

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.
COLLEGE HISTORIES;
CHRIST CHURCH**

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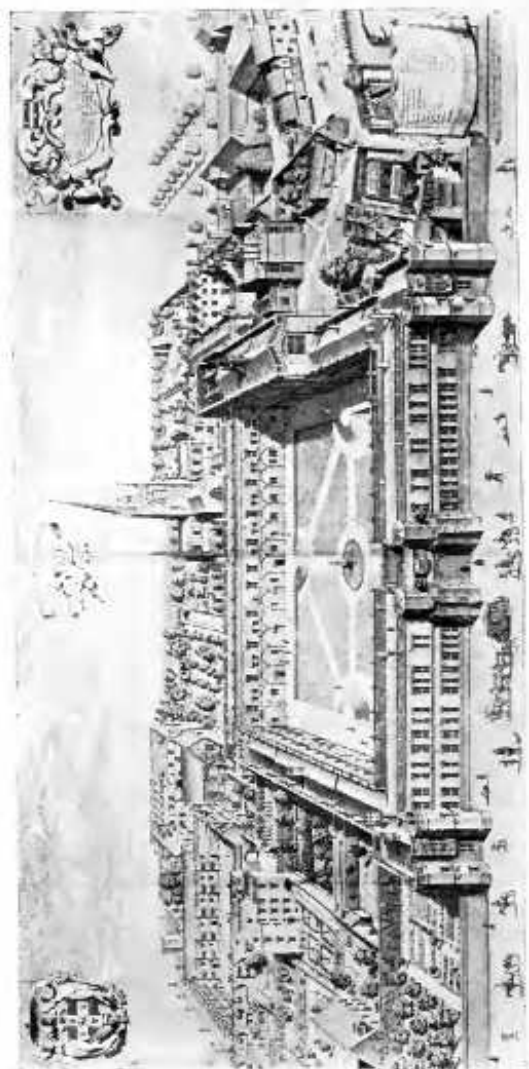
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HENRY L. THOMPSON

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.
COLLEGE HISTORIES;
CHRIST CHURCH**



CHRIST CHURCH, FROM LOGGAN'S DRAWING, 1675

University of Oxford

COLLEGE HISTORIES

CHRIST CHURCH

BY THE

REV. HENRY L. THOMPSON, M.A.

VICAR OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, OXFORD

SOMETIME STUDENT AND TUTOR OF CHRIST CHURCH

AUTHOR OF THE

"MEMOIR OF H. G. LIDDELL, D.D."



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PREFACE

If this volume is judged by its omissions, it will receive severe censure. But the writer ventures to plead that it may be accepted not as a complete History of Christ Church, but rather as a slight sketch of some of the chief matters of interest connected with its annals. To keep the work within the necessary limits, he has again and again been compelled to be unduly brief, and to omit incidents which were worth relating, or to pass by doubtful points which were worth discussing. For this reason, no attempt has been made to give an account of the many famous men who have been educated at Christ Church. It has been thought best to connect the sequence of events with the succession of its Deans, summing up from time to time the characteristics of the various periods in its life and growth. The work should therefore be regarded as a small contribution to the history of a great Foundation, which may lead to further study of its annals, and to the publication of interesting documents—such as the Chapter records—which have hitherto remained unknown. Indeed, no

history of Christ Church has ever been written, although materials for such a work are by no means lacking.

The writer has been courteously allowed to consult the Chapter Registers and Minute books. Copious extracts from them, down to the year 1713, were made by the late Dean Liddell, but they were never published. These have been freely used, and the later Chapter books have been also laid under contribution. The accepted authorities for Oxford history, such as Wood, Hearne, and others, have been constantly consulted, and Mr. C. B. Phillimore's edition of Welch's "*Alumni Westmonasterienses*"—a work of quite exceptional merit—has provided continual assistance. Information has indeed been gained from many and various sources, though it has been thought best not to cumber so small a volume with frequent references to authorities.

For the chapter on the Athletic records of Christ Church, the writer is indebted to the kindness of Mr. F. J. Haverfield, Student and Tutor of the House.

He desires to thank many other friends who have given advice and help; particularly the Rev. T. Vere Bayne, who has undertaken the troublesome task of reading the proof sheets, and Miss Acland, to whose artistic skill, as a member of the Oxford Camera Club, nine out of the ten photographic illustrations are due.

The dates are given, as a rule, according to the New Style.

PREFACE

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In apology for the inevitable shortcomings of the book, the writer ventures, in all humility, to adopt the words in which the learned antiquarian, Mr. Browne Willis, excuses himself for the inadequacy of his account of the many great men interred in our Cathedral Church :—

“Neither can it be expected that a person so meanly qualified, who has reason to be ashamed of making no better progress in that part of his education he had the happiness to receive in this College, should attempt what would require a volume from the most able pen, to give an history of this royal and ample Foundation.”

OXFORD, *April* 1900.

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