

**ILLUSTRATED NOTES ON
ENGLISH CHURCH HISTORY.
VOL. II: ITS REFORMATION
AND MODERN WORK**

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Illustrated Notes on English Church History. Vol. II: Its Reformation and Modern Work by C. Arthur Lane

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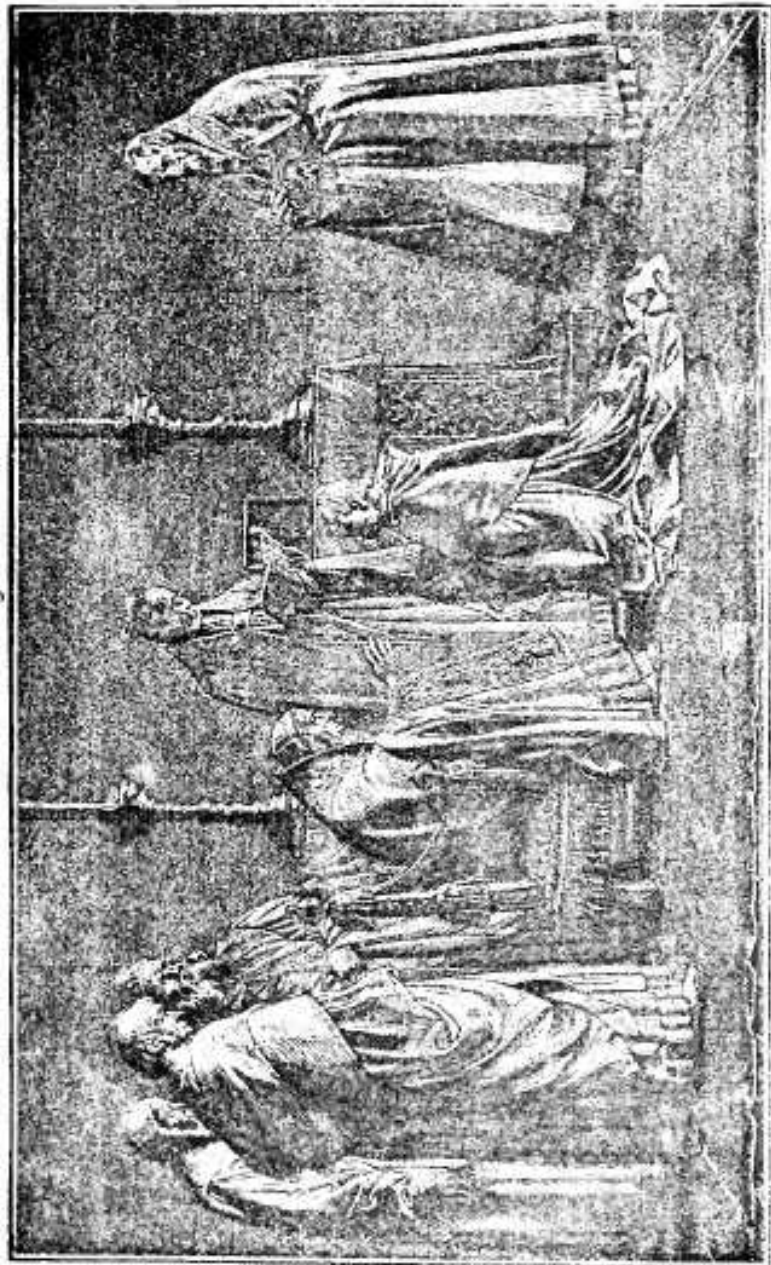
C. ARTHUR LANE

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THE SOCIETY
OF CHRISTIAN
SCIENCE.

AND BROTHERS BULLINGHAM,
OF BARLOW,
LEICESTERSHIRE.

ARCHDEACON GILBERT.



CONSECRATION OF ARCHBISHOP PARKER, DECEMBER 17, 1859 (see pages 87-89)

(From a picture by the late W. Dyer, Esq., R.A.)



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VOL. II.

ITS REFORMATION AND MODERN WORK.

BY THE

REV. C. ARTHUR LANE

(F.R. Hist. S.; Lecturer of the Church Defence Institution).

FIFTIETH THOUSAND.

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*"FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE
DAWN OF THE REFORMATION."*

SEVENTIETH THOUSAND.

* * * *The two volumes traverse the whole range of Church History in Britain. They contain over two hundred illustrations, including every cathedral in England and Wales, and many notable abbeys and churches.*



PREFACE

TO ORIGINAL EDITION.

In October, 1886, the writer submitted to the public a volume of 'Illustrated Notes' on the early history of British Christianity, the preface to which contained a conditional promise of a supplementary series. The circulation of nearly forty thousand copies of that volume was taken as a proof that its plan and price met a felt want, and the present volume is the fulfilment of the pledge.

It is hardly needful to repeat that these 'Notes' do not claim to be an exhaustive treatment of the subject. The main plan of both volumes has been to give prominence to the concurrent history of the Church and Realm; to show that through all ages they have been indissolubly wedded; and to present the Church's ancient, mediæval, and modern history as parts of one continuous whole, with the Episcopate for its basis. Upon this continuous thread of general history a number of disconnected ecclesiastical events have been strung, bearing mainly upon questions recently raised by friends and foes alike. The history of the Anglican Church beyond the seas is outside the plan of this book, and is therefore only incidentally treated.

