BIBLIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR
OF
SIR ADOLPHUS WILLIAM WARD
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OF
SIR ADOLPHUS WILLIAM WARD
1837–1924

By A. T. BARTHOLOMEW

WITH
A MEMOIR

BY
T. F. TOUT

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Sir A. W. Ward in his study at Peterhouse Lodge From a photograph taken in 1913 Frontispiece

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PREFATORY NOTE

MY FATHER desired that no formal biography of himself should be written after his death. But he left instructions that a bibliography of his writings should be printed in the hope that it might be of service to students: and he expressed a wish that Mr A. T. Bartholomew, of Peterhouse and the University Library, would undertake the somewhat laborious task of preparing it for Press.

To the Bibliography which we owe to Mr Bartholomew's affection and care, it seemed good to prefix the Memoir, instinct with truth and understanding, which Professor T. F. Tout, my father's friend and colleague at Manchester, wrote at the request of the British Academy.

To the Council of the British Academy I would express my thanks for allowing the Memoir, with some corrections and additions, to be here reprinted from its Proceedings. I need not formally thank Professor Tout and Mr Bartholomew, for I know that what they have done has been a labour of love.

A. C. T. BARNES

Bishop's Croft
Harborne, Birmingham
April 1926
SIR ADOLPHUS WILLIAM WARD
1837–1924

ADOLPHUS WILLIAM WARD was born at Netley Cottage, Hampstead, on December 2, 1837, and was the second son of John Ward, C.B., and his wife Caroline Bullock. John Ward’s father, another John Ward, had been Collector of Customs at East Cowes, and his mother was a sister of Thomas Arnold of Rugby, whose father had preceded the elder John Ward in his collectorship. The younger John had at one time co-operated with his uncle in editing a shortlived newspaper, but was at the time of Adolphus’ birth an inspector of prisons. When his son was less than three years old, John Ward was sent to Germany on diplomatic missions which resulted in his establishment there for the rest of his working life. He was between 1845 and 1860 Consul-General at Leipzig, between 1860 and 1870 Consul-General at Hamburg, and finally Minister-Resident to the Hanse Towns. The record of his official work in Germany is preserved in the manuscripts of John Ward, bequeathed by his son to Peterhouse, where they are open to the inspection of historical students. Some of his reminiscences were published in 1872 as Experiences of a Diplomatist. Adolphus Ward had two brothers and two sisters. His elder brother, John, became a judge in India and died in early middle life. His younger brother, now Sir William Ward, K.C.M.G., entered the British consular service, and at the time of his retirement was Consul-General at Hamburg. His elder sister married, and left one daughter, who became the wife of Sir Arthur Schuster, late Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society.
The threefold connexions with official service under the Crown, with the Arnold clan and with Germany, had permanent results on Adolphus Ward’s attitude throughout life. Residence at Leipzig through his early years made him as familiar with the German speech, literature, and modes of thought as with those of his own land. His early schooling was all in Germany. It began at a preparatory school in Berlin, where his father was sent on a mission. From 1845 to 1853 he was successively at the Nikolaischule at Leipzig, which he described as a ‘gymnasium of the old type,’ the Blochmann-Vitzthum Institut at Dresden, where he acquired the beginnings of his zest for history from W. Herbst, ‘the teacher,’ he wrote long afterwards, ‘to whom I owe a debt of gratitude which I have cherished through life.’ After he was sixteen, his education became purely English. This English education began in 1853 at Bury St Edmunds Grammar School, at a time when Dr J. W. Donaldson, a classical scholar of remarkable attainments, was its head master. He was greatly influenced by his head master, whom he described later ‘as a critical scholar of genius and as a teacher unforgettable.’ From Bury school he was admitted as a pensioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, on May 23, 1855. Travelled contemporaries said that he ‘looked like a German corps-student,’ but he soon made his mark in college society. He graduated in 1859 with a first class in the Classical Tripos, doing especially well in ancient history. He was elected in 1861 to a fellowship which he retained until his marriage, in 1879, with his cousin, Adelaide Laura, daughter of the Rev. T. B. Lancaster. For the first few years his occupations varied considerably. He entered the Inner Temple in 1860 and was called to the Bar in 1866. He never attempted to practise in the profession of the law. He
was in succession a lecturer at Peterhouse, a temporary examiner in the Education Office, and assistant to George Ramsay, Professor of Humanity at Glasgow. In 1866 his line of work was permanently determined by his appointment as Professor of History and English Language and Literature at Owens College, Manchester. He remained at Manchester until 1897. Then followed a brief interlude of comparative rest in London from 1897 to 1900. From 1900 to his death he was Master of Peterhouse. Accordingly his active career divides itself between his thirty-two years in Manchester and the twenty-four years after his return to Cambridge.

