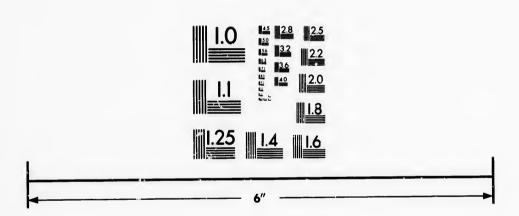


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THE WORK TREATS OF

Mormonism its origin and history, and shows how, founded on imposture, it has grown by deceit and crime. It shows how Joe Smith was enabled to cheat and deceive his followers; how by leading them on from crime to crime, and enticing them with licentious baits, he succeeded in maintaining his influence over them.

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BY JOHN S. C. ABBOTT.

The above indicates the design and scope of the volume. I cannot give a better idea of the work

than to quote from the author's preface.

"The author of this volume has for many years, at intervals, been engaged in its preparation. It has long seemed to him very desirable, that a brief, comprehensive, and readable narration of the origin of Christianity, and of its struggles and triumphs, should be prepared, adapted to the masses of the people. The writer is not aware that there is any popular history of the extraordhary events involved in the progress of Christianity which can lure the attention of men, even of Christians, whose minds are engrossed by the agitations of basy life. And yet there is no theme more full of sublime, exciting and instructive interest. All the heroism which the annals of chlyahy record, pale into insignificance in the presence of the heroism with which the battles of the Cross have been fought, and with which Christians, in devotion to the interests of humanity, have met, undanated, the most terrible doom. It has not been the object of the writer to urge any new views, or to discuss controverted questions of church, polity or theology. This a history of Facts, not a philosophical or theological discussion of the principles which these facts may involve. No one, however, can read this narrative without the conviction that the religion of Jesus, notwithstanding the occasional perversions of human depravity or eredulity, has remained essentially one and the same during all the centuries. We need additional revelations. The Gospel of Christ is the power of God and wisdom of God."

In presenting such a work to the public, I do it in confidence, and with the full assurance that it will fill a place never before occupied, and that an appreciative people will welcome it to their homes and read it at their firesides, and that it will also find its way into the classic libraries of the country.

The writer is admirably fitted for the task, having written the histories of Russia, Prussia, Austria, Italy and Spain, he has of necessity traversed the seenes of religious conflict; and then his pen invests every subject upon which he writes, with that peculiar charm which not only interests, but instructs the reader. It is safe to say that no man in this country is better informed upon this important subject.

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The work contains 504 pages, octavo; illustrated by six full-page steel engravings, and two maps. These steel plates consist of a fine Portrait of the Author, a likeness of Jesus, after Delaroche; the Last Supper, with panel work and appropriate selections from the words of Jesus; two group plates, one entitled "Reformers of the 16th Century," consisting of portraits of Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wyeliffe, John Knox and Philip Melanethon; the other entitled "Eminent Clergy of the 18th Century," consisting of portraits of John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards, Robert Hall. Thomas Chalmers and Archbishop Paley; also a picture representing the "Vision of the Cross. One map represents Palestine; the other, the Travels of St. Paul.

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