

**RECOLLECTIONS OF ARTHUR
PENRHYN STANLEY: LATE DEAN
OF WESTMINSTER. THREE
LECTURES DELIVERED IN
EDINBURGH IN NOVEMBER, 1882**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649687435

Recollections of Arthur Penrhyn Stanley: Late Dean of Westminster. Three Lectures Delivered in Edinburgh in November, 1882 by George Granville Bradley

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Cover @ 2017

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GEORGE GRANVILLE BRADLEY

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RECOLLECTIONS

OF

ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY

LATE DEAN OF WESTMINSTER

Three Lectures

DELIVERED IN EDINBURGH IN NOVEMBER 1882

BY

GEORGE GRANVILLE BRADLEY D.D.

DEAN OF WESTMINSTER

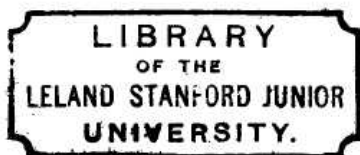
HONORARY FELLOW OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OXFORD

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1883

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INTRODUCTION.

THE following pages are the result of an attempt to comply with a request made on behalf of the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh. The Directors did me the honour of expressing a wish that I should open their winter session by delivering two lectures on my much lamented friend and predecessor, the late Dean of Westminster. I could not refuse to avail myself of such an opportunity for placing on record my recollections of one to whose intimacy I had been admitted in early youth, and whose friendship I had been privileged to enjoy for more than forty years. I felt it, however, due alike to the memory of my friend, and to the legitimate claims of those whom I was to address, to bring before them something more than mere personal reminiscences of one who had filled so large a space in the literary and theological history of the whole period during which I had known

him. I thought it right, therefore, to prepare myself for the task by a careful re-perusal of his published works, especially of the numerous lectures, pamphlets, articles, essays, and occasional sermons which, even more markedly than his longer and more elaborate works, bear the true impress of his mind and character. Not a few of these which had escaped my memory or notice were placed at my disposal by various friends; and in addition to all that I had preserved of my own correspondence, I was permitted to avail myself of letters, and notes of personal recollections, entrusted to me by the kindness of some who had been bound to him by the closest ties of enduring friendship. It soon became apparent that the materials placed in my hands, though insignificant in comparison with those which were being gradually collected with a view to more detailed memoirs, could scarcely be adequately dealt with in the compass of two evening lectures, even before so kind and forbearing an audience as I was prepared to find in the city of Edinburgh. Arrangements were very kindly made for the delivery of a third lecture — let me thank my friends there for its cordial reception — at Fettes College; and thus with some necessary curtailment the greater portion of the fol-

lowing pages was spoken as printed. I have not thought it necessary to indicate the paragraphs which, out of consideration for the time and patience of singularly attentive and sympathetic listeners, were omitted in the actual delivery of the lectures. As, however, the greater portion of the matter devoted to Dean Stanley's earlier life, at Alderley, Rugby, and Oxford, formed the subject not of the first but of the second lecture, that which was given at Fettes College, I have thought it better to arrange what is now printed in three consecutive chapters. I have thus preserved the order in which all that I had prepared was actually written, as well as that which will be most convenient to the general reader. But I have retained throughout the form, and, with a few necessary corrections, the actual words of the lectures as actually delivered. They were delivered, it will be remembered, in Scotland, and before a Scottish audience; and I therefore felt myself warranted in dwelling with a not unreasonable emphasis on the singularly close ties which united him of whom I spoke to the sympathies and affections of those whom I was addressing.

I need hardly add that the subject on which I spoke was one of exceeding interest to myself.

Those who are at the pains of glancing at the following pages will see that I disclaimed from the very first any attempt to speak of Arthur Stanley otherwise than as a deeply attached and grateful friend, and as one who largely sympathised with his views. Had I not done so I should have written differently, or not at all. I trust, however, that I have not allowed my warm affection for one who was, for many years of his life, engaged in almost ceaseless controversies, to cause me to give needless pain to those whose difference of views on some most important subjects made them unable to share the feelings with which he was regarded by those who were more or less in sympathy with him. I should regret any want of fairness on my own part as in itself blamable. I should regret it the more, as some of those who were necessarily brought in the course of many controversies into the most direct collision with my dear friend, have spoken with generous warmth and tenderness of one, the beauty of whose character they could recognise without undervaluing their disagreement with his opinions, sentiments, or language.

I feel, however, that in saying even this, I am attaching an undue importance to the publication of what can have no claim to more

than a passing and fugitive interest. Nothing could be further from my purpose than to offer this most imperfect sketch as in any way a substitute for, or even an instalment of, a biography of Arthur Stanley. Great as was the kindness of his literary executors and personal friends, it was impossible for me to avail myself of more than a small fraction of the documents and papers which, owing to his own habits and the prescient care of so many to whom he was dear, are assuming proportions of almost unexampled abundance. Yet I venture to hope that the publication even of the short summary of his life and work which is comprised in these three chapters, may be not unwelcome to some at least among the many who, beyond the limits of those to whom they were directly addressed, had yet felt the spell of his character, or had been attracted or instructed by his writings.

I may conclude with a warm expression of my gratitude to those of his friends who have kindly allowed me the use in some cases of their own correspondence, in others of their notes of personal reminiscences. I ought especially to name Dr. Greenhill, Professor Max Müller, Rev. W. B. Philpot, Rev. H. H. Montgomery, Mr. Victor Williamson, and Mr. John Hodgkin;