

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASSOCIATIVE
PRINCIPLE DURING THE MIDDLE AGES: THREE
LECTURES, READ BEFORE THE MEMBERS AND
PATRONS OF THE HUDDERSFIELD EARLY
CLOSING ASSOCIATION, DURING THE
WINTERS OF 1856, '57, AND '58**

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The Development of the Associative Principle During the Middle Ages: Three Lectures, Read Before the Members and Patrons of the Huddersfield Early Closing Association, During the Winters of 1856, '57, and '58 by Christopher Barker

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CHRISTOPHER BARKER

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*The Development of the Associative Principle
during the Middle Ages :*

Three Lectures,

Read before the Members and Patrons of the

Huddersfield Early Closing Association,

During the Winters of 1866, '67, and '68,

By CHRISTOPHER BARKER.

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TO
SIR JOHN WILLIAM RAMSDEN, BART., M. P.,

AND
THE PATRONS AND OFFICERS

OF
The Huddersfield Early Closing Association :

TO
THE GENTLEMEN WHO KINDLY PRESIDED ON THE OCCASION
OF THE READING OF THE FOLLOWING PAGES ;

AND TO
THE ASSOCIATE AND HONORARY MEMBERS ;

These Lectures

(PUBLISHED AT THEIR REQUEST)

ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

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Preface.

THE following Essays—written without the slightest intention of publication—are submitted to the public at the urgent request of the gentlemen before whom they were read; and the MS. having been respectfully presented to the Society whose name appears on the title-page, are now published in its behoof.

As an introduction to the study of a branch of literature which has never been without able exponents and ardent students, although at times exposed to satire not altogether undeserved,—a study which at the present day attracts to its pursuit so important a share of intellectual industry and scholarly research,—the author trusts that this little work may be the means of inducing its readers to form a more extended acquaintance with

the subjects so cursorily treated of in its pages: to assist in which design a few references are given; and at the end of each Essay the authorities within his reach, and other which are known to him by name, are enumerated.

To his young friends of the "Huddersfield Early Closing Society," to whom this series of papers—skeletons, shall he call them? or rather the *disjecta membra* of the subjects treated of—has been, and now is, more especially addressed, the author has to return thanks for the confidence they reposed in him in requesting his services to further an important object of their Society, namely, mutual instruction, and an increasing stimulative for information in the several departments of literature and sciences. His good wishes for the success of the Association, and for the realization of its objects, he here wishes to record; with a hope that, in ages far removed from our day, should some zealous DAYADUST be disposed to explore its archives or collate the traditions connected with its early history and labours, an honest testimony will be borne to its good works and its beneficial tendency on the age in which it performed its mission; holding forth to the youth of still

succeeding ages an example of good works and of faith in humanity's moral and physical progression.

With the exception of a slight revision, the Essays are sent to press as nearly as possible in the form in which they were delivered; and with their many imperfections are, not without some hesitation, submitted to the public.

C. B.

Huddersfield,
November, 1859.

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