

**SOME EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
CHURCHMEN: GLIMPSES OF
ENGLISH CHURCH LIFE IN
THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649286003

Some eighteenth century churchmen: glimpses of English church life in the eighteenth century
by G. Lacey May

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

G. LACEY MAY

**SOME EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
CHURCHMEN: GLIMPSES OF
ENGLISH CHURCH LIFE IN
THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**



RICHARD WATSON

FROM THE PICTURE BY G. ROMNEY, R.A.

Frontispiece

STUDIES IN CHURCH HISTORY

SOME EIGHTEENTH
CENTURY CHURCH-
MEN; GLIMPSES OF ENGLISH
CHURCH LIFE IN THE EIGH-
TEENTH CENTURY

BY

G. LACEY MAY, M.A.

LECTOR OF EASTON, HANTS.

AUTHOR OF

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST," ETC.

LONDON

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE

NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1920

LOAN STACK

BR 767

M3

CONTENTS

SAMUEL JOHNSON

- Popular ignorance of Johnson and his work—Sketch of his life—His greatness seen in (a) his independence, (b) his extraordinary sanity and common sense, (c) his love of humanity—His character based upon religion—His sincerity and prayerfulness—His sense of sin and fear of death—His religious habits—His views more Catholic than those of his time—His tenderness Page 13

GEORGE WHITEFIELD

- His early life—Connection with the Oxford Methodists—Ordination and first work—Work in Georgia—Outdoor preaching in England and opposition—Savannah and the Orphanage—Building of "the Tabernacle"—The Cambuslang Revival—Fashionable hearers—Whitefield's zeal, ill-health and death—His Churchmanship—His great influence due to (a) his oratorical powers, (b) his love of souls, (c) his disinterestedness, (d) his love for Christ 33

JOHN WESLEY

- His greatness—His parents and home training—Charterhouse and Oxford—Ordination and College Fellowship—Epworth—The "Holy Club"—Work in Georgia—The Moravians and their influence—In England, with the "Societies"—Outdoor preaching undertaken—The ignorance and immorality of the English people—The sloth of the clergy—Wesley's lay-preachers and "ordinations" arising out of the needs of the times—"Manifestations" at his preaching and opposition—Wesley's various organisations for confirming the newly-awakened—His immense labours—Marriage—Clerical helpers—His death—Wesley's Churchmanship—Modern Methodism 63

JOHN NEWTON

- Evangelical writers—Newton's early life, degradation and conversion—Marriage and ordination—Olney; friendship with Scott, Cowper and other religious leaders—Incumbent of St. Mary Woolnoth—His personal influence—His hymns—The *Cardiphonia*, a mirror of the writer's personality—Newton's favourite themes, human depravity and the all-sufficiency of Christ—His certainty of God's overruling Providence—His power of analysis, and wise sayings 92

WILLIAM COWPER

- The charm of the eighteenth century—Cowper's early days, insanity, conversion and recovery—Olney, Mrs. Unwin and Newton—His writings and growing fame—His later days—Cowper as Churchman—His daily life and Puritan spirit—Criticism of clergy and Church services—The influence and naturalness of his poetry—His charm as a letter-writer—Three specimens 109

BISHOP PORTEUS

- Eighteenth century bishops—Beilby Porteus' career, a forerunner of modern episcopal activities—His *Primary Visitation Charge* to the London Diocese—Its references to Bishop Lowth, non-residence of clergy, scarcity of Sunday services, Sunday-schools, Church singing—The Bishop's efforts for the better observance of Holy Days, etc., for the anti-slavery movement, and for Foreign Missions, especially the S.P.G. plantations in the West Indies . . . 127

BISHOP WATSON

- Latitudinarian and political bishops—Watson's life as told in his *Anecdotes*—His education, and appointment to Professorships of Chemistry and Divinity, and to See of Llandaff—His various interests and neglect of episcopal work—The age's acquiescence in episcopal sloth—The Bishop's indefinite Christianity, and eagerness for preferment—Anecdotes of George III—Story of a Confirmation 143

HANNAH MORE

- Her early life and quickly earned success as a playwright and poet—Friendship with Garrick, Johnson, Horace Walpole and "Bluestocking" ladies—Retirement to Cowslip Green, and growing seriousness of purpose—Helped by Wilberforce in efforts for education of poor—Her later writings—Her part in English literature and life 166

GEORGE CRABBE

- Apprentice to a surgeon, tax-collector, apothecary, writer and priest—Domestic chaplain—Pluralist and absentee from his parishes—His poems—Crabbe's Churchmanship, judged from his writings—His sympathy with, and close knowledge of, the poor—His *Tales*. 185

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

- Childhood and Cambridge—Rapid success as a politician—Conversion—Efforts for reformation of morals and for abolition of slave-trade—Evils of the trade—Wilberforce an excellent Parliamentary leader against it—Opposition, and prolonged labours—His friendship with Hannah More—His personal piety and austerity—Concern at the state of English religion—Marriage and publication of *Practical Christianity*—Anti-slavery efforts successful at last 201