As the price implies, these 'Notes' are chiefly intended for Church-folk of slender means; and students must not regard them as other than stepping stones to works of higher merit. Apart from this question of cheapness it may well be doubted whether there is any necessity for treating the history of the Church of England anew; especially as there is nothing stated herein which has not been better said over and over again. Indeed it would seem that most persons who deal with this subject find it impossible to say anything fresh, or to put their thoughts in novel phrases. Certainly the present writer pretends not to any originality, either in thought or diction, and it is probable that familiar sentences may be found here and there; but there is no intentional plagiarism.

The usual ancient authorities, which are everybody's property, have been freely used; but wherever modern summaries have been quoted, the source is duly acknowledged, and when known the price and publisher's name are added, so that those who wish to study the matter further may judge whether they can afford the luxury. Although no new light has been thrown upon a well-worn subject by these pages, they may help to diffuse the old light. Nothing has been stated which has not been generally accepted as true, or which is not useful to know; but the grouping of certain facts, as in the chapter on the dissolution of monasteries, varies at times from the customary methods; yet never without good reason.

These are times when many people adopt partisan ideas, and range themselves on one side or another respecting every great question that arises, and look for literature to suit their views. Even strictly impartial folk, if there are such, prefer to read what either side may have to say before they draw their own conclusions; and they would probably consider a writer who tried to set both sides before them with a perfect balance as an insincere person, or one who had not come to a determined mind. *Audi alteram partem* is the modern motto, which implies that every assertion must be held unproven until the accused party has had the floor. This book is not intended to satisfy such people; but rather to show how the facts of history confute the arguments of modern antagonists of the English Church. It does not seek to attack anyone, but merely attempts to restate certain truths which have been obscured by time or assailed and misrepresented by interested adversaries. Possibly no two minds would make the same selections or draw the same conclusions from the vast range of history covered herein, and whatever may be said on controverted points there are sure to be some who would prefer a different view. That these will question the wisdom of the writer's selection of events and persons is fully expected; and lest any readers should feel aggrieved because the errors of the Church of Rome are not expressly denounced, or that insufficient credit has been given to the conscientious convictions of Nonconformists, it may be well to state at the outset that these pages do not profess to discuss opinions or theories on matters of faith; but simply to state, and occasionally comment upon, such ascertained facts of ecclesiastical history as may help the general public to a better understanding of what is meant by the National

Church. Any book which shows how she was defended in times past will help to teach her sons and daughters how to defend her now. Party names which have come to be used as terms of opprobrium, are as far as possible avoided in the following pages; and although the writer does not pretend to look at matters from other than a Churchman's standpoint he believes that he has not dealt unfairly or inconsiderately by those who are opposed to the Church of England. These are grouped in his mind under two heads, Romanists and Liberationists, the latter being chiefly Nonconformists. When reference is made to their religious systems, it is with a view of shewing the external position occupied by the Church towards them in the past, and there is no intention of implying unkind reflections upon modern adherents of Papal or Puritan beliefs.

Extreme partisans within the Church will find nothing here to their mind. As there is no lack of common ground on which our differences may be adjusted there is no need to rush upon the keener points of controversy. If the enemies of the Church of England are to be successfully resisted, all her members must cease from internal discords; they must stand steadily and harmoniously together for her defence:

"That her fair form may stand and shine,
Make bright our days and light our dreams,
Turning to scorn with lips Divine
The falsehood of extremes."

In preparing the following pages the writer has had the very great advantage of advice from Professor Burrows of Oxford; who most kindly gave up much valuable time in reading and commenting upon the proof sheets. He has occasionally differed with the writer as to the manner in which several points are treated, but has not interfered with the construction or arrangement of the work. The responsibility for any imperfections that may be found rests solely with the writer, but he gratefully acknowledges that they are fewer than would have been the case without outside help. As both volumes have been compiled in time that was justly at the disposal of the Church Defence Institution, the writer's sincere thanks are due to that Society for allowing him to be free from lecturing engagements during their progress through the press.

September, 1882.

PREFACE.

PREFACE TO FORTIETH THOUSAND.

Most gratefully does the author acknowledge the very kind and careful annotations that have been made upon previous editions of this volume by many esteemed correspondents. It is gratifying to know that the book has found its way to the remotest regions where the Anglican Church has its outposts, and, like its predecessor, appreciated. His thanks are also due to numerous reviewers, especially those with party sympathies, for their criticisms on those portions of the book which have not coincided with certain opinions current among the schools of thought they represent. The statements traversed have now been carefully revised, and in their present form must, for good or ill, be taken as the deliberate convictions of the writer; after due consideration of the objections put forward by every critic. The issues dealt with in this volume are much too wide and varied for the writer to avoid all hostile observations; but the majority of reviews have been so favourable—the moderate and impartial organs unanimately so, while the extreme sections were exceedingly contradictory—that there have been very few changes made beyond the correction of typographical errors and the alteration of statistical tables from the latest official data.

Epiphany, 1891.

