

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROLEGOMENA

PREPARATION FOR NATURAL PHILOSOPHY

- I. The Term 'World'. – II. Three Senses of 'World'. – III. Christ, the Perfect World. – IV. The World of Which we Shall Here Speak. – V. On the Object of Cosmology, or Natural Philosophy. – VI. It is Clear that Natural Philosophy is a Science. – VII. Division of Natural Philosophy. – VIII. On the fortune/history of Natural Philosophy – IX. Where the study of Natural Philosophy should be Treated. – X. Authors who have Written about Natural Philosophy. – XI. On the Method to be Followed in studying Natural Philosophy.....34

FIRST TREATISE

ON THE WORLD WITH RESPECT TO ITS EFFICIENT CAUSE

FIRST QUESTION

On the Peculiar Characters of the World

FIRST ARTICLE

Whether the world is simple and something per se one or something composed

I. Monism. – II. Defenders of Monism. – III. The Three Forms of Monism. – IV. – First Conclusion: Monism, in whichever form it be proposed, is self-contradictory.” – V. Objections. – VI. Second Conclusion: “All possible composition is to be ascribed to the world.”.....44

SECOND ARTICLE

Whether the world is a contingent being

I. Meaning of the Question. – II. Errors. – III. The First System is Refuted Easily. – IV. Uncaused Matter. – V. Conclusion: “Uncreated matter existing eternally is intrinsically contradictory.” – VI. On the Fortuitous Coinciding of Atoms. – VII. The System of Active Evolution. – VIII. Active Evolution in many ways results in absurdity. – IX. The System of Hylozoism. – X. The System of Logical Evolution. – XI. What Kind of Necessity is Found in the World: on the law of inertia and the indestructibility of matter. – XII. The Last System is Pantheism.....52

THIRD ARTICLE

On pantheism

I. The Notion of Pantheism. – II. Defenders of Pantheism. – III. Idealist Pantheism. Fichte. – IV. Schelling. – V. Hegel. – VI. Conclusion: “Pantheism, whether it be considered in general or under the successive forms that it assumes, is altogether absurd.” – VII. Refutation in Particular. – VIII. On Certain Other Forms of Pantheism. – IX. On Panentheism. – X. On Theosophical Pantheism. – XI. Difficulties Resolved.....64

SECOND QUESTION

On the true origin of the world

FIRST ARTICLE

Who is the author of the world

- I. Conclusion: “The author of the world must be a necessary *ens*, distinct from the world, endowed with intellect and will, containing in Himself all the perfections of things.” – II. Objection.....78

SECOND ARTICLE

Whether the world is from God by way of emanation

- I. What emanationism is. – II. Defenders of Emanationism. – III. Conclusion: “Emanationism is intrinsically contradictory.” – IV. Objections.....83