When Ward went to Manchester, Owens College had outlived the troubles of its early youth, but was still a new and struggling institution. Its students were few in number, young in years, and could only obtain academic status by preparing for the external degrees of the University of London. The courses for these stood in no subject in any direct relation to the teaching at Manchester, and gave little opportunity for specialization in either History or English. Despite these hampering limitations, Ward’s teaching stimulated the interest of his students and made a deep impression upon those who came under his influence. He soon began to take the lead in matters of policy. He was one of the four professors who in 1875 issued a pamphlet advocating the erection of Owens College into an independent degree-giving university. After five years of agitation the scheme was adopted by the Privy Council in a radically different form from that which had been in the minds of its promoters. To meet the opposition of Leeds and Liverpool, the compromise of a ‘Federal University’ was, perhaps too easily, accepted. In 1880 the Victoria University was established with its seat in Manchester and with Owens College as its first
constituent college; but other colleges could be taken in, and ultimately University College, Liverpool, and the Yorkshire College, Leeds, were also included.

Ward was disappointed at the compromise, but did his best to make the new university a success. Henceforth administration divided his interests with teaching and writing, and, as time went on, affairs made an increasing demand on his energies. As first chairman of the Board of Studies he was largely responsible for the degree courses of the new university. In particular he organized an Honours School of History on lines that have never been substantially departed from. He acted as Vice-Chancellor from 1886 to 1890 and again from 1894 to 1896. For fifteen years he continued to bear the triple burden of his chair, but after 1880 he obtained some relief by the appointment of a separate Professor of English Philology in the person of T. N. Toller, henceforward his intimate friend. He continued, however, to be responsible for both English Literature and the whole of History until his appointment, in 1889, as Principal of Owens College. He remained until 1897 a Professor of History, and gave a course every year on Roman history until the claims of administration forced him to renounce teaching altogether.

It was in the latter part of his dual professorship that Ward's best work as a teacher was done. He lectured for a prodigious number of hours on a great variety of subjects. Yet he took immense pains with all his courses, making a point of writing out each lecture fully and reading it directly from the manuscript. These manuscripts he was always altering and improving, so that each course became essentially new. His style of exposition was like that of his books, but his strong personality and majestic presence made his lectures still more impressive and stimulating than his written word. His formal method of teaching
hardly favoured personal contact with the student, but all his more promising pupils had good cause to realize his interest in their welfare, and his zeal to help them in their careers. It was always his special glory that he communicated to his abler pupils a touch of his enthusiasm for letters and his zeal for the advancement of knowledge. His powerful character impressed every listener; his high-mindedness made contact with him an inspiration; and his courtesy and old-world exquisiteness of manner set a standard rare in modern life. To help a pupil gave him real pleasure. His intense zest for his subject was a stimulus even to the most sluggish. His qualities came out with particular force in his lectures on English literature, at which his audiences were very large. Alike in literature and in history, he attracted to himself able pupils who, under his inspiration, attained distinction in both these lines of study. But even more remarkable is the testimony to his abiding influence on students whose later careers were in no wise directed towards his own lines of work.

