

**LECTURES ON APOSTOLICAL
SUCCESSION IN THE CHURCH OF
ENGLAND: BEING AN EXPOSITION AND
APPLICATION OF THE TEACHING OF
THE LATE REV. ARTHUR WEST HADDAN**

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Lectures on Apostolical Succession in the Church of England: Being an Exposition and Application of the Teaching of the Late Rev. Arthur West Haddan by William Jones Seabury

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WILLIAM JONES SEABURY

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LECTURES
ON
APOSTOLICAL SUCCESSION IN THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND

BEING
AN EXPOSITION AND APPLICATION OF THE TEACHING
OF THE LATE
REV. ARTHUR WEST HADDAN, B.D.
(SOMETIME FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD, AND RECTOR OF
BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH)
IN HIS TREATISE ON THAT SUBJECT
(RIVINGTONS, 1869)

BY
WILLIAM JONES SEABURY, D.D.
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ELIZABETH LUDLOW PROFESSOR OF ECCLESIASTICAL POLITY AND
LAW IN THE GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW YORK

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PREFACE.

THE treatise of the late Mr. Haddan, entitled *Apostolical Succession in the Church of England*, has been one of the text-books in the department of Ecclesiastical Polity and Law in the General Theological Seminary for many years. It has been used with a considerable measure of satisfaction, so far as could be ascertained, on the part of the students, and with an increasing appreciation of its value on the part of the professor. Considered as a statement of the doctrine of which it treats, and as an aid to those who seek to understand it, and to disentangle it from the misconceptions in which, by manifold controversies, it has been involved, it is singularly well adapted for a text-book—a book, that is to say, which a teacher may advantageously use as a text for the instruction which he desires to impart. It is characterized, too, not less by its candour and moderation, than by the comprehensive and exact learning, and the remarkable power of condensation, which doubtless led the late Dean Church to refer to it as the final authority on the subject.¹

But although first published so recently as 1869, it has been found of late a matter of some difficulty for the students, even with that observance of *tradition* to which they are proverbially addicted, to obtain a sufficient number of copies for use in the course; and in the present year, there appearing

¹ Quoted in the notice of Haddan in Stephens and Lee's *Dictionary of National Biography*.

no likelihood of the issue of another edition of the work, the alternative was forced upon me, either to abandon its use altogether, or to give such lectures on it as would convey to the students at least a part of the valuable treasure which it contains. In the endeavour to carry out the latter plan, I subjected the book to a careful analysis intended to present, as far as possible, in an affirmative way, teaching which, in the author's method, is to a considerable extent negatively and defensively stated : and, in following the scheme thus indicated, I endeavoured to express the meaning of the author as I understood it ; using his language or my own, as seemed most suitable to the purpose which I entertained ; quite freely intermingling with the author's words my own turns of expression, and comments explanatory or additional—intent only upon imparting such knowledge of the subject as, with the instruction of the author, and others in the same line, might be in this way conveniently applied.

Nearing the conclusion of this endeavour I was urged to the publication of the lectures, on the ground of their probable usefulness not only to those who could not obtain the book, but also to some who might be so happy as to possess it ; for, with all its value, it is a book which cannot by many be clearly apprehended without labour, and which is on that account not unfit to be interpreted. In assenting to this request I have had no other wish than such as is implied in the reason assigned for it. I should earnestly deprecate the imputation of having endeavoured either to improve upon the book or to furnish a substitute for it. My effort, rather, has been to supplement and extend the usefulness of a work to which I feel myself under lasting obligation.

W. J. S.

ANNUNCIATION RECTORY, NEW YORK,
Feast of the Annunciation, 1893.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMORANDA

NOTED FROM

STEPHENS AND LEE'S DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY.

ARTHUR WEST HADDAN was born August 31, 1816. He entered Brasenose, Oxford, 1834; was elected Scholar of Trinity, June 15, 1835; graduated B. A., 1837, afterward taking the degrees of M. A. and B. D.; and became a Fellow of Trinity College in 1839.

Haddan was deeply affected by the Oxford movement, and much influenced by Isaac Williams, then a tutor in Trinity. The special effect of the movement in that college was to lead its more distinguished advocates to the study of history, in order to maintain the historical position and claims of the Church. From the first, Haddan never swerved from his loyalty to the Church, or faltered in defence of its Apostolic character.

Ordained deacon in 1840, he acted for about a year as curate to John Henry Newman at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in Oxford. He was ordained priest in 1842, and about this time engaged in work for the Anglo-Catholic Library, editing, with great care and learning, five volumes of Bramhall's works, and six volumes of Thorndike's works, in that collection. He also brought out, in connection with Professor Stubbs after-

ward Bishop of Oxford, the first volume of the great work, *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents*, founded on the collections of Spelman and Wilkins. His treatise on *Apostolical Succession in the Church of England* came out in 1869; and two editions appear to have followed his death, one in 1879 and the other in 1883. Though remembered chiefly for works on ecclesiastical history, his attainments were also great in biblical criticism, theology, philosophy, and classical scholarship. A man of singular modesty and unselfishness, he never obtained preferment, save to the poorly endowed living from his college, and the barren title of honorary Canon of Worcester. His devotion to study, and the toils of his literary pursuits, did not prevent him from engaging with earnestness in his pastoral work at Barton-on-the-Heath, to which he was much attached. He died February 8, 1873, *æet.* fifty-six.

ANALYSIS.

PART I.

*APOSTOLICAL SUCCESSION AS A DOCTRINE; AND AS
MAINTAINED IN HOLY SCRIPTURE, IN
THE PRIMITIVE CHURCH, AND
IN THE CHURCH OF ENG-
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LECTURE I.

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