

**CHRISTIAN
SOCIALISM
IN ENGLAND**

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Christian socialism in England by Arthur V. Woodworth

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ARTHUR V. WOODWORTH

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SOCIALISM
IN ENGLAND**

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Christian Socialism in England



BY

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PREFACE

MY purpose in this book is to trace the historical development of Christian Socialism from its origin under Maurice and Kingsley to its present form in the Christian Social Union, and to show, as far as possible, the connection between the two. The history of the early movement was written some years ago by Professor Brentano¹ of Munich, and his work still remains the standard authority. I have, however, made an independent study from the original sources, and have had the kindly criticism of Mr. J. M. Ludlow, one of the founders of the original movement under Maurice.

The story of the connection of the Christian Socialists with the later development of Co-operation and Trades Unionism has been told by Mrs. Sidney Webb in her history of "The

¹ Brentano: "Die Christliche Sociale Bewegung in England."

Co-operative Movement," and in Mr. and Mrs. Webb's "History of Trades Unionism," and I have relied largely upon their results for the material for this part of the work.

The rest of the book is essentially original investigation from the present available sources. The list of authorities will be found in the bibliography at the end of the volume.

My especial thanks are due to Professor Schulze-Gaevernitz of Freiburg in Baden for his inspiring and wise criticisms; and to Mr. J. M. Ludlow of London, and the Rev. John Carter of Oxford.

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CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM IN ENGLAND

CHAPTER I

THE EARLY CHRISTIAN SOCIALISTS

PROPERLY to understand Christian Socialism in England to-day, it is necessary to go back to the early movement under Maurice and Kingsley. For, while that ended in apparent failure in 1854, it had generated a new power, which, growing stronger and stronger, has at last resulted in a wider undertaking of education in the needs of the industrial classes. Such a movement, rightly guided, might well become a powerful factor in the future of the English Church, and exert a considerable influence on the affairs of the nation.