

**A TREATISE ON CONFIRMATION:
WITH PASTORAL
DISCOURSES APPLICABLE
TO CONFIRMED PERSONS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649067503

A Treatise on Confirmation: With Pastoral Discourses Applicable to Confirmed Persons by
Thomas William Lancaster

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Cover @ 2017

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THOMAS WILLIAM LANCASTER

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A
TREATISE ON CONFIRMATION:
WITH
PASTORAL DISCOURSES
APPLICABLE TO
CONFIRMED PERSONS.

BY THE LATE
REV. THOMAS WILLIAM LANCASTER, M.A.
VICAR OF BANBURY,
AND FORMERLY FELLOW OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD.

SECOND EDITION.

OXFORD,
HENRY HAMMANS:
WHITTAKER AND CO. LONDON.
1861.

100. c. 120.



BAXTER, PRINTER, OXFORD.

TO THE
HON. HARRIET HELY HUTCHINSON,
OF
WESTON HOUSE,
IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON,
THIS WORK IS DEDICATED
UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF VERY GREAT ESTEEM,
AND
OF A DEEP SENSE OF THE VALUE OF HER FRIENDSHIP,
AND
OF OBLIGATION FOR HER KINDNESS.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE present edition of the following Manual was intended for publication during the lifetime of the Author, but was laid aside on account of illness. It has been carefully revised, and many important additions and corrections have been made by him. It will be found useful not only as a help to Candidates for Confirmation, but also for persons more advanced in the Christian life.

Oxford, June, 1861.

PREFACE.

THE subject of Confirmation cannot be justly viewed without the aid of correct notions respecting other important points of Christian doctrine. These latter appear to me to be, in too many instances, obscured by the prevalence of indeterminate and erroneous opinions; and (as one error must, in the process of reasoning, generate another) I also think that there has arisen, from this circumstance, a loose and latitudinarian fashion of speaking respecting Confirmation.

It was at one time my intention to connect with the present treatise, a full vindication of the true principles of the Church respecting the points to which I thus allude. But I have abandoned this intention for the following reasons. The work itself having a chief regard to the excitement and furtherance of practical piety in young persons, I thought that the introduction, further than was necessary, of any polemical disquisition, would involve an incongruity with its purpose, and probably be attended with a prejudice to any humble measure of good effect