

CHRISTIANITY AND POLITICS

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Christianity and politics by William Cunningham

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WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM

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AND POLITICS**

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BY

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM, D.D., F.B.A.

ARCHDEACON OF ELY



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PREFACE

THE bearing of Christian teaching on the life of the community is a matter of great interest from many points of view. In lectures at the London School of Economics in 1913 I endeavoured to deal with the relations of *Christianity and Economic Science*, reserving for the time the practical questions as to political duty: this was the subject of the course of Lowell Lectures which I had the honour of delivering in the autumn of 1914. There has been the greatest difference of opinion between different bodies of Christians as to the mode of bringing Christianity to bear on political life, and the differences are so fundamental that it is worth while to examine them in turn, and see how far each opinion has justified itself as a matter of practical experience. The more we are aware of the danger of giving exaggerated importance to any half truth, the better prospect there will be of finding common ground, on which all can work together without any sacrifice of principle. The Lowell Lectures, as originally written, were chiefly concerned with the internal government of a community; but the war has given importance to all questions of international

PREFACE,

relations; and in revising the lectures for publication I have endeavoured to take account of national life in all its aspects. The appendix, on the *Attitude of the Church towards War*, is part of a memorandum written at the request of a Committee of the Lower House of Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, which had been appointed to consider the subject of the Church and War.

W. C.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,
30 July, 1915.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

War as an Anachronism.
Appeal to Christianity.
Disappointed Expectations.
Maxims for Society.
Personal Sense of Duty.

I. CHRISTENDOM AND THE REFORMATION . . . 8

I. THE PAPACY.

Spiritual and Civil Authority.
The Secularising of Papal Power.
The Counter-Reformation.

II. EXTERNAL SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY.

Bishop Ketteler and Social Questions.
Papal Claims.
Diminishing Influence.
Failure to give Definite Guidance.

III. THE ALIENNESS OF ANGLO-SAXON PEOPLES.

Papal Enunciation of Truisms.
Suspicion of Clerical Interference.
Loss to Christian Studies.

II. CHURCH AND STATE IN ENGLAND . . . 30

I. NATIONAL LIFE.

The Church as National.
The Appeal to the Bible.
Loyalty to the Crown.
Sense of Mission.
The Gentry and the Council.

CONTENTS

- II. THE ADMINISTRATION OF A CHRISTIAN REALM.
Ecclesiastical and Civil Authorities.
The Relief of the Poor.
The Enforcement of Fish Diet.
Objection to Usury.
Attacks on the Stuart Administration.
- III. THE RIGHT TO COERCE.
Coercing People for the Common Good.
A Common Order in Worship.
Economic Progress.
The Art of Leadership.
- III. PRESBYTERIANISM AND THE SUPREMACY OF SCRIPTURE 63
- I. THE SCRIPTURAL MODEL FOR A POLITY.
Reaction from the Synagogue of Satan.
A Godly Nation.
The Magistrates and Force.
Freedom for Capital.
The Spiritual Independence of Ministers.
- II. PRESBYTERIAN THEOCRACY.
A Christian Community.
Education and Poor-Relief.
Industrial Requirements and Prudential Virtues.
Capital and the New Slavery.
- III. THE DANGER OF MISUSING SCRIPTURE.
The Bible and Principles for a Polity.
Economic Laws.
Society and Individuals.
- IV. INDEPENDENTS AND THE SUPREMACY OF CONSCIENCE 92
- I. PERSONAL CONVICTION AND GATHERED CHURCHES.
Gathered Churches.
The Duties of the Community.
Attack upon the Parochial System.

CONTENTS

- II. ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES AND THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.
 - Official Duty.
 - Civil Rights.
 - Public Responsibilities.
- III. CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS.
 - Withdrawal to the New World.
 - External Relations and Internal Regulation.
 - The Two Spheres.
- IV. UNASSIMILATED ELEMENTS IN ENGLISH SOCIETY.
 - The Clarendon Code.
 - The Assertion of Personal Rights.
 - The Elimination of Religion from Politics.
- V. THE GROUNDS OF CIVIL OBEDIENCE.
 - The Duty of Civil Obedience.
 - Refraining from Active Obedience.
 - The Appeal to Force.
 - Duty to the Community and to God.
- V. RELIGION AND PUBLIC SPIRIT 127
 - I. SELF-DISCIPLINE AND GROWTH.
 - Personal Religious Life.
 - Services and Societies.
 - John Wesley and Methodism.
 - II. THE DUTIES OF THE COMMUNITY.
 - Pulpit Exhortations.
 - National Mission and National Duty.
 - Self-Interest and Public Spirit.
 - Trading Companies, and Planters.
 - Duty to the Poor and to Dependents.
 - Hospitals and the Humane Society.
 - The Anti-Slavery Movement.
 - III. THE PROSPERITY OF THE COMMUNITY.
 - Improving Landlords and Enterprising Capitalists.
 - Individual Loss and the Progress of the Community