Ward was universally recognized as one of the strongest men of the College, and when, in 1889, Dr Greenwood resigned the Principalship, he became his successor almost as a matter of course. He retained this office until 1897. During these eight years Ward put himself at the head of every new movement. In nearly every case he succeeded in carrying through his ideas. An early friend of the higher education of women, he secured for women, admitted slowly and rather grudgingly to Owens College, the exercise there of the rights of equal studentship which had been given them in the charter of the University. He took a keen interest in the development of the training department for the education of teachers for both primary and secondary schools. He promoted the extension of the college buildings, the development of new departments,

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and the increase of the staff. An inspiring address to the students led to the formation of the Manchester University Settlement.

Ward was as much absorbed in the details of administration as in the general direction of policy. He was indefatigable in attending boards and committees. He strove to bring together the various activities of the College into a common focus. The generous and charming hospitality exercised by him and Mrs Ward made their home in Fallowfield a real social centre. But his ceaseless preoccupation in policy, propaganda, and endless detail and routine, wore out his strength and undermined his health. His strong constitution withstood more than one dangerous illness, but in 1897 he determined to resign his post. His retirement was marked by general demonstrations of devotion such as few men have been able to inspire. The two rebuffs which he took most to heart were his failure to persuade the University to establish degrees in theology, and the frustration of his endeavour to put the relations of the College and the Infirmary on a sound basis. He had the satisfaction of seeing these questions settled within a few years of his resignation. He was anxious to play his part in every side of the life he saw around him. Though keeping aloof from practical politics, he was and remained a keen Liberal of a rather old-fashioned sort. He was a zealous churchman, and interested in the broader aspects of all religious questions. It was in recognition of his share in the life of the community that the Corporation of Manchester elected him to the honorary freedom of the city—an appropriate recognition of his services.

In 1897 Dr and Mrs Ward left Manchester and settled down at Kensington. Ill-health still pursued him, but he was not the man to rest, even in retirement. New re-
sponsibilities crowded upon him, from which he would not shrink. He became governor of various educational bodies, including the Royal Holloway College, of which his only daughter was a student. He held the Ford Lectureship in English History at Oxford and the presidency of the Royal Historical Society, an honour which he humorously suggested came to him because ‘having lately resigned a very busy administrative position, I was doubtless supposed to have a good deal of leisure at my command.’ It was characteristic of him that his first presidential address ended with a plea for the establishment of a school of advanced historical training in London, which has since been happily realized. However, after three years, Peterhouse made an irresistible demand on his services. In 1900 he gladly accepted election to the Mastership of his old College, and left London for Cambridge.

The last stage of Ward’s career now began, and was extended to a quarter of a century. He had not lost sight of Cambridge during his long absence. He held his fellowship up to 1873 and in 1872 he had published Suggestions Towards the Establishment of a History Tripos there, which perhaps bore more practical fruit under his direction in Manchester than in Cambridge itself. In 1884 he had proceeded Litt.D. and in 1891 Peterhouse made him an Honorary Fellow. A year later reminiscences of his undergraduate days appeared in a short-lived college periodical called the Grayling, which reflect with charming grace and sincerity the keenness of his memory and the freshness of his enthusiasm for his old College. Such a man was the last person in the world to look upon the headship of a small college as a place of comfortable retirement, and he at once threw himself into the activities of the College and the University. The traditions of a
headship were against resuming his teaching, but he found many informal ways of lending a helping hand, and he was as eager as he had been in Manchester to encourage original study and research. He ruled over Peterhouse with a kindly autocracy that greatly conduced to its prosperity. So far as the restricted field allowed, he made Peterhouse a centre of historical study, and his encouragement of advanced work was in no wise limited to his own College. He brought in new blood while carefully fostering domestic merit; he transformed the College and gave it prestige and new ideas; he made it as good, of its kind and size, as any college in the University. He was at his happiest in all personal relations, and the open-handed and genial hospitality dispensed from Peterhouse Lodge made it a social centre whose influence was felt far beyond the College and University.

