

**SPANISH  
PROTESTANTS IN THE  
SIXTEENTH CENTURY**

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Spanish protestants in the sixteenth century by C. A. Wilkens & Rachel Challice

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**C. A. WILKENS & RACHEL CHALLICE**

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the Sixteenth Century

# Spanish Protestants in the Sixteenth Century

Compiled from the German of

C. A. Wilkens

Doctor of Theology and Philosophy

by Rachel Challice

With an Introduction by the late  
Most Reverend Lord Plunket, D.D.  
Archbishop of Dublin

And Preface by the  
Rev. Canon Fleming, B.D.  
Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Queen



London  
William Heinemann  
1897

## COMPILER'S NOTE

A LEARNED and deeply-interesting work, entitled, *Die Geschichte des Spanischen Protestantismus im Sechszehnten Jahrhundert*, by C. A. Wilkens, Doctor of Theology and Philosophy at Kalksburg, near Vienna, was published at Gütersloh in 1888.

Seeing that the subject was little known in England, and the material was chiefly drawn from Spanish, Italian, and German writers, it seemed a pity that it should be a closed book to those interested in Protestantism, who are not conversant with the German language.

It was, therefore, with the author's kind permission that I entered on the two years' labour necessary for the translation of the work into English. Unfortunately, when completed, the book was considered too ponderous for general readers, so the original translation, although still intact, has never

## COMPILER'S NOTE

been published. The interest now awakened in the subject of Spanish Protestantism by the present Church Reform movement in the Peninsula made me feel that the valuable information contained in Dr. Wilkens's work was a light hidden under a bushel, so I have, with the author's consent, reduced the translation of the book to half its original size, and compiled it in a form more adapted to the general reader.

I can only trust that the fact of the work having had to go through the double process of translation and condensation will lead the public to view its shortcomings with leniency. I must not conclude without adding that I am deeply indebted to the late Lord Plunket for his revision of the manuscript, and I shall always feel grateful for his Grace's kind concession to add to this little book on the Spanish Protestantism of the sixteenth century some information as to the similar movement in the nineteenth century, which he so nobly supported.

RACHEL CHALLICE.



## In Memoriam

*The translator and compiler of this interesting work asked me, some little time ago, to write the Dedication of it to the late lamented Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin. He had not only accepted her dedication of the work to him, but enhanced his kind consent by the Introduction he wrote for the book. His premature death has come just after he had finished his words; and it may be said that he had hardly laid down his pen when his summons came to lay down his life-work at his Master's feet: for he was under his last illness when he completed his chapter.*

*This sad event changes my words of Dedication into words "In Memoriam."*

*In the famous record of Archbishops of Dublin, Lord Plunket takes his own place, the Peer Archbishop, in the storied line of Magee, Whately, and Trench. The Church in Ireland stands under the shadow of a great sorrow by his irreparable loss. It is not my province to attempt to delineate the high, noble, and Christian qualities of his character. Let this be done by those far better qualified for the task.*

## IN MEMORIAM

*He was an earnest, zealous, and laborious worker, and it was often a wonder to many how he was physically and mentally able to endure the strain and weight of labour which he marked out for himself, and so conscientiously strove to fulfil. While men who are examples of untiring activity are still with us, we admire them, but we frequently fail to measure the services they render till the moment they are gone. Then we begin to realise the loss we have sustained. He was a marvellous worker: his labour never flagged. The midnight oil was often burnt, and when weary toilers were at rest, night frequently found him laboriously at work. So great a strain must have had an injurious effect on the health of one never very strong; but he acted out the words of his Lord, "I must work while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." He was distinguished by great earnestness of character, genial kindness of heart, and strong tenacity of purpose, so that what he undertook to do, he never left half-done.*

*This was evinced in a remarkable degree in his Spanish work, which his dauntless and courageous heart carried on almost single-handed and alone, in the face of discouragement, difficulty, and opposition. It is too close to us yet to be judged by*

## IN MEMORIAM

*results. Contemporaries are not impartial judges. But though many eminent Churchmen differed as to the wisdom of the course he pursued in the case of the Spanish Episcopate, none differed as to his dauntless courage and imperturbable good temper at every point of the controversy. This was the natural result of the Archbishop's liberal spirit and large-hearted tolerance. He saw good in all schools of thought, and in all shades of Churchism. While he was unflinching in his principles, he recognised the difference between men's opinions and their principles. It would be a wretched world if we all had the same political and ecclesiastical opinions. It was because he recognised this that, while he was conscientious, firm, and brave, he was also gentle, considerate, and charitable.*

*The Most Reverend Primate of all Ireland, Dr. Alexander—one of the brightest ornaments of any Church—in his most eloquent words on the death of Lord Plunket, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, summed up the character of the late Archbishop in a Trinity of wisdom—*

*“What a man says—is something :  
What a man does—is more :  
What a man is—that is most.”*