

**THE TWO-HUNDREDTH  
BIRTHDAY OF BISHOP  
GEORGE BERKELEY**

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The Two-Hundredth Birthday of Bishop George Berkeley by Noah Porter

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**NOAH PORTER**

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*THE TWO-HUNDREDTH  
BIRTHDAY OF*

*BISHOP GEORGE BERKELEY*

*A DISCOURSE GIVEN  
AT YALE COLLEGE ON THE  
12TH OF MARCH, 1885*

*BY*  
*NOAH PORTER*



*NEW-YORK*  
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*1885*

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THIS VOLUME IS INSCRIBED

TO

THOMAS MARCH CLARK, D. D., D. C. L.

AND

WILLIAM INGRAHAM KIP, D. D., LL. D.

CLASSMATES OF THE WRITER AT YALE,

WHO, AS BISHOPS OF

RHODE ISLAND AND CALIFORNIA,

ARE ONE WITH HIM IN HONORING

THE MEMORY OF

BERKELEY.

16 Aug 46 - Shel 150





## PREFACE.

*The substance of the following discourse was given at Yale College on the 12th of March, 1885, in commemoration of the 200th birthday of the distinguished and excellent Berkeley. Most of the materials were taken from the elaborate "Life and Letters" by Professor Alexander Campbell Fraser, M. A., Oxford, 1871; and the more brief but excellent sketch by the same author in Knight's "Philosophical Classics," Edinburgh, 1881. The design of the writer was to present in a compact and somewhat popular form the most important facts in Berkeley's history, that he might do something to keep his memory fresh and fragrant in the minds of studious and thoughtful men and women of the present generation. With the same desire he gives this discourse to the public, with the added wish that what he has written may also*

incite some of his readers to a thorough study of Berkeley's Philosophy. No better discipline to clear and sharp thinking, and at the same time to noble aims and aspirations, can be furnished than can be gained by a study of Berkeley's life and opinions. The exhaustive biographies by Professor Fraser, already named, are all that are needed for the study of his life. The "Selections from Berkeley, with an introduction and notes for the use of Students in the Universities," Oxford, 1874, by the same writer, and the admirably annotated edition of the "Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge," by the late Professor and Vice-Provost Charles P. Krauth, D. D., Philadelphia, 1874, are all that are required for the intelligent study of Berkeley's writings.

It is always refreshing, and sometimes instructive, to turn from Kant or Hegel, and even from Lotze and Wundt, to the sharp and sparkling, if be is now and then the paradoxical and pertinacious Berkeley.

The memory of Berkeley will always be fresh

and fragrant with all generous and thoughtful souls. The facts are not without interest, that Berkeley's name is connected with one of the most interesting and delightful points of land that looks out upon the stormy Atlantic towards the "still-vexed Bermoothes," where he hoped to locate his college, and has also been attached to the beautiful site of the University of California, which commands the golden gate that opens into the great Pacific.

Not only has his own prophecy been fulfilled—  
"Westward the course of Empire takes its way," but his name has also gone westward to hallow and inspire all those enterprises of education and religion such as he desired to initiate, which distinguish and glorify that greater kingdom of God, which sooner or later shall encircle "the round world," and bless all those who dwell therein.

Yale College, April, 1885.