Ward did important work for the University. He was from an early stage an active member of the Council of the Senate, and was in 1901 called upon to act as Vice-Chancellor, though ill-health compelled him to refuse re-election at the expiration of his first year of office. In general academic politics he was not always able to exercise the dominating influence which he established over his own College. In some quarters he was at first looked upon with suspicion as a revolutionary from a new university, though greater knowledge soon dispelled this illusion. He found that the time was not ripe for the radical measures which he desired and used his influence to shape such moderate reforms as were possible. Thus in 1905 he successfully advocated the separation of the Economic from the Historical Tripos, a course which was probably to the interest of both subjects. When in 1908 the History Tripos was reformed, he pleaded almost passionately for the compulsory study of universal history, but failed to
carry his point. His best service to history at Cambridge was, however, to be found in the help which he delighted to give to all advanced work and research. The remarkable development of the serious study of quite recent history in Cambridge owes much to his example and encouragement. He was, too, at his best on some of the special syndicates, notably on the Library and Press Syndicates, to both of which he devoted an immensity of time and thought. In the former he pressed for acquisitions in continental literature, especially on the historical and literary sides. When the Acton Library was presented to the University, Ward was one of the committee which drew up the scheme of classification, and personally interested himself in its cataloguing and arrangement. On the Press Syndicate, of which he was a member between 1905 and 1919, and chairman for the greater part of the period, his influence was supreme.

His work at Cambridge never prevented Ward from keeping up old obligations and attachments. A remarkable instance of his devotion to the institutions with which he had once been associated is seen in his enduring affection for Bury School, of which he was in later years a governor. His loyalty to Manchester remained as strong as his piety and affection for Cambridge. As a member of the Court, the supreme governing body of Manchester University, he closely followed all movements there. When Liverpool started an agitation for the dissolution of the Federal Victoria University, Ward’s vigorous return to the ideals of 1875 did much to make Manchester follow the lead of Liverpool, and to ensure the dissolution of the Federal University which only taught through its colleges. With the establishment of the independent University of Manchester in 1903, including a faculty of theology, he saw the accomplishment of one of his chief ambitions. Of
that University Ward is, more than any other man, the true founder. He followed its developments with unabated interest until the end, and bequeathed to it a legacy which has been appropriately assigned to the subvention of the publication of works of scholarship and research in History and English Literature by the Manchester University Press. He also left the bulk of his books and a legacy of £1050 to Peterhouse. The money has been used by the College to equip the Ward Library for students in History and English Literature, in which his books are now separately preserved. A bequest of £1000, left to the College by his wife, has been devoted to establish the ‘Lady Ward Scholarship’ in History.

Recognition of Ward’s services had already flowed in from many quarters. Glasgow admitted him to the honorary degree of LL.D., and in 1895 he became honorary Litt.D. of Victoria University. He was also made an honorary Ph.D. in Leipzig. In 1911 he became a Knight of the Prussian Order of the Crown. In 1913 he was dubbed knight by King George V. He was President of the Spenser Society, President of the Royal Historical Society from 1899 to 1901, of the Chetham Society from 1901 to 1915, President of the English Goethe Society from 1911 until shortly before his death, and Vice-President of the Historical Association from its beginning in 1906.

In 1902 Ward was nominated in the charter both a fellow and a member of the Council of the British Academy. In 1908–10 he again served on its Council: from 1911 to 1913 he was its President, and again sat on the Council from 1913 to 1915. In the absence of Lord Bryce he acted as President of the London meeting of the International Historical Congress in April 1913. He was never more happy than when discharging the duties of president.
of a learned body. The unfailing dignity, urbanity, and patience with which he directed the proceedings of the London Congress largely contributed to the success of that gathering.

