

**HYMNS OF
HELP AND HOPE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649340590

Hymns of help and hope by Edward Augustus Rand

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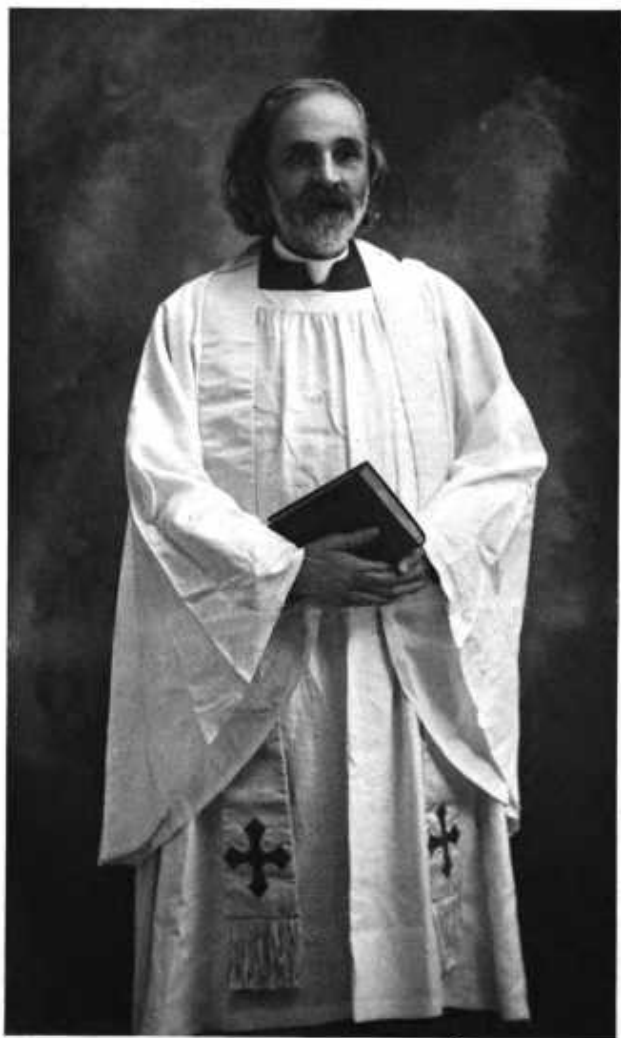
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EDWARD AUGUSTUS RAND

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HELP AND HOPE**



S. A. Rand

Hymns
—
of
Help and Hope

BY
Edward Augustus Rand



The Grafton Press
New York

ANDOVER - HARVARD
THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY.
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

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EDWARD AUGUSTUS RAND, son of Edward and Caroline (Paul) Rand, was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, April 5, 1837, and died in Watertown, Massachusetts, October 5, 1903.

In this space of sixty-five years was a life that existed only to bless others.

He was educated in the public schools of his native city, graduated with honors from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine; and, after successful teaching for two years, he studied theology.

He was ordained pastor of the Amesbury and Salisbury Mills Village Church, Massachusetts, March 2, 1865. In October of that year he married a former scholar, Mary F. Abbott, of Norridgewock, Maine.

He became pastor of the E Street Church, South Boston, Massachusetts, in May, 1867,

and of the Congregational Church in Franklin, of the same State, in 1876.

It was during this pastorate he decided he could not honestly remain in a denomination where the examination of a ministerial candidate might insist upon a belief in eternal punishment.

While realizing the awful nature of sin, he could not escape the conviction of final restoration, agreeing thus with Tennyson:

“Oh yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill,
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defeats of doubt, and taints of blood.”

He found liberty of thought in the Episcopal Church, while urging Christianity passionately as ever.

It was hard to break from the Congregational denomination, but he did not lose his old friends.

A remarkable proof of this was the yearly reunion with his old parishioners of the E Street Church, South Boston. They met year

after year to greet him in the old place, as long as he lived.

After entering the Episcopal Church, he labored with all his might to extend its influence. His nature responded with loving devotion to the saints' days and the festivals of the Church. As at home, successive birthdays were made the glad days of the year, so in the Church, the days of special observance were never forgotten by him.

He labored with acceptance in Christ Church, Hyde Park. Then he solicited funds which resulted in the building of Trinity Church, Concord, Massachusetts; All Saints, Belmont; and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Watertown. He had also secured the purchase money for a lot for Saint Mary's of Waverley when Death grasped the weary hands and folded them to rest.

He had been no less busy as an author. Over fifty volumes for young people that he published were widely circulated in this country, and some of his breezy books for boys were reprinted in England.

He wrote extensively for the journals of the

day, to which the compiler of these hymns would make direct acknowledgment, if it were possible.

Mr. Rand received so many appreciative words of the helpfulness of his writings from strangers that it was his intention to extend the influence of the little verses which he had named *Hymns of Help and Hope*.

MARY F. ABBOTT RAND.