

**PROPHECY AND  
POETRY: STUDIES IN  
ISAIAH AND BROWNING**

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Prophecy and Poetry: Studies in Isaiah and Browning by Arthur Rogers

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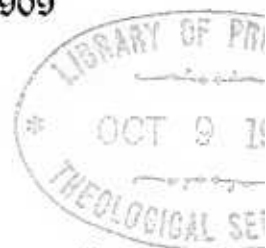
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The Bohlen Lectures for 1909

BY

ARTHUR ROGERS

AUTHOR OF

“MEN AND MOVEMENTS IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH”



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THE  
JOHN BOHLEN LECTURESHIP

JOHN BOHLEN, who died in this city on the twenty-sixth day of April, 1874, bequeathed to trustees a fund of one hundred thousand dollars, to be distributed to religious and charitable objects in accordance with the well-known wishes of the testator.

By a deed of trust, executed June 2, 1875, the trustees under the will of Mr. Bohlen transferred and paid over to "The Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia," in trust, a sum of money for certain designated purposes, out of which fund the sum of ten thousand dollars was set apart for the endowment of THE JOHN BOHLEN LECTURESHIP, upon the following terms and conditions: —

The money shall be invested in good substantial and safe securities, and held in trust for a fund to be called The John Bohlen Lectureship, and the income shall be applied annually to the payment of a qualified person, whether clergyman or layman, for the delivery and publication of at least one hundred copies of two or more lecture sermons. These Lectures shall be delivered at such time and place, in the city of Philadelphia, as the persons nominated to appoint the lecturer shall from



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time to time determine, giving at least six months notice to the person appointed to deliver the same, when the same may conveniently be done, and in no case selecting the same person as lecturer a second time within a period of five years. The payment shall be made to said lecturer, after the lectures have been printed and received by the trustees, of all the income for the year derived from said fund, after defraying the expense of printing the lectures and the other incidental expenses attending the same.

The subject of such lectures shall be such as is within the terms set forth in the will of the Rev. John Bampton, for the delivery of what are known as the "Bampton Lectures," at Oxford, or any other subject distinctively connected with or relating to the Christian Religion.

The lecturer shall be appointed annually in the month of May, or as soon thereafter as can conveniently be done, by the persons who, for the time being, shall hold the offices of Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese in which is the Church of the Holy Trinity; the Rector of said Church; the Professor of Biblical Learning, the Professor of Systematic Divinity, and the Professor of Ecclesiastical History, in the Divinity School of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

In case either of said offices are vacant the others may nominate the lecturer.

Under this trust the Reverend ARTHUR ROGERS, Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, West Chester, Pennsylvania, was appointed to deliver the lectures for the year 1909.

## P R E F A C E

**A** BOOK is like a sentence in that, to be complete, it must needs have both a subject and an object. I do not mean the sort of object which has to do with the public, whether it be to improve its morals or to induce it to buy the volume. But the author must have in mind the kind of people whom he would like to read his book, and the effect that he would like it to produce. The subject of this volume is sufficiently indicated by the title. It is a comparison between two great men, each of them a leader in his generation, and one of them at any rate an outstanding figure in the history of the world's thought. A word as to its object may not be amiss. Isaiah suggests sermons, but there are no sermons here. Browning suggests essays, but this is no book of essays. I have meant to set my heroes side by side, to point out where there is a likeness, and then to prove the likeness, not by my own words, but by theirs. Selection and proportion, therefore, have

played a large part in my work. There are persons, good citizens and doers of the moral law, who find Isaiah dull and Browning unintelligible. If this book, through some inadvertence or the gift of ill-judged friends, should fall into the hands of any such, they will presently cast it from them as the abomination of desolation. They will be right. It was never meant for them. But I am not without hope that there may be some who have known and loved Isaiah, while they have not known much about Browning, and some others, who have known and loved Browning, while they have thought of Isaiah as inspired but without much human interest, whom my book may lead to want to know the other better. It is those who have cared much for both who will know best whether I have done my work well or ill.

A. R.

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA

January, 1909