Up to now we have traced Ward's career as teacher and administrator. But the remarkable thing about him is that with responsibilities in these two relations which might well have fully occupied the energies of an ordinary strong man, he pursued at the same time the life of a scholar and writer. He published very little until he was over thirty, but for the rest of his life a stream of lectures, articles, pamphlets, and books continued to attest his immense and varied literary activity. This stream never ceased, though it flowed with comparative slowness during the strenuous years of his Manchester Principalship. It continued unabated until his last publications appeared after his death at the age of eighty-six. Some idea of the bulk and variety of this output may be seen from the complete bibliography which Mr A. T. Bartholomew has printed in the present volume.

It is characteristic of Ward's immense learning, strength, and vitality that he ever found his chief delight in turning from teaching and administration to literary production. All through his long career as a writer he carried the dualism of his Manchester chair into his private work. In one of his earliest published addresses, in 1866, he remarked humorously that the subjects for which he was responsible encouraged 'a perhaps naturally truant disposition to the systematic dissipation of such energies as it possessed.' However this may be, the 'dissipation' became so firmly fixed that it remained with him till the end, and the rival claims of English literature and ancient

1 Besides this, reference may be made to Dr T. A. Walker, A Peterhouse Bibliography, pp. 123–124 (1914).
and modern history continued to divide his attention. Yet few men have dealt so successfully with so wide a field of knowledge. His literary and historical writings have won him the respect and admiration of scholars in many different fields. In an age of specialism it was inevitable that specialists should pick holes in some of his books. But a prodigious memory, unremitting application, remarkable quickness in work, and rare breadth of interests combined to make all his varied output scholarly, solid, and important. In some ways he was hampered by a literary style which smacked somewhat of his German education and was a little lacking in simplicity, directness, and charm. The result was that effective and impressive as he was as a lecturer, his elaborate style made him occasionally somewhat difficult to follow in cold print.

Ward’s earlier publications were largely literary, and the strongest of them centred round the history of the drama. He was not only a learned historian of dramatic origins, but he was until middle life an enthusiastic playgoer, and for many years was the dramatic critic of the Manchester Guardian. The wide scope of his dramatic knowledge is best revealed in his first single undertaking on a large scale, his History of English Dramatic Literature to the Death of Queen Anne, published in two volumes in 1875. No other book in the language had hitherto attempted to cover this immense field. As a study of origins, it has been superseded by later works. But as a conspectus of the whole subject, it is a book of enormous labour and of solid value. In a second edition, published in three volumes in 1899, Ward valiantly strove to bring it up to the level of the advance made by scholarship and added considerably to its original scope. An even wider survey was made in the article on the Drama, contributed to the ninth edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, which
in an enlarged and revised form still held its place in the current eleventh edition, published in 1910. His other contributions to that Encyclopaedia were mainly on dramatists and other dramatic subjects, including Pantomime. Among his numerous editions of old plays, that of Marlowe’s *Dr Faustus* and Greene’s *Friar Bungay*, first published in 1878 and since enlarged in numerous later editions, is a characteristic example of recondite learning and unflagging industry.

This is only one example of Ward’s unwearied energy as a literary editor. Of his other editorial labours may be mentioned, as the earliest of the type, his edition of *Pope’s Works* in 1869 for Macmillan’s *Globe Series*; while the *Poems of George Crabbe* (1905–1907) and the *Knutsford Edition of the Works of Mrs Gaskell* (1906) belonged to his late Cambridge period. His short biographies of *Chaucer* (1880) and *Dickens* (1882) in Macmillan’s *English Men of Letters* are further illustrations of the width of his range. *The Life of Dickens* is among the most successful of his shorter books. His edition of the voluminous *Poems of John Byrom*, the Manchester Jacobite, nonjuring bishop and physician (two volumes, 1894–5), was completed in 1912 by a third volume, issued, as he said, not only as the duty of the president of the Chetham Society, but also as a ‘slight labour of love’ for Byrom’s native town. We must deal later with his last elaborate service to letters, both as editor and contributor of the *Cambridge History of English Literature*. But we must not forget his lectures before the British Academy on *The Tercentenary of Milton* (1908) and on *Shakespeare and the Makers of Virginia* (1919).

