

**THE EARLY CHURCH IN THE
LIGHT OF THE
MONUMENTS; A STUDY IN
CHRISTIAN ARCHOLOGY**

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The early church in the light of the monuments; a study in Christian archology by Arthur
Stapylton Barnes

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ARTHUR STAPYLTON BARNES

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LIGHT OF THE
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CHRISTIAN ARCHOLOGY**



FROM A SARCOPHAGUS, PERHAPS REPRESENTING THE STATUE OF
OUR LORD AT BANEAS

From Marnechi's "I Monumenti del Museo Cristiano Pio-Lateranense"
(Milan: Ulrico Hoepli)

THE EARLY CHURCH
IN THE
LIGHT OF THE MONUMENTS

A STUDY IN CHRISTIAN ARCHÆOLOGY

BY

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EDITORS' PREFACE.

THIS series of Handbooks is designed to meet a need, which, the Editors believe, has been widely felt, and which results in great measure from the predominant importance attached to Dogmatic and Moral Theology in the studies preliminary to the Priesthood. That the first place must of necessity be given to these subjects will not be disputed. But there remains a large outlying field of professional knowledge which is always in danger of being crowded out in the years before ordination, and the practical utility of which may not be fully realised until some experience of the ministry has been gained. It will be the aim of the present series to offer the sort of help which is dictated by such experience, and its developments will be largely guided by the suggestions, past and future, of the Clergy themselves. To provide Textbooks for Dogmatic Treatises is not contemplated—at any rate not at the outset. On the other hand, the pastoral work of the missionary priest will be kept constantly in view, and the series will also deal with those historical and liturgical aspects of Catholic

belief and practice which are every day being brought more into prominence.

That the needs of English-speaking countries are, in these respects, exceptional, must be manifest to all. In point of treatment it seems desirable that the volumes should be popular rather than scholastic, but the Editors hope that by the selection of writers, fully competent in their special subjects, the information given may always be accurate and abreast of modern research.

The kind approval of this scheme by His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster, in whose Diocese these manuals are edited, has suggested that the series should be introduced to the public under the general title of *THE WESTMINSTER LIBRARY*. It is hoped, however, that contributors may also be found among the distinguished Clergy of Ireland and America, and that the Westminster Library will be representative of Catholic scholarship in all English-speaking countries.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTORY	xiii

PART I.

THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IN THE FIRST THREE CENTURIES.

CHAP.

I. THE APOSTLES AT ROME	1
II. THE EARLIEST CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY	19
III. THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS	34
IV. THE COLLEGIA AND THE CATACOMBS	53
V. THE CHRISTIANISING OF ROME	67

PART II.

THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS TO CHRISTIAN DOGMA.

I. THE SYMBOLISM OF THE EARLY CHURCH	81
II. THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS TO THE PRIMACY OF THE HOLY SEE	92
III. THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS WITH REGARD TO HOLY BAPTISM	111
IV. THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS TO THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST	126

CHAP.	PAGE
V. THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS AS TO OTHER RITES AND CEREMONIES OF THE CHURCH	138
VI. THE WITNESS OF THE MONUMENTS TO THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS	149
VII. PORTRAITS AND REPRESENTATIONS	165

PART III.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHURCH BUILDINGS.

I. CHRISTIAN EDIFICES BEFORE CONSTANTINE	181
II. THE BASILICAS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHURCH ARCHITECTURE	203