

HISTORICAL ESSAYS

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Historical essays by J. B. Lightfoot

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J. B. LIGHTFOOT

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BY THE LATE

J. B. LIGHTFOOT, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D.

LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM

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PREFATORY NOTE

THE Lectures included in this volume were written at different times before Bishop Lightfoot was called to the See of Durham ; and they present his character and reading under a somewhat different aspect from that which is shown in his writings that have been already published.

The Lectures on "Christian Life in the Second and Third Centuries" were delivered in St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th and 26th November and 3rd December 1872. The Lectures on "England during the Latter Half of the Thirteenth Century," based on earlier papers, were delivered before the Philosophical Institution in Edinburgh in February 1874. The General Election filled the newspapers at the time, and not much notice was taken of them. The Lecture on "Donne" formed one of a course of lectures delivered in St. James's Church, Westminster, in 1877, on "the Classic Preachers of the English

Church." The fragment on "The Chapel of St. Peter and the Manor-House of Auckland" was written at the close of the Bishop's life; and volumes of the publications of the Surtees Society, which are in the Library of the Castle, witness to the interest and zeal with which he investigated the history of the building which he adorned with splendid munificence.

Later discoveries have in parts modified the opinions which are expressed in the Lectures; but it has seemed best to leave them just as they were written. Their charm and value lie in the life and warmth with which a master in historical art has sketched some characteristics of the two periods in which lie the roots of our Christian life and of our national life.

The unfinished Essay on "Auckland Castle," while it establishes beyond doubt the nature and extent of Bishop Cosin's work and the original use of the present chapel, does not touch on the difficult and complicated problem of the date of the arcade and other early fragments which it includes. But though incomplete, the Essay is a remarkable example of the enthusiasm with which the Bishop threw himself into inquiries, foreign to the general line of his studies, which were suggested by the circumstances of his life. He gave himself without reserve to all that fell within the range of his immediate duties.

In this lay the secret of his strength and of his happiness. It was a kind of martyrdom to him to leave Cambridge; but when the change was once made, Cambridge was forgotten in the wider activities of Durham.

The Trustees owe their heartiest thanks to the Bishop of Adelaide (Dr. Harmer) for preparing the Lectures for the Press, and to the Master of University College, Durham (Dr. Plummer), for completing the work which Dr. Harmer was obliged to leave unfinished.

B. F. D.

AUCKLAND CASTLE,

12th July 1895.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE
LATE JOSEPH BARBER LIGHTFOOT, LORD BISHOP OF
DURHAM.

"I BEQUEATH all my personal Estate not hereinbefore
"otherwise disposed of unto [my Executors] upon trust to
"pay and transfer the same unto the Trustees appointed
"by me under and by virtue of a certain Indenture of
"Settlement creating a Trust to be known by the name
"of 'The Lightfoot Fund for the Diocese of Durham'
"and bearing even date herewith but executed by me
"immediately before this my Will to be administered
"and dealt with by them upon the trusts for the pur-
"poses and in the manner prescribed by such Indenture
"of Settlement."

EXTRACT FROM THE INDENTURE OF SETTLEMENT OF
"THE LIGHTFOOT FUND FOR THE DIOCESE OF
DURHAM."

"WHEREAS the Bishop is the Author of and is
"absolutely entitled to the Copyright in the several
"Works mentioned in the Schedule hereto, and for the