

THE
ANTIQUITY AND NATURE OF MAN

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REMARKS

ON THE

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ANTIQUITY AND NATURE OF MAN,

IN

REPLY

TO THE

RECENT WORK OF SIR CHARLES LYELL.

BY THE

REV. JAMES BRODIE, A.M.

"Magna est veritas et praevalabit."



EDINBURGH:

JOHNSTONE, HUNTER, AND CO.

LONDON: HAMILTON, ADAMS, AND CO.

1864.

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PREFACE.



IN attempting to reply to the speculations contained in "Lyell's Antiquity of Man," the author of the following pages has endeavoured to state the arguments which Sir Charles employs, and the facts on which they rest, as clearly and as fairly as he possibly could, so that any one perusing the present publication may have the whole question fully before him.

He has not felt himself called on to notice disquisitions, however elaborate, which have no bearing either on the antiquity or on the nature of man, and he has seen no necessity for discussing facts which he was prepared to admit. All that he conceived to be required of him, was to specify the questions under debate, with the evidence brought forward on either side. His treatise, therefore, is brief, because the arguments adduced by Sir Charles, when separated from the mass of incongruous matter in which they are embedded, are but few in number, and do not require any lengthened discussion in order to enable an intelligent reader to form an opinion in regard to them

Some will no doubt regard it as highly presumptuous in one who is utterly unknown to the world of science, to undertake a review of the work of an author so deservedly eminent; but when a man finds that which he believes to be THE TRUTH called into question, duty requires him at all hazards to maintain its cause, and to be no respecter of persons. And those who seek to be fully persuaded in their own minds, in reference to any subject that may be brought under their consideration, will not inquire, Who are the *advocates* by whom any particular opinion in regard to it is maintained? but, What are the *arguments* by which it is supported?

The author has only further to say, that any correction of his statements, or any suggestion tending to illustrate them, will be thankfully attended to.

MONIMAIL, CUPAR FIFE,
Feb. 17, 1864.