JERRY MCAULEY: HIS LIFE AND WORK

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Jerry McAuley: his life and work by Jeremiah McAuley & R. M. Offord

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JEREMIAH MCAULEY & R. M. OFFORD

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WITH

INTRODUCTION

By THE REV. S. IRENÆUS PRIME, D.D.

AND

PERSONAL SKETCHES

By A. S. HATCH, Esq.

EDITED BY REV. R. M. OFFORD

SECOND EDITION

OCT 2 1995

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PREFACE.

DURING the summer preceding his death Jerry McAuley was planning for the preparation of a somewhat extensive account of God's dealings with and through him. He purposed waiting only for cooler weather before commencing his task. But his death intervened ere the work had even been begun. We have thus been deprived of many of the records of the richest displays of God's grace in both the Water Street and the Cremorne Missions. But enough have been printed in the following pages to arouse the deepest interest of Christian hearts. These records serve to show that. in the dispensation of grace and graces, God is no respecter of persons. As in nature the most resplendent gems are found among the most uninviting surroundings, so grace gathers out of the horrible pit and the miry clay many a bright gem for the Saviour's diadem. And God works through lowly instrumentalities. In this respect his choice is often contrary to human judgment. Jerry was a very unpromising sinner to begin with, but God in His grace saved him. After his conversion he seemed by no means a promising saint, and ministers and others engaged in mission work did not encourage him to believe that he was called to labor in that direction. But God had called him none the less, and owned and blessed him beyond all human conception or computation. It is indeed true that we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the glory may be the Lord's.

It is fitting that acknowledgments be made here of indebtedness to those friends who have helped to produce this volume. The first three chapters are taken from the little work "Transformed," edited by Mrs. Helen E. Brown. Three of the later chapters are devoted to personal recollections of the worker and his work, by A. S. Hatch, Esq. There are no more interesting chapters in the book than these, and they greatly enhance its value. That gentleman has placed us under further obligations by the care and patience with which he has read every line of this volume, revising where necessary-a task which his long and intimate acquaintance with Jerry enabled him to do better than any one else could have done it. To the Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, D.D., thanks are due for the "Introduction." His reminiscences of Jerry, couched in such tender and touching language, will serve to awaken at the start a deep interest in the records which follow.

My own part of the work has been a very modest one. Collecting such material as already existed, and which best served to present Jerry the outcast, Jerry the transformed, Jerry the successful worker for souls, the matter has been prepared for the printer without any attempt to give the facts in any setting of beautiful language. The labor has been a simple but very pleasant one. To have helped in any way to publish the story of grace as it triumphed in and through Jerry McAuley is an honor greatly esteemed, and for which the heart feels sincerely grateful to God. It is indeed to be wished that He may be glorified in the record as He was in its subject.

May Christians who read these pages be encouraged to

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work for the salvation of the most outcast of their fellowbeings! May many of those who are as yet unsaved be led by these records to seek Jerry McAuley's Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Of that blessed Redeemer it is written in God's Book, the Bible, "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. vii. 25). His own words are: "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. xi. 28).

THE EDITOR.

PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

WITH gratitude to God record is here made that the first edition of this work has been abundantly owned and blessed of Him. The second and still larger edition is sent out with prayers as fervent and hopes as ardent as those which accompanied the first. May every copy carry a blessing!

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