Ward’s knowledge of literature in many tongues was exceedingly wide. He kept up his classical scholarship to the end. He spoke German like a native and was deeply
read in German literature. His facility of speech in French was almost equally complete. His zest and appreciation for good poetry and prose in all languages were intense. But in his writings he generally tended towards the historical rather than the critical side, and was at his best when he did so. It is difficult, therefore, to draw the line between his literary and historical writings. This is particularly the case with his numerous lectures, articles, and contributions to newspapers and periodicals. Among these may be specially mentioned his frequent articles in the *Saturday Review*, the *Manchester Guardian*, the *Cornhill Magazine*, *Macmillan’s Magazine*, and the *Quarterly* and *Edinburgh Reviews*. Specimens of these have been brought together, along with reprints of many occasional papers of a more elaborate character, in the five volumes of his *Collected Papers: Historical, Literary, Travel and Miscellaneous*, published as a freewill recognition of his services by the Cambridge University Press in 1921. The number of these volumes could have been largely increased from his published articles without damage to their quality. But as they stand they illustrate sufficiently the width of his range and the variety of his interests. Special reference may well be made to his papers on travel, for until middle life Ward was an eager traveller, and delighted to write and speak of his wanderings in historic lands.

Ward’s contributions to historical literature began late. The first was a work of great labour, the translation into English of Ernst Curtius’s *History of Greece*, in five volumes, issued between 1868 and 1873. The first independent book on an historical subject was his short treatise on the *Counter Reformation*, published in 1889 in Longman’s *Epochs of Church History*. Numerous occasional papers and articles showed that he was already a serious worker in the
historical field. The history of Germany was always a study near to his heart, and an early ambition, encouraged by the great Lappenberg, had been to write a systematic history of the Hanseatic league. But this, he tells us, ‘remained a vision,’ though he long hoped to make German history his main study. It was generally believed in the seventies and eighties that he was accumulating materials for a general history of Germany, and it is certain that he had qualifications possessed by few Englishmen for this stupendous task. But the increasing claims of official work and the distractions of occasional publications prevented the realization of this task even on a small scale, though the three useful volumes on Germany 1815–1890, published by him in the Cambridge Historical Series between 1916 and 1918, represent a very thorough working up of the more recent periods to which his interest had gradually become transferred. It followed that his historical output consisted mainly of short pieces of work, papers, articles, lectures, and monographs, which were always learned, weighty, and valuable, but were not sufficiently closely related to each other to help towards the production of any one great undertaking. The majority of them treated either of German history, the history of the Renaissance, or the history of England in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Much valuable work on the statesmen of the seventeenth century is contained in his three hundred contributions to the Dictionary of National Biography, amounting to two-thirds of a volume of the original edition of the work and including long and solid articles on Queen Anne and Charles II. He was one of the founders of the English Historical Review and among its most generous and untiring friends. His contributions to its pages, including very numerous reviews, came with unfailing regularity, and his last review
in it was published after his death. Of his smaller books it is enough to mention his *House of Austria in the Thirty Years' War* (1869), *Sir Henry Wotton: A Biographical Sketch* (1898), his Ford Lectures on *Great Britain and Hanover: Some Aspects of the Personal Union* (1899), *The Electress Sophia and the Hanoverian Succession* (1903), and *The Period of Congresses and Securities of Peace* in the S.P.C.K. *Helps for Students of History.*

