

REGENERATION.

BY

EDMUND H. SEARS.

"The existing state of Christianity amongst those who profess it does not warrant the objection, that all further advance in the development of the perception we possess of its nature and application is impracticable or unnecessary. If we have the perfect conception of Christianity, we are making a lamentably imperfect application of it; for the world, alas! is to a very small extent under its power; if we have *not* the perfect conception of it, then every attempt to regard it from a more lofty moral point of view should be welcomed as a real and earnest attempt for the highest welfare of mankind."—*Morrell*.

GLASGOW:

BELL AND BAIN, ST. ENOCH SQUARE.

1863.

Bell & Bain, Printers, Glasgow.

CONTENTS.

	Page
INTRODUCTION,	5

PART I.

THE NATURAL MAN.

Chapter

I.—THEORIES,	11
II.—HEREDITARY CORRUPTION,	16
III.—ACQUIRED INSTINCTS,	26
IV.—TESTIMONY OF CONSCIOUSNESS,	33
V.—CHILDHOOD,	36
VI.—THE MYSTERY OF DEATH,	41
VII.—THE “ADAM” OF ST. PAUL,	46
VIII.—THE LAW OF DESCENT BENEFICENT,	52

PART II.

THE SPIRITUAL NATURE.

I.—THE HOLY SPIRIT,	61
II.—ITS GENERAL AND SPECIAL INFLUENCE,	67
III.—SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE,	74
IV.—THE PRIMAL INNOCENCE,	82
V.—LIGHT IN DARKNESS,	91
VI.—DISTINCTIONS,	95
VII.—TOTAL DEPRAVITY,	101

PART III.

Chapter	THE NEW MAN.	Page
I.—REGENERATION,	111
II.—CHOICE,	125
III.—THE BOOKS OPENED,	136
IV.—THE BOOKS OPENED,	139
V.—THE BOOKS OPENED,	148
VI.—ANOTHER BOOK OPENED,	153
VII.—CONFLICT AND VICTORY,	167
VIII.—THE MEDIATOR,	174
IX.—GETHSEMANE,	190
X.—THE ATONEMENT,	195
XI.—NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH,	211
XII.—RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT,	216
XIII.—VISTAS,	221

INTRODUCTION.

No higher question can be offered to the human intellect than that of the method of salvation by Jesus Christ. Its unmeasured importance is obvious to us whenever, in contemplative mood, we open the pages of the New Testament, and find that a splendid apparatus of means has been provided; for we know that this would not have been done unless momentous interests were at issue. These two questions, What are we? and Whither do we tend? will at times press painfully upon thoughtful minds, and demand an answer. Ideals of a better state are haunting them, and producing within them unutterable longings after peace.

There are three topics which cannot fail to command the interest and attention of those whose minds are revolving the great problem of life:—

The evil, depravity, and suffering involved in the human condition; the darkness that broods upon the earth and upon our own spirits.

Conceptions of a better state—dreams of perfec-