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978-1-108-02145-6 - An Essay in Aid of a Grammar of Assent

John Henry Newman

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An Essay in Aid of a Grammar of Assent

John Henry Newman (1801–90) was a theologian and vicar at the university church in Oxford who became a leading thinker in the Oxford Movement, which sought to return Anglicanism to its Catholic roots. Newman converted to Catholicism in 1845 and became a cardinal in 1879. He published widely during his lifetime; his work included novels, poetry and the famous hymn ‘Lead, Kindly Light’, but he is most esteemed for his sermons and works of religious thought. This volume, first published in 1870, is an ambitious examination of the logical processes that underpin religious faith. Newman discusses how it is possible to believe what cannot be proven empirically, and postulates that the mind has the facility to bridge the logic gap to allow for humans to believe in things that they do not fully comprehend. A lucid and masterful work which remains relevant to contemporary discussions of faith.

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108021456

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2010

This edition first published 1870
This digitally printed version 2010

ISBN 978-1-108-02145-6 Paperback

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LONDON :
GILBERT AND RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,
ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

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BY
JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, D.D.
OF THE ORATORY.

Non in dialecticâ complacuit Deo salvum facere populum suum.
ST. AMBROSE.

SECOND EDITION.

London :
BURNS, OATES, & CO.,
17 & 18, PORTMAN STREET, AND 63, PATERNOSTER ROW.
1870.

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TO
EDWARD BELLASIS,
SERJEANT AT LAW,
IN REMEMBRANCE
OF A LONG, EQUABLE, SUNNY FRIENDSHIP ;
IN GRATITUDE
FOR CONTINUAL KINDNESSES SHOWN TO ME,
FOR AN UNWEARIED ZEAL IN MY BEHALF,
FOR A TRUST IN ME WHICH HAS NEVER WAVERED,
AND A PROMPT, EFFECTUAL SUCCOUR AND SUPPORT
IN TIMES OF SPECIAL TRIAL,
FROM HIS AFFECTIONATE
J. H. N.

February 21, 1870.

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