PREFATORY NOTE

THE system of signs used in this book to indicate the pronunciation of certain words does not profess to be strictly scientific or logical, but it aims at being as simple and practical as it can be made, and is based so far as is possible upon the use of signs which have long been familiar. The vowel, or vowels, of every separate syllable are all marked as they are to be pronounced; and where a consonant, or consonants, are capable of more than one pronunciation, the right mode of pronouncing the consonant is also indicated. It is claimed for this book that it goes further in these directions than any previous book, and that it also indicates the pronunciation of certain words, such as 'leviathan', 'homer', 'cherub', &c., which cannot be called proper names, but which might present difficulties to an unskilled reader. The pronunciation adopted in every case is not intended to be that of the Hebrew and Greek forms of the names, but that which is generally used in the public reading of the Bible. In consequence of this the same syllables which occur so often in different words are not always marked to be pronounced in the same way.

An endeavour has been made, in one respect, to simplify matters by assigning no separate notation to what are called *intermediate* sounds. It seems to be quite possible, by the use of the long (¯) and short (˘) marks, to indicate with sufficient accuracy how the proper names containing these sounds are to be pronounced.

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TABLE OF SIGNS USED IN THIS BOOK

EVERY effort has been made that the signs used in this book should be as few and simple as possible.

The words of which the pronunciation is marked are divided into syllables by short hyphens (-). The syllable on which the most stress is to be laid in reading is marked (´). In compound names two accents are often introduced. The longer hyphen (–) indicates the division into parts of compound names so far as it is noted in the Authorized Version.

ä	*as in*	ah, arm, father	ў	*as in*	typical, fully
ă	″	abet, hat, dilemma	a̅a̅	=	a *of* am
ā	″	tame	a͡a	=	a *of* fare
â	″	fare	æ	*as in*	mediæval
ạ	″	call	a͡i	″	aisle
ĕ	″	met, her, second	ai	″	hail
ē	″	mete	a̅o̅	=	o *of* alone
ë	=	a *in* tame	a͡u	*as in*	maul
ī	*as in*	fine	e͡e	″	heed
ĭ	″	him, fir, plentiful	e͡i	=	i *of* fine
î	″	machine	eu	*as in*	neuter
ị	″	peculiar	e̅w̅	″	lewd
ō	″	alone	o͡i	″	oil
ŏ	″	on, protect	ç	″	celestial
ô	″	nor	ch	″	character
ọ	″	son	c̅ı̅	″	delicious
ū	″	tune	ġ	″	giant
û	″	rude	ṡ	″	his
ŭ	″	us	s̅ı̅	″	adhesion
ụ	″	turner	T̅h̅	″	Thomas
ȳ	″	lyre	tı̅	″	attraction

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