

**PORTRAITS OF THE
ARCHBISHOPS
OF CANTERBURY**

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Portraits of the Archbishops of Canterbury by G. M. Bevan

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G. M. BEVAN

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ARCHBISHOPS
OF CANTERBURY**

Portraits of the Archbishops of Canterbury

EDITED BY G. M. BEVAN
AND ISSUED WITH THE APPROVAL OF HIS GRACE
THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY



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LAMBETH PALACE, S.E.,
March, 1908.

MY DEAR MISS BEVAN,

I cordially approve of your plan of publishing a series of such portraits as exist of the successive occupants of the See of Canterbury.

I gather that you propose to accompany the plates with such biographical notes as may present the facts in outline to those who have little knowledge of English Church History.

I need hardly say that so far as Lambeth is concerned we offer you every facility for the reproduction of pictures or seals.

Such a book as you contemplate will have a peculiar interest this year, when the See of Canterbury forms the pivot of a world-wide gathering. •

I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) RANDALL CANTUAR.

PREFACE

THE idea of this book was suggested by the Guardroom at Lambeth, round which hang the portraits of Archbishops of Canterbury from Arundel to Longley, the series being complete from Warham onwards. In the gallery leading to the Guardroom are the portraits of the three last Archbishops, the picture of Dunstan, and the miniature of Sancroft, a case containing archiepiscopal coins, and another case containing the impressions made from archiepiscopal seals. In the absence of any reliable portraits before the time of Warham, the earlier Archbishops can only be represented by the effigies on their tombs, coins, and seals, and by such pictures as those of Dunstan and Arundel, which, though of very doubtful authenticity as portraits, are included since they form part of the collection at Lambeth. The picture of Alphege is taken from an illuminated MS. by Osbern, who wrote within eighty years of the Archbishop's death.

In order to increase the historical interest of the series, pictures of existing tombs are here reproduced, even when they bear no effigy, but there still remain a large number of Archbishops of whom no sort of representation is possible, and whose tombs no longer exist. It is only by means of the biographical notes that the series can be made so complete as to present an uninterrupted retrospect of the continuity of the Anglican Church extending from our own time through the thirteen centuries which have lapsed since the coming of Augustine. Cursory as such a survey must necessarily

be, it may suffice to show something of the varying conditions, of the perils from without, and the perplexities and weakness within, amidst which the life of the Church has been maintained, and has gone forth as a life-giving stream to other lands.

Nor is the interest merely an ecclesiastical one. The biographies of the Archbishops show how large and varied a part they have played in the life of the nation, as statesmen, as men of learning, as leaders in movements of social philanthropy; and at a time when there appears to be a disposition to resent ecclesiastical influence in national affairs, it may not be unprofitable to reflect that before any stable form of government was established in England, and during the centuries which have witnessed the growth of British institutions, the Church—by promoting national education, by inculcating self-control and social responsibility, as well as by the individual capacity of many of her leaders—was building up the State.

My sincere thanks are due to the Archbishop, through whose kind permission the publication of the pictures has been made possible; and also to those who have given me valuable assistance in the preparation of some of the biographical notes.

G. M. BEVAN.

May, 1908.

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