

**MEMOIR OF THE
REV. LANT
CARPENTER**

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Memoir of the Rev. Lant Carpenter by Russell Lant Carpenter

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RUSSELL LANT CARPENTER

**MEMOIR OF THE
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MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. LANT CARPENTER, LL.D.

BY HIS SON,

RUSSELL LANT CARPENTER, B.A.

ABRIDGED BY HIS DAUGHTER,

MARY CARPENTER,

AUTHOR OF "MORNING AND EVENING MEDITATIONS," "OUR CONVICTS,"

"SIX MONTHS IN INDIA," ETC., ETC.

LONDON :

E. T. WHITFIELD, 178 STRAND, W.C.

1875.

Handwritten text, possibly a name or address, written in a cursive or slanted style. The text is mostly illegible due to fading and blurring.

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P R E F A C E.

THE late Rev. Dr. Carpenter, of Bristol, exercised an influence, and carried out a work far beyond the sphere of his own pastoral ministry, or the city of Bristol, which was his residence during the most important part of his life.

His sudden and unexpected death in April, 1840, excited deep sorrow, not only among those who knew him personally, but in a far wider circle. A painful blank was felt among all who were aware how high a moral and religious tone he had infused into everything he had undertaken, how reliable was his guidance in whatever concerned human improvement. His family were desirous of giving to the public, at the earliest practicable period, such a Memoir of him as might exhibit him in the character of a Christian Pastor; developing, so far as possible, the early influences which contributed to form his mind, and the mode in which he subsequently acquired so valuable and extensive an influence over others. They wished that this Memoir should contain selections from his MSS., particularly

from such as might contribute to develop his character, and to present his public labours and their results in a form adapted to encourage and stimulate others.

The important and very difficult task of the preparation of this Memoir was entrusted to Dr. C.'s second son, who accomplished it to the satisfaction of his Mother, who had afforded him every possible help,—of friends,—and of the public. As however it was published by subscription, the circulation was very limited, and it was soon out of print.

Thirty-five years have elapsed since Dr. Carpenter's decease. Another generation has arisen, who are now reaping the benefit of the labour of himself and his coadjutors. The sculptured monument in the House of Prayer in which he led the devotions of his flock keeps alive his memory, and traditions are handed down from one generation to another of what this Servant of Christ did and taught. It has been long, however, a matter of regret to the present Editor that no biographical record of him is accessible to the public. She determined to prepare a smaller volume than the original Memoir, for general circulation, omitting much that had a strong personal interest at the time, but would not now appear to the public in general of great importance. So much, however, remained of permanent value as showing the true nature of his influence,—the perseverance and energy which were originally required in the establishment of princi-

ples which are now universally recognized,—and the small, but wisely conceived beginnings from which have sprung large institutions, that it has been difficult to confine the volume within the proposed limits. It would indeed have been far easier to increase the size of the octavo edition by extracts from Dr. C.'s writings on many subjects which have now passed into history, and to have entered into detail respecting the part he took in many important public movements, than to have abridged the records of such a life.

The Editor is indebted to her brother, the Author of the Memoir, for the abridgment of the early portion of the original volume, while she alone is responsible for the later part. Such as it is she presents it to the public, in the hope that it may kindle in others some of that faith in religion, devotion to duty and love of mankind, which were the mainsprings of the life of Dr. Lant Carpenter.

THE RED LODGE HOUSE,

BRISTOL, *July 6, 1875.*

ARROWSMITH, PRINTER, QUAY STREET, BRISTOL.