

**THE LIFE OF ST. ANSELM, ARCHBISHOP
OF CANTERBURY: A CONTRIBUTION TO
A KNOWLEDGE OF THE MORAL,
ECCLESIASTICAL, AND LITERARY LIFE OF
THE ELEVENTH & TWELFTH CENTURIES**

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The Life of St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury: A Contribution to a Knowledge of the Moral, Ecclesiastical, and Literary Life of the Eleventh & Twelfth Centuries by J. A. Möhler

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J. A. MÖHLER

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THE
LIFE OF ST. ANSELM,

Archbishop of Canterbury;

CONTRIBUTION TO A KNOWLEDGE OF THE MORAL,
ECCLESIASTICAL, AND LITERARY LIFE

OF THE

ELEVENTH & TWELFTH CENTURIES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF

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*Late Professor of Theology in the University of Munich; Author of the "Symbolik," &c.
Knight of the Bavarian Order of St. Michael.*

By HENRY RYMER,

STUDENT OF ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE, OLD HALL GREEN.

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TO
THE VERY REV. E. COX, D.D.,
PRESIDENT OF ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE,

This Translation

IS

MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

AS

A TESTIMONY OF SINCEREST GRATITUDE,

BY HIS ATTACHED PUPIL,

THE TRANSLATOR.

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NOTICE.

THE original of the following short work is found in the *Gesammelte Schriften und Aufsätze* of Dr. Möhler, collected, as a monument of affection and as a tribute to departed merit, by the friend and colleague of the Author, the learned Dr. Dollinger. If, whilst we draw the attention of our countrymen to one of the brightest luminaries that ever shed lustre upon the church of their fathers, whilst their church formed a portion of the Church of Christ, we too can join in offering our mite to one from whom religion, as she had received much, expected more, but who was called from this earth in the midst of his sacred career, to receive the crown of his early labours, our toils will have been well repaid.

ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE,
Feast of the Purification of our Blessed Lady.
1842.



INTRODUCTION.

ST. ANSELM belongs in more than one respect to that class of distinguished men, whom the history of the Christian Church draws forth from its rich treasures, and presents to us in all the excellence of their personal character. His life was placed in that happy period of the history of the church, when she powerfully and successfully exerted all her force to escape from that melancholy thralldom, in which she had so long been held by the vicissitudes and revolutions of all social institutions.

She had maintained herself amidst the storms of the Huns, of the universal emigration of the northern tribes, and amidst the desolation which followed this wandering of nations; by receiving them into her bosom, she had subdued the wild powers of the barbarians, and had commenced the labour of forming them into civilization, when in the East and South a new abyss of destruction was opened. The furious hordes of Muhammed, having laid waste the half of Asia, had advanced in all their might into Europe: they overturned the Spanish kingdom of the West Goths; they advanced in their career of destruction into the very heart of France; they plundered Italy, and even the Church of St. Peter at Rome; whilst the Pagan