

**LEADERSHIP. THE WILLIAM  
BELDEN NOBLE LECTURES.  
DELIVERED AT SABDERS THEATRE,  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
DECEMBER, 1907**

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**CHARLES H. BRENT**

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# LEADERSHIP

The William Belden Noble Lectures  
Delivered at Sanders Theatre, Harvard University  
December, 1907

By THE RT. REV. CHARLES H. BRENT  
BISHOP OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS



Before Man's First, and after Man's poor Last  
God operated and will operate



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TO  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
MOTHER OF LEADERS  
AND  
TRINITY COLLEGE TORONTO  
MOTHER BELOVED





## LECTURE I

*In light, in darkness too,  
Through winds and tides one compass guides —  
To that, and your own selves, be true.*

*Where lies the land to which the ship would go?  
Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know.  
And where the land she travels from? Away,  
Far, far behind, is all that they can say.*

Clough

*One far-off Divine event  
To which the whole creation moves.*

Tennyson

## LECTURE I

### THE METAPHYSIC OF LEADERSHIP

**G**ENTLEMEN of Harvard University: I cannot forbear telling you in my first words with what mingled feelings of eagerness and trepidation I approach this moment,—eagerness to render you service, trepidation lest I should fail in my attempt to offer you a worthy contribution. I have always treasured the ties which, though slender, have connected me with your great University, and now, to crown the past, I find myself called from the other side of the world to deliver you a message in the name of one of your graduates whose course on earth is finished,—William Belden Noble, in memory of whom this Lectureship was founded. Though I am not a Harvard man, in a sense, and that a no unreal one, I shall feel myself of you and not merely with you during the course of these Lectures, in that I am speaking in behalf