# RECENT DISCOVERIES ILLUSTRATING EARLY CHRISTIAN LIFE AND WORSHIP: THREE LECTURES DELIVERED CHARTER HOUSE OF ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, EDINBURG

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# **ARTHUR JOHN MACLEAN**

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## Illustrating

# Early Christian Life and Worship.

#### THREE LECTURES

DELIVERED IN THE CHAPTER HOUSE OF ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, EDINBURGH,

BY

#### ARTHUR JOHN MACLEAN, D.D.,

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#### TO THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN GOD

### JOHN

#### LORD BISHOP OF EDINBURGH

#### IN GRATITUDE FOR MUCH STIMULATING ENCOURAGEMENT

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## RECENT DISCOVERIES ILLUSTRATING EARLY CHRISTIAN LIFE AND WORSHIP.

#### LECTURE I.

#### § 1. LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL EARLY AUTHORITIES, WITH CONJECTURAL DATES.

#### (a) Elementary Church Orders.

\*Didaché or Teaching of the Apostles (A. D. 120). English translation by Lightfoot in *Apostolic Fathers* (concise edition, Macmillan's, price 16s.).

Apostolic Church Order (A. D. 300). English translation by Arendzen in Journal of Theological Studies, iii. 59.

(b) Developed Church Orders.

- \*Canons of Hippolytus (A. D. 220). Latin translation by Achelis (Leipzig, Hinrich, price 98.).
- Egyptian Church Order (A. D. 310). English translation by Tattam (scarce).
- Ethiopic Church Order (A. D. 335). Latin translation by Ludolf (very scarce).
- \*Verona Latin Fragments, part iii. (A. D. 340). Edited by Hauler in Didascalias Fragmenta (Leipzig, Teubner, price 48.).
- \*Testament of our Lord (A. D. 350; possibly re-edited about A. D. 400). English translation, with notes, by Cooper and Maclean (T. & T. Clark, price 98.).

Constitutions through Hippolytus (A. D. 375).

RECENT DISCOVERIES ILLUSTRATING

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- Apostolic Constitutions, book viil. (A.D. 375). English translation in Ante-Nicene Christian Library (T. & T. Clark, price ros. 6d.).
- \*Arabic Didascalia, appendix (A.D. 380). German translation by Funk in his Apostol. Konstitutionen (Rottenburg, 1891).

#### (c) Other Books.

- The Didascalia (a discourse on Church life; in carliest known form about A. D. 250; afterwards enlarged and worked into the Apostolic Constitutions, A. D. 375).
- \*The Prayer Book of Sarapion (A. D. 350). English translation by Wordsworth (S.P.C.K., price 18. 6d.).
- \*The Pilgrimsge of Silvis (4. D. 385). Part of the Latin in Duchesne's Origines du cuite christian (Christian Worship, its Origin and Evolution, S.P.C.K., price Ios.).

The Catechetical Lectures of St. Oyril of Jerusalem (A. D. 348). English translation in the Oxford Library of Fathers, price 7s.

The works marked with an asterisk are recent discoveries. For a description of them and for the dates suggested see Appended Note A.

THE last generation of the nineteenth century has been singularly fortunate in the discovery of literature which throws light on early Christian life and worship, and it is the object of these lectures to put before you some of the information that has been acquired. The light thrown on fourth century usage is very great; but some is also thrown on that of the third century, and even of the second.

As time forbids my describing the original authorities on which my remarks will be based,

I will ask you to refer to the list given above from time to time, as it is important to bear in mind the date of which I happen to be speaking at any given point. The first two divisions consist of a series of manuals or "Church Orders," as they are called, with which, before the rise of the great liturgies, or Communion services, in the fifth and following centuries, individual bishops or other writers provided the clergy and the faithful. They contain varied instructions; and many of those in the second division have full liturgical forms and ordination prayers. No fewer than five of these manuals have been discovered in the last thirty years. The Church Orders in the second division are all of the same family, and are built on the same framework. I may perhaps be forgiven if I call attention to the latest discovery of all, the Testament of our Lord, a manual full of interest rescued from an eastern library by Mgr. Rahmani in 1899, and lately published in English by Professor Cooper and myself. To the introduction and notes of that edition any may be referred who desire fuller information on some of the points with which I shall deal.

The third division consists of four books which throw great light on our subject; two of which are new discoveries, namely, the *Prayer Book of Sarapion*, an Egyptian bishop in the fourth century, and the *Pilgrimage of Silvia* (so called), the journal of an anonymous lady who travelled to the East, and tells us of the countries she saw. In particular she describes