

**THOMAS HOOKER:  
PREACHER, FOUNDER,  
DEMOCRAT**

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Thomas Hooker: preacher, founder, democrat by George Leon Walker

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**GEORGE LEON WALKER**

**THOMAS HOOKER:  
PREACHER, FOUNDER,  
DEMOCRAT**





"MAKERS OF AMERICA"

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# THOMAS HOOKER

Preacher, Founder, Democrat

BY

GEORGE LEON WALKER

NEW YORK

DODD, MEAD, AND COMPANY

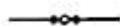
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## P R E F A C E.



ONE striking difference in the advantages possessed by a biographer of the more distinguished personages of the Massachusetts and of the Connecticut colonies is the comparative destitution, in the latter case, of the aids afforded by contemporaneous diaries, histories, and portraits. The lack of such writings in the Connecticut annals is a little surprising; the want of portraits may be considerably accounted for by the remoter and poorer conditions of the inland settlement.

No portrait or other contemporaneous representation of Mr. Hooker remains. The picture which prefaces this volume is taken from Niehaus's statue, ordered by the Commonwealth of Connecticut for the State Capitol; in the making of which the artist compared the likenesses of various and widely separated members of Mr. Hooker's lineal posterity, among whom exists, however, a strong family resemblance. Attired thus in the characteristic costume of the time, the figure affords a not improbably fair representation of the great Founder of the Colony.



The present writer had occasion, in 1884, in narrating the two hundred and fifty years' history of the Hartford Church, of which Mr. Hooker was the first pastor, to publish, in a volume of local imprint and limited circulation, together with the biographies of subsequent pastors, the story of Mr. Hooker also. Subsequent repeated visits to the scenes of Mr. Hooker's English ministrations, as well as investigations at home, have added to the facts there narrated. Still, in addressing on the same theme the wider constituency of the *MAKERS OF AMERICA* series, the writer could not, without awkwardness and even affectation, avoid the frequent use of language in which he had already narrated the same biographical and historical incidents. He has therefore drawn without hesitation on his own previous statements, so far as the altered proportions of a separate biography and added facts and illustrations suited him to do.

The valuable bibliography of Mr. Hooker's published writings (found in Appendix II.) was compiled by J. Hammond Trumbull, LL.D., to whom indebtedness is due, also, for the discovery and rescue from oblivion of the most important manuscript documents illustrative of Mr. Hooker's chief title to remembrance.

HARTFORD, CONN.,  
September 1, 1891.

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