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[As the Chapters of Genesis are treated in regular order, it is unnecessary to give an Index of texts. A glance at the head of each page will at once show the reader his textual position.]

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The whole of the above argument, instead of being based on the assumption that there *is* a God, raises the inquiry, Here is a Universe,—here is a Society,—here is a Book,—how are they to be accounted for? Hence the practical rather than the metaphysical tone of the reasoning. The first verse in Genesis suggests this discussion. Instead, however, of placing this discussion formally under a given chapter and verse, I have thought it better to regard it as arising from the whole spirit and structure of the Bible, as, in my opinion, it unquestionably does. My hope is that the mere chapter-and-verse method of proof will be increasingly distrusted and discarded, and that it will be replaced by such a conception of the genius and temper of the whole Bible as to render at least the narrowest forms of heresy simply impossible.

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That a book which began with the Creation of the heaven and the earth should end with the confining of Joseph, is a circumstance which not only suggests but necessitates the incompleteness of the record. We are evidently entitled to expect a continuation. We are not meant to be satisfied with Genesis. It is but a beginning; not a mechanical beginning which can be arbitrarily determined, but a vital germ whose development can be suppressed only by ignorance or violence. So, whilst we pause, we pause in an attitude of confident expectation.

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### HANDFULS OF PURPOSE" . . . . . 362—363

Texts and subjects whose treatment could not be taken up in direct historical sequence.

- I. "Ye shall be as gods" (Gen. iii. 5).
- II. "God took him" (Gen. v. 24).
- III. "The place of the altar which he made there at the first" (Gen. xiii. 4).
- IV. "And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him" (Gen. xxv. 9).
- V. "I have learned by experience" (Gen. xxx. 27).
- VI. "And Laban called it Jegar-Sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed" (Gen. xxxi. 47).
- VII. "The sun rose upon him" (Gen. xxxii. 31).
- VIII. "And Esau said I have enough, my brother" (Gen. xxxiii. 9).
- IX. "Gad, a troop shall overcome him, but he shall overcome at the last" (Gen. xlix. 19).
- X. "And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him" (Gen. l. 15).

### PANORAMA OF GENESIS . . . . . 364—368