

THE
FOUNDATIONS OF BELIEF

BEING

*NOTES INTRODUCTORY TO THE
STUDY OF THEOLOGY*

BY THE

RIGHT HON. ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR

AUTHOR OF 'A DEFENCE OF PHILOSOPHIC DOUBT' ETC.

FIFTH EDITION

LONDON
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
AND NEW YORK
1895

All rights reserved

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PRELIMINARY.	I

PART I

SOME CONSEQUENCES OF BELIEF

CHAPTER

I	NATURALISM AND ETHICS	II
II.	NATURALISM AND ÆSTHETIC	33
III.	NATURALISM AND REASON	67
IV.	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION OF PART I	77

PART II

SOME REASONS FOR BELIEF

I.	THE PHILOSOPHIC BASIS OF NATURALISM	89
II.	IDEALISM; AFTER SOME RECENT ENGLISH WRITINGS	137
III.	PHILOSOPHY AND RATIONALISM.	156
IV.	RATIONALIST ORTHODOXY	175

CONTENTS

PART III

SOME CAUSES OF BELIEF		PAGE
CHAPTER		
I.	CAUSES OF EXPERIENCE	185
II.	AUTHORITY AND REASON	194

PART IV

SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS A PROVISIONAL PHILOSOPHY

I.	THE GROUNDWORK	233
II.	BELIEFS AND FORMULAS	251
III.	BELIEFS, FORMULAS, AND REALITIES	263
IV.	'ULTIMATE SCIENTIFIC IDEAS'	280
V.	SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY	290
VI.	SUGGESTIONS TOWARDS A PROVISIONAL UNIFICATION	321

NOTE

PART II., Chapter II., of the following Essay appeared in 1893 in the October number of 'Mind.' Part I., Chapter I., was delivered as a Lecture to the Ethical Society of Cambridge in the spring of 1893, and subsequently appeared in the July number of the 'International Journal of Ethics' in the present year. Though published separately, both these chapters were originally written for the present volume. The references to 'Philosophic Doubt' which occur from time to time in the Notes, especially at the beginning of Part II., are to the only edition of that book which has as yet been published. It is now out of print, and copies are not easy to procure ; but if I have time to prepare a new edition, care will be taken to prevent any confusion which might arise from a different numbering of the chapters.

I desire to acknowledge the kindness of those who have read through the proof-sheets of these Notes and made suggestions upon them. This somewhat ungrateful labour was undertaken by my friends, the Rev. E. S. Talbot, Professor Andrew

Seth, the Rev. James Robertson, and last, but very far from least, my brother, Mr. G. W. Balfour, M.P., and my brother-in-law, Professor Henry Sidgwick. None of these gentlemen are, of course, in any way responsible for the views herein advocated, with which some of them, indeed, by no means agree. I am the more beholden to them for the assistance they have been good enough to render me.

A. J. B.

WHITTINGEHAME, *September* 1894.