

**THE DOCTRINE OF
THE CHURCH IN
SCOTTISH THEOLOGY**

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The doctrine of the church in Scottish theology by John MacPherson & C. G. M'Crie

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JOHN MACPHERSON & C. G. M'CRIE

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In accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust by the late Mr Macfie of Airds, relative to the Chalmers' Lectureship, there is sent herewith a copy of Mr Macpherson's Lectures—
"The Doctrine of the Church in Scottish Theology."

Edinburgh, July 1903.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH IN
SCOTTISH THEOLOGY

THE
DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH
IN
SCOTTISH THEOLOGY

The Sixth Series of the Chalmers Lectures

BY THE LATE

JOHN MACPHERSON, M.A.

AUTHOR OF "COMMENTARY ON THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS," "CHRISTIAN
DOGMATICS," "A HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND," ETC.

EDITED BY

C. G. M'CRIE, D.D.

Edinburgh
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1903

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EXTRACT FROM THE DEED INSTITUTING THE
CHALMERS LECTURESHIP.

(*The Deed being dated 26th May 1880.*)

"I, ROBERT MACFIE, Esq. of Airds and Oban, considering that I feel deeply interested in the maintenance of the principles of the Free Church of Scotland, have transferred . . . the sum of £5000 sterling for the purpose of founding a Lectureship in memory of the late THOMAS CHALMERS, D.L., LL.D., under the following conditions: namely—1. The Lectureship shall . . . be called *The Chalmers Lectureship*; 2. The Lecturer shall hold the appointment for four years, and shall be entitled . . . to one-half of the income . . .; 3. The subject shall be 'Headship of Christ over His Church and its Independent Spiritual Jurisdiction'; 4. The Lecturer shall be bound to deliver publicly a Course of not fewer than six Lectures . . . in Edinburgh, in Glasgow, and in Aberdeen; 5. The Lecturer shall be bound, within a year, to print and publish at his own risk not fewer than 1500 copies . . . and deposit three copies in the libraries of the Free Church Colleges; 6. One-half of the balance of the income . . . shall be laid out in furnishing with a copy all the Ministers and Missionaries of the Free Church."

EDITOR'S PREFACE

THE Rev. John Macpherson was born at Greenock in 1847. After graduating at the University of Glasgow, and receiving his theological training in the Free Church Divinity Hall of that city, he gave four-and-twenty years of his life to ministerial work at Findhorn, a fishing village in Morayshire. On retiring from this sphere of labour, he found his home in Portobello, where he died suddenly on the 31st of March 1902.

As was written regarding him at the time of his death by one who knew him intimately, "Mr Macpherson was an accomplished scholar, a solid theologian, an able and wise defender of the faith, a thoughtful Evangelical preacher, a staunch and loyal friend, and a Christian man, absolutely true, fearless, and uncompromising." A diligent student and a copious writer, he enriched theological and historical literature with numerous translations of standard German works, with Commentaries, Dictionaries, and Handbooks of sterling value. The latest production of his pen was "A History of the Church in Scotland," published in 1901.

Before that date he had been appointed Chalmers Lecturer, and had chosen for the subject of his course