Having deeply at heart the building up of schools of history and the encouragement and direction of historical investigation, Ward was always disposed to throw his energies into any co-operative enterprises of scholarship. He was apprenticed in discipline of this sort through his relations to such undertakings as the *Dictionary of National Biography* and the *English Historical Review.* Just before the time of his final return to Cambridge accident involved him in an active part in another work of co-operative scholarship, which was to determine his chief literary activity in the last quarter of a century of his life. Lord Acton had designed and mapped out a co-operative history of modern Europe in twelve volumes, each of which was to centre round some historical fact of signal importance as the central idea round which individual developments were to be grouped, not accidentally but of reasoned purpose. He had enlisted contributors, collected articles, and drawn up a general plan. But the realization of so idealistic a scheme was beyond his strength, and his fatal illness took place before anything could be published. Ward was early interested in the enterprise and, with characteristic loyalty, took up the burden which Acton had been unable to bear. He was appointed Editor-in-chief in association with the late Dr (afterwards Sir) George Prothero and Mr (now Sir) Stanley Leathes. The future of the undertaking was soon secured. Between
1902 and 1911 the fourteen large volumes of the Cambridge Modern History were duly published.

Ward’s colleagues in the direction of the Cambridge Histories, Sir Stanley Leathes and Dr G. P. Gooch, have well described in print his editorial methods. They were remarkable for their meticulousness and thoroughness. Every section was read and re-read by him personally and every contributor was kept in close touch with the direction. Ward’s power of carrying things through triumphed over the remissness of the most dilatory of his contributors. With all his unwearyed attention to detail, he kept well before him the wide ideals of Acton, and if the outcome was not quite what Acton had hoped for, it resulted in an extremely useful and valuable compendium of modern history on a large and noble scale, based upon sound knowledge of the best sources, and almost overflowing in the elaboration and completeness of its details. Ward was not only chief editor, but one of the most fertile contributors, almost entirely on German history.

The remarkable success of the Cambridge Modern History encouraged the University Press to other similar ventures in co-operative synthesis. The first of these was the Cambridge History of English Literature, which was issued in fourteen volumes between 1907 and 1916. In this work Ward was again chief editor with the late Mr A. R. Waller, of the University Press, as his colleague. To its later volumes Ward made numerous contributions, dealing with very varied phases of the subject, and ranging from the origins of the drama to the historians of the nineteenth century. The whole work was perhaps less uniform in quality than the Modern History, but some parts of it are of remarkable excellence. Other works of the same kind followed, such as the Cambridge Ancient

1 The Cambridge Historical Journal, vol. 1, No. 2.
History and the Cambridge Mediaeval History. With neither of these had Ward any direct connexion, but they met with his approval and backing on the Press Syndicate. Unlike the series for which Ward was responsible, they have not yet (1925) been completed. It was otherwise with the last of his Cambridge co-operative histories. The Cambridge History of British Foreign Policy, edited by Ward and Dr G. P. Gooch, appeared in three volumes between 1922 and 1923. It was a wonderful achievement, designed by a man over eighty and carried through by the time he was eighty-five. Dr Gooch’s zealous and loyal friendship relieved him of some of the editorial drudgery, but editorial habits were too firmly established for him to delegate many of his labours. Once more he was contributor as well as editor. Besides an elaborate general introductory survey, he wrote two chapters, one on ‘The Schleswig-Holstein Question’ and the other on ‘Greece and the Ionian Islands.’ The former section contains some of the best and most original work he ever did, for it was largely based on the material brought together by his father, whose chief distinction as a diplomatist rested on his handling of the Schleswig-Holstein question between 1857 and 1862. So bold was John Ward’s chief minute on this subject that it was refused publication through the ordinary official channel.

Thus in his last as in his earliest work the influence on Ward of his German masters was very strong. He was one of the earliest and best of the interpreters of German scholarship to English readers. But his love of thoroughness and detail never blinded him to the more human aspects of history. In this he was a true disciple of his great-uncle Dr Arnold. Moreover, much of his written work, like that of his friend Freeman, was as didactic and educational in its purpose as were his academic
lectures. In this way he shared with Freeman in helping forward the creation of an English school of historical scholarship.

