MAKERS OF AMERICA. THE LIFE AND TIMES OF BISHOP WHITE

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Makers of America. The life and times of Bishop White by Julius H. Ward

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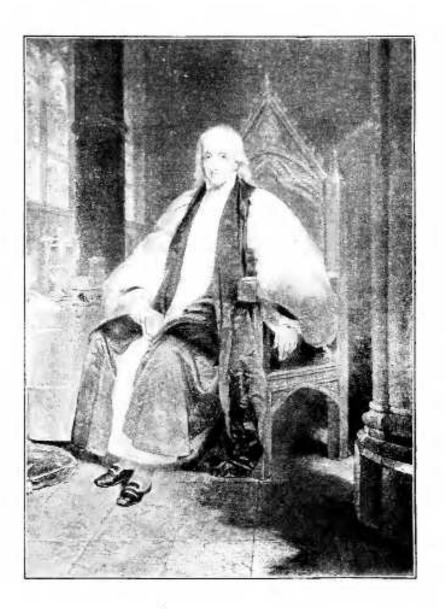
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JULIUS H. WARD

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THE

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OF

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BY

JULIUS H. WARD



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JOHN WILLIAMS,

Presiding Bishop in the Chair of Seabury,

Chis Biography

OF:

THE PATRIARCH OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH

IS DEDICATED

BY ONE OF HIS SPIRITUAL SONS.



PREFACE.

THE career of BISHOP WHITE involves the history of the first half century of the American Episcopal Church. He was its first Bishop in the English line, and to him for fifty years fell the duty of guiding its growth and presiding over its councils. When he died in 1836, he was so well known that it was not thought necessary to write a biography in detail, and Dr. Wilson's Memoir is the only attempt that has been made to set forth his individual career. Bishop Perry has rendered invaluable service in gathering up and putting into print the documentary ecclesiastical history of the period; but, so far as I know, this is the first attempt that has been made to give a personal portrait of this great Church leader, and to show what part he had in the civil and religious life of the times in which he lived.

Bishop White was not a voluminous letterwriter, and most of his contemporaries passed away without putting on paper their impressions of him, so that the painting of his portrait has not been an easy task. Had it not been for the excellent memory of his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Elizabeth White Reed, the widow of the lamented Prof. Henry Reed, and for the comprehensive knowledge of the Bishop's life and times possessed by his great-grandson, Mr. Thomas H. Montgomery, this work would have greatly lacked in such colour and in such accuracy of detail as it has. The materials have been gathered from free access to Bishop White's manuscripts, from Dr. Bird Wilson's "Memoir," from his own very full "Memoirs of the Church," and from the biographies of his later contemporaries.

There are three notable portraits of Bishop White,—the one by Gilbert Stuart, painted when he was first consecrated to the Episcopate; the one which has been engraved by John Sartain, and represents him as the Chaplain of the Continental Congress; and the one made by Inman in his extreme old age, which has been chosen for reproduction, because it best presents him in his official character.

J. H. W.

BROOKLINE, Mass. Sept. 2, 1892.