

# *Earnest Christianity.*

---

VOL. 3.]  
NO. 5.]

MAY, 1875.

[NEW  
SERIES.]

---

## ALLEGED SELF-CONTRADICTIONS OF THE BIBLE.

BY W. S. BLACKSTOCK.

ONE of the commonest charges brought against the Bible by sceptical writers is that it is full of discrepancies, inconsistencies, and glaring self-contradictions. It is on this ground, chiefly, that many persons seek to justify themselves in refusing to accept it as a divine revelation. It may not be amiss, therefore, to submit a few of those alleged self-contradictions to a candid and careful examination. The cases of this kind which we propose to deal with in this paper are, it is understood, furnished by one of the works of the notorious Thomas Paine, who to this day is recognized as one of the highest authorities among "Free-thinkers." They have been published, also, in the form of a tract, and widely circulated in this as well as in other countries; and, finally, they have been reproduced in a Canadian newspaper, with a flourish of trumpets and a spirit of defiance which show that they are regarded as really formidable difficulties, which no amount of learning or ingenuity will be able to satisfactorily dispose of. It may, therefore, be fairly assumed that they represent the strength