## CULTURE AND RELIGION IN SOME OF THEIR RELATIONS

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Culture and Religion in Some of Their Relations by J. C. Shairp

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J. C. SHAIRP

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## J. C. SHAIRP,

PRINCIPAL OF THE DAFIED COLLEGE OF ST. SALVAYOR AND SI. LEONARD, ST. ANDREWS.

[Reprinted from the Edinburgh Edition.]



NEW YORK: PUBLISHED BY HURD AND HOUGHTON. Cambridge : Riberside Press. 1872.

### PREFACE.

THIS little book is a small contribution to a great subject. The five Lectures which it contains were delivered, on five successive Saturdays of last Winter Session, to as many of the Students of the United College and others as chose to attend. They were originally written with a view solely to immediate delivery. The publication of them is an afterthought. It is needless to explain my reasons for publishing them, for these could neither increase nor diminish their value, whatever that may be. One object, however, which I hope may be gained by publication is to place them in a permanent form before those for whom they were originally intended. As lectures, meant to be understood on first hearing, they are naturally in a style more popular and diffuse than might have beseemed a regular treatise. They are

#### PREFACE.

printed almost as they were spoken, with the exception of the Fifth Lecture, to which some passages have been added.

It need hardly be said that no attempt is here made at systematic, much less at exhaustive, treatment of the subject. To have aimed at this within the space and in the form to which I have restricted myself, would have been impossible. All I have wished to do is to set forth certain views, which seem to me true in themselves, and vet likely to be passed over too lightly, or set aside too summarily, by the intellectual temper of the time. No satisfactory adjustment of the questions here entertained can, I believe, be reached without assigning to the spiritual side of man's being and of truth a prominence and an importance, which do not seem to have entered into the thoughts of some of the ablest advocates of Culture. Indeed, to many, and these not the most foolish of mankind, Culture seems then only to be worthy of serious regard when it ministers to faith, - when it enables men to see spiritual things more truly and deeply. If it obstructs or dims the vision of these things,

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as sometimes it does, it then ceases to have for them any value.

In handling subjects on which all men have some thoughts, it is impossible exactly to determine where one's own end and those of others begin. Where, however, I have been aware that any thought or expression of thought has been suggested to me by another writer, I have tried to acknowlege it, either by quoting in the text some of the author's words, or by giving a quotation from his works in the Notes. Of the passages printed in the Appendix, some were directly suggestive of the thought in the text, others are merely adduced as confirmations of it. It would have been easy to have increased the number of the Notes, but they were drawn out at a place remote from libraries, and were taken only from those books which happened to be at hand. J. C. SHAIRP.

September 1, 1870.

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