

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE BIBLE

FROM THE

MONUMENTS OF EGYPT.

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By W. C. TAYLOR, L.L.D.

LONDON:

CHARLES TILT, FLEET STREET.

1838.

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LONDON:
JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT, CHANCERY LANE.

TO
THE MOST NOBLE
THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, K.G.

THIS LITTLE WORK IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY
HIS OBLIGED AND GRATEFUL SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR

PREFACE.



THE early numbers of the magnificent, but expensive works on Egyptian Antiquities by Rosellini, Champollion, and Cailliaud, excited in the learned world a greater sensation than the discovery of Herculaneum and Pompeii. They brought from the tombs and temples of Egypt the minutest particulars of the public and private life of the earliest civilized nation, which had been hidden for nearly thirty centuries: they made us better acquainted with the court of the Pharaohs, than we are with that of the Plantagenets. The cost of these livraisons—the expenses of whose publication could only be defrayed from royal resources—limited their circulation to the wealthy few; but the editor of the *Athenaeum*, anxious to gratify public curiosity, procured, at a great expense, engravings from the most characteristic of these paintings, so far as published, and engaged the author of this little volume to write descriptions of them. A slight examination of these records of antiquity sufficed to shew that they were not only valuable illustrations of the earliest stages of civilization, but that they afforded important, because undesigned, confirmations of the historical veracity of the Old Testament; and successive portions of the works above mentioned have added so many confirmations, that they amount to a new and extensive class of Scripture Evidences. It seemed, therefore, advisable to enter upon the subject afresh: sixty-three illustrations have been added to those already prepared; and a careful comparison of the monuments with the Bible has enabled the author