

**CANONS OF THE PRIMITIVE CHURCH:
TOGETHER WITH THE CREEDS OF
NICAEA AND CONSTANTINOPLE,
AND THE DEFINITION OF THE FAITH
SET FORTH AT CHALCEDON**

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Canons of the Primitive Church: Together with the Creeds of Nicaea and Constantinople, and the Definition of the Faith Set Forth at Chalcedon by G. B. Howard

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G. B. HOWARD

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THE CREEDS OF NICÆA AND CONSTANTINOPLE, AND
THE DEFINITION OF THE FAITH SET FORTH
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TRANSLATED FROM ADDITIONAL MSS. 14528 (Br. Mus.),
A SYRIAC MS. OF THE SIXTH CENTURY;
AND FROM OTHER MSS. OF ALMOST EQUAL ANTIQUITY:

WITH A COPIOUS INDEX.

BY THE
George Broadley
REV. G. B. HOWARD,

SOMETIME SCHOLAR OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

"The Holy Synod said, Let the divine Canons of the Fathers be read, and let them be inserted in the minutes. Then Aetius, the Archdeacon and Primitivus of the Great Church, took the book and read:—Canon 83. If any Bishop, after having been deposed, &c."—*Synod of Chalcedon, Action the 4th.*

James Parker and Co.
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P R E F A C E.

THE Colophon of MS. 14528, which forms the basis of this translation, tells us that it was written in the city of Mabug (i.e. Hierapolis, some 20 miles west of the Euphrates, where it makes its great bend to the S.E.), in the year 812 of Alexander, which corresponds to A.D. 500 or 501. It is a very fine MS., written in the square estrangelo character, and must be among the oldest, if it is not the oldest extant MS. of any version, or even text, of these early Canons, being only 50 years later than the Synod of Chalcedon itself.

In some places, where this MS. is defective, the portions lost or omitted have been supplied from other MSS., viz. Add. MSS. 14529 and 14526. Of these, the former is written in the same character, and looks as if it might have been written by the same hand as that which wrote 14528. No. 14526 is written in a smaller and somewhat more cursive character, but I have not discovered anything that fixes the date of either of these two MSS.

In order to reduce the size of this volume, the titles of the Canons, and the names of the

Bishops who voted in and subscribed the several Councils, have been omitted ; together with some other documents, viz. Constantine's summons to Nicæa ; his *Sacra* or Rescript against Arius ; the *Anaphora* of the Fathers at Constantinople, reporting to the Emperor what had been done there ; and a *Sacra* of Theodosius and Valentinian.

The Editions of Labbé and Cossart's Councils referred to are the Paris Edition of 1621, for Vol. I., and Coleti's Venice Edition of 1728, &c., for the other volumes.

Some additional notes, chiefly bearing on a comparison of the Syriac Version with the Greek Text, are added in an Appendix at the end of the volume, and a second Appendix (Appendix B) gives a *résumé* of the action of the Synod of Chalcedon in connection with the 28th Canon of that Synod.

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ADD. MSS. 14528. BRIT. MUS.

NOTE.—The first four pp. of this MS., viz. fol. 1 verso, 2, 2 verso, and 3, contain "Questions that were proposed to holy Timothy, the great Patriarch of Alexandria." They are written in a smaller and somewhat more cursive character than the rest of the volume; and on fol. 3 only the beginnings of the lines remain. The older MS. begins on fol. 3 verso, of which fol. two-thirds have been torn off lengthwise. The few letters, however, that remain are sufficient to enable me to form a conjectural restoration, the translation of which appears in italics.