends, he coupled with that capacity the power of leadership. People instinctively seemed to feel that he was to be trusted and consequently were led to follow his example and opinion. In the exercise of this leadership he never appeared self-conscious or self-important. Indeed he moved among men as though he were totally unconscious of possessing any superior endowments to those who looked up to him and followed his leadership. The older he grew, the simpler he seemed. This simplicity, coupled with his kindness and gentility, drew men out to him, and as they learned to know him they found a man of judgment whose leadership they could follow.

In endeavouring to study the inner nature of Bishop Carmichael we must look at him, not only in his activities among men, in which he revealed his capacity for friendship and leadership, but also in his activities as a student. Reference has already been made to the fact that during the decade in which he was assistant minister at St. George's he plunged enthusiastically into the scientific questions that were occupying the minds of the thoughtful men of that day. Scientific studies were absorbingly attractive to his highly practical mind. But another great question likewise attracted him—the question of historical criticism in reference to the Old Testament. It may be said that this question formed the most dominant subject of his thought for more than forty years. But he came to the study of this subject greatly handicapped. His university