

JOHN KEBLE, A BIOGRAPHY

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John Keble, a biography by Walter Lock

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WALTER LOCK

**JOHN KEBLE,
A BIOGRAPHY**



JOHN KEBLE.

From a Portrait by George Richmond, R.A.

JOHN KEBLE,

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A BIOGRAPHY

BY

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WITH A PORTRAIT FROM A PAINTING BY GEORGE RICHMOND, R.A.

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GRATUS DEDICO.



PREFACE.

Two reasons give a special appropriateness to the publication of a memoir of Mr. Keble at the present time.

This year is the hundredth anniversary of his birth, a fact which reminds us how quickly time is flying, and in its flight bearing off those who could speak of him with first-hand knowledge.

Again, much has been published of late throwing light on the Oxford Movement; *The Oxford Movement*, by Dean Church, *The Letters and Correspondence of J. H. Newman*, *The Autobiography of Isaac Williams*, are books of very varied character, but they all agree in one point: they all bear a strong witness to the force, the originality, the stimulating power of that character whose humility and self-repression have often caused his real work to be undervalued.

This memoir will be found, it is hoped, more complete than any yet published. I have been allowed access to much unpublished correspondence, and have had the

privilege of intercourse with personal friends of Mr. Keble, and I wish to express my warmest thanks to those who have helped me in either of these ways.

But the memoir is not complete. I have not had access to all the correspondence. There is much still to be examined and sifted and published, and I can only hope that this volume may serve for a time to revive the memory of its subject, and may then pass away before the completer account of him that ought to be given to the world. It ought to be given to the world, for there is scarcely a letter or a treatise of his through which there does not shine some glimpse of the beauty of the writer's character, from which the reader does not rise without a sense of being brought nearer to the Presence of God.

WALTER LOCK.

Feast of SS. Simon and Jude, 1892.