HISTORY OF THE STUDY OF THEOLOGY, VOL. I

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IN MEMORY OF MY FATHER'S FORTIETH YEAR OF SERVICE AS PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY



PREFACE

DURING the winter of 1912-1913, the last of his life, Dr. Briggs gave a course of lectures on the History of the Study of Theology to a select group of students from the Graduate Department of the Union Theological Seminary, New York. In this course he combined the methods of the lecture-room with those of the seminar. The lectures were divided into parts, chapters, and sections. Each section was introduced by a brief statement, summing up the most important of the facts about to be imparted. At the close of each section opportunity was given for the asking of questions and for informal discussion. The most important subjects were further elaborated in papers read by the students, giving the results of their own study and research. Much information was, therefore, given in the classroom in addition to that contained in the written lecture.

The chief difficulty in the preparation of these lectures for publication has been to replace the supplementary material without impairing the integrity of the work, or overstepping the limits of two small volumes. It was decided to keep within the limits set by the outline, to add only what the plan of the work seemed to require, and to give all additional statements of opinion, so far as possible, in the form of quotations.