

AMERICA AND BRITAIN

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America and Britain by Andrew C. McLaughlin

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ANDREW C. MCLAUGHLIN

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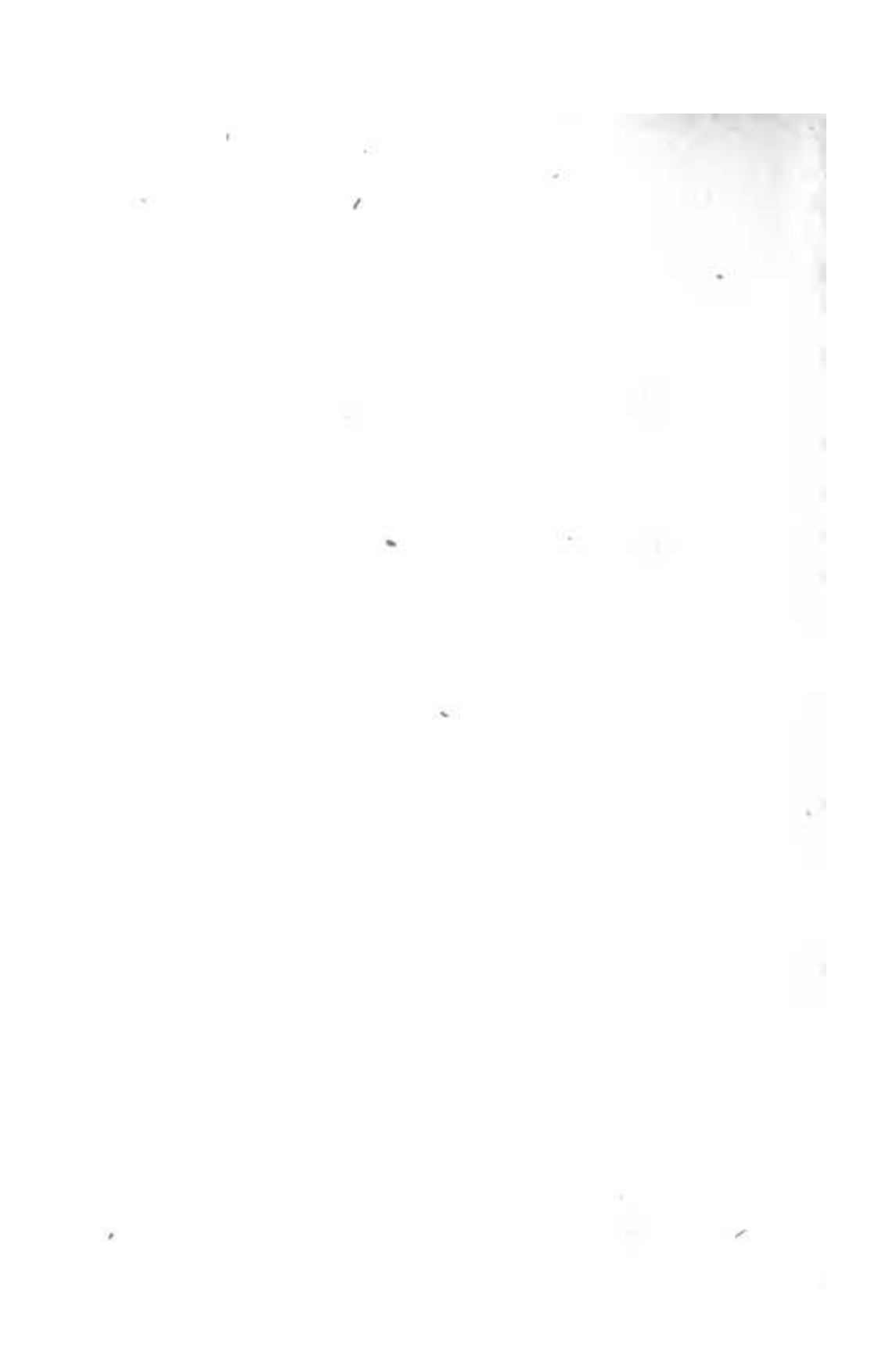


PREFATORY NOTE

IN the early spring of 1918 the Imperial Studies Committee of the University of London suggested to the American Historical Association that they would heartily welcome a visit from a well-known American historian, to explain to British audiences something of the course of events which had brought the United States from political isolation to stand side by side with the Allies in the world war. The Association and the National Board for Historical Service, representing the Departments of History in the American Universities, took up the proposal warmly, and deputed Prof. Andrew C. McLaughlin, of the University of Chicago, and Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman of the Federal Commission of Fine Arts, to speak for American historians in the British Universities. Their most important work was done in the University of London, and we have here collected the lectures delivered by Prof. McLaughlin in University College in May 1918, together with a paper read before the Royal Historical Society. Owing to difficulties of postage the proofs have been read in England, and Prof. McLaughlin has been unable to see the lectures in their collected form.

A. P. N.

*University College,
London, December 1918.*



PREFACE

OF the papers here printed, four were originally given as lectures in the University of London in May 1918. The first was also read, with some slight modifications and additions, to a number of audiences in the United Kingdom, generally under university or college auspices. The fifth paper was read before the Royal Historical Society, and has already been printed in the *American Political Science Review*. I have consented to the publication of the lectures with some misgivings, my chief reason for hesitation being an appreciation of the fact that lectures are not essays; they are prepared to be spoken, and, if put into print, may well appear quite different in tone and temper and even character. Especially is this likely to be the case when lectures are thought to be adapted to a special occasion and a particular audience. It is, however, too late to repent the decision to print, and they are here presented with the hope that they may be of some slight service in helping to strengthen the good feeling and sense of comradeship between the British and the American people.

As an admirer of Great Britain, I have felt