

**CHRIST, ST FRANCIS
AND TO-DAY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649228577

Christ, St Francis and to-day by G. G. Coulton

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Cover @ 2017

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

C. F. CLAY, MANAGER

LONDON : FETTER LANE, E.C. 4

NEW YORK : G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

BOMBAY

CALCUTTA } MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD.

MADRAS }

TORONTO : J. M. DENT AND SONS, LTD.

TOKYO : MARUZEN-KABUSHIKI-KAISHA

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CHRIST, ST FRANCIS
AND TO-DAY

BY

G. G. COULTON, M.A.

OF ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE

CAMBRIDGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1919

The author's special thanks are due to the Editor of *The Hibbert Journal*, who has permitted him to reprint in Chapter II the greater part of an article which appeared in that *Journal* last October.

TO THE BEST OF MY SCHOOLMASTERS

E. G. H.

WITH ABIDING GRATITUDE AND RESPECT

In quanto sine peccato possumus, vitare proximorum scandalum deixeris. Si autem de veritate scandalum sumitur, utilius permittitur nasci scandalum quam veritas relinquatur.

S. Gregorii Magni *Homiliarum in Ezechielem*
lib. 1, Hom. vii, § 5.

Le plus grand dérèglement de l'esprit, c'est de croire les choses parce qu'on veut qu'elles soient, et non parce qu'on a vu qu'elles sont en effet.

Bossuet, *De la connaissance de Dieu et de soi-même*, Chap. 1, § 16.

Wrap not yourself round in the associations of years past; nor determine that to be truth which you wish to be so, nor make an idol of cherished anticipations. Time is short, eternity is long.

J. H. Newman, *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, 1845, ch. xii.

PREFACE

THESE lectures were delivered to a mixed audience at Cambridge during the Michaelmas Term of 1918, and I must heartily thank those hearers and friends whose criticisms have enabled me to explain or correct the text. If the notes and appendix have thus swollen to many times the bulk originally contemplated, it may still be hoped that some readers will find, here and there, more than a controversial interest in this supplementary matter.

G. G. C.

GREAT SHELFORD
January, 1919