THE BREAD OF LIFE. THE SACRAMENTAL MYSTERY UNVEILED. THE SIXTH CHAPTER OF THE GOSPEL

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The Bread of Life. The Sacramental Mystery Unveiled. The Sixth Chapter of the Gospel by Alfred S. Atcheson

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ALFRED S. ATCHESON

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THE BREAD OF LIFE.

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A TRANSPOSITION

OF THE VERSES IN THE SIXTH CHAPTER OF THE GOSPEL BT ST. JOHN THE EVANORLIST, BEGINNING WITH THE XXII, VERSE; AND ELUCIDATING THE HARMONY OF THE DISCOURSE DELIVERED BY JESUS CHRIST IN THE SYNAGOGUE AT CAPERNAUM, WITH SOME FEW ANNO-TATIONS THEREON.

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."-Joss i. 5.

N. B .- SUCH VERSES AS ARE TRANSPOSED ARE TO BR DISTINGUISHED BY THE ROMAN NUMERALS.

THE BREAD OF LIFE.

THE

SACRAMENTAL MYSTERY

UNVEILED.

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THE SIXTH CHAPTER OF THE GOSPEL

BY

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ILLUMINATED. -

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"He that is an hireling and not the shephard, whose own the sheep are not, sooth the wolf coming and leaveth the sheep."

LONDON :

WILLIAM E. PAINTER, 342, STRAND.

1849.

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TO THE

DISCIPLE OF CHRIST.

IN offering you the design of a Transposition of some of the verses in this portion of the Sixth Chapter of the Gospel by St. John the Evangelist, I think it is my duty to state some reasons for assuming an alteration of the position in which you find them in the authorised versions generally in use.

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The various biblical critics who have compiled "The Harmony of Scripture" are agreed that the Evangelists in their sacred writings did not always record events in the chronological order in

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TO THE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST.

which they occurred ; nor are the matters which form the different subjects of Christ's actions and discourses related in regular connexion. Many discourses and circumstances are omitted altogether or abbreviated. Thus, St. Luke, iii. 18, after giving a portion of John the Baptist's address to the Pharisees, Sadducees, and others, says-"And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people." And St. John, xx. 30, 31, xxi. 24, 25, twice mentions the same circumstance-"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written ; but these are written that ye might BELIEVE that JESUS is THE CHRIST, the Son of God: and that BELIEVING YE MIGHT HAVE LIFE THROUGH HIS NAME." Such, then, is the object of the Gospel

TO THE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST. 5

according to St. John, which you must bear in mind throughout the sacred narrative. This expression of St. John's as to Christ's life demonstrates at once what a crowd of thoughts and pressure of recollections the apostle must have laboured under when selecting such matters as were the most essential to be recorded, particularly if, as some suppose, this Gospel was intended as a supplement to the other writings by Matthew, Mark, and Luke. It may have happened, therefore, that, between his desire to select such particulars as were necessary for this purpose, and to give what Christ said before His ascension as exactly as possible, at a time when St. John himself very probably did not altogether comprehend our Lord's meaning in what He delivered on the one hand, and the influence of his knowledge afterwards of the intent of Christ's sayings on the other, some

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