All through his life Ward was anxious to do all that was in his power to emphasize friendly relations between the land of his birth and that of his early education. His constant social and literary relations with German scholars were not simply for the sake of scholarship but were consciously directed to this end. These intimacies and his profound appreciation of German learning and scholarship made him feel with great acuteness the rupture of these ties as a result of the Great War. He convinced himself, however, of the righteousness of the allied cause, and bore disappointment with characteristic fortitude. His attitude to the great struggle is well brought out in a striking address, *Founder's Day in War Time*, which he gave in 1917 on the occasion of his last visit to Manchester.

During the years immediately succeeding the peace, Ward’s physical powers began slowly to fail. Increasing deafness made it difficult for him to serve on committees, and forced the most hospitable of men playfully to beg the indulgence of his guests. But he still kept up his lifelong habit of constant toil, and remained to the last as eager as ever to promote learning and help forward the young scholar. The end came almost suddenly at Peterhouse Lodge on June 19, 1924. He was buried in the churchyard of Cherry Hinton, where so many of his predecessors at Peterhouse lie interred. Lady Ward did not long outlive him. There had been no flaw in their companionship of five and forty years: its only abiding grief was the loss of their firstborn infant son. Complete interdependence made of their married life a beautiful and rare perfection. Her comradeship with her husband helped not only him

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but all who knew him. Religious in the best sense, she carried her high principles, her sympathy, and her generosity of act and judgment into every relation of life. Frail in health during her latter years, she yet survived him with courage. But as a friend well said, ‘It was like her to hasten after him.’ Within six months she died at Bishop’s Croft, Harborne, near Birmingham, where she had gone to live with their only daughter, the wife of Dr E. W. Barnes, who, soon after Ward’s death, had been made Bishop of Birmingham. She was buried by her husband’s side at Cherry Hinton.

Ward’s long life of eighty-six years was packed full of achievement. As a scholar he won distinction in widely different literary and historical fields. As a teacher and writer he was a stimulus to many generations of disciples, some now grown old, who have achieved fame in very different walks of life. He was a leader in the vindication of the right of history and modern literature to obtain academic recognition, and of the claim of women to share fully in the opportunities of men to obtain higher education. As an academic administrator he was foremost among the makers of a new university and the reformers of an old one. But, great as was his achievement, it counts for little as compared with the personality and character which inspired it. Critics might complain that his scholarship with all its width was seldom ultimate, that his academic leadership was sometimes tempered by prudent opportunism, and that his devotion to detail sometimes obscured the basic principles which inspired him. But there could be only one opinion of the man. His very presence was an inspiration and made him an ideal leader. Tall, dignified, gravely magnificent in manner, he bore, in middle life, a striking physical resemblance to his cousin, Matthew Arnold, though few men were more
unlike in their general attitude of mind. He was sometimes said to have inherited the manners of the diplomatist of the older school, courteous and urbane but somewhat formal, aloof, and haughty. But this was a very superficial view of one of the most kindly, friendly, and sympathetic of men. His stately manner could obscure, only to very unseeing eyes, the warmth of his affections and the kindliness and simplicity of his nature. It was these qualities which made him sympathetic with the young, down to the end of his career. Those privileged to know him intimately were constantly inspired by his example to emulate his single-minded devotion to high ideals, his absolute absorption in the work that lay before him, his unselfishness, his disregard of his own ease and comfort, and his scorn for mean and petty issues. Though intolerant of slipshod and unscholarly work, he was never blind to honest merit, and was generous in perceiving in others qualities and methods very different from his own. His private life was singularly happy but uneventful, and he found his best refreshment in the family circle and in the society of a few intimates. But his rare social gifts included a genius for hospitality and friendship which knew little distinction of country, class, or creed. He was as well known in academic circles on the Continent, notably in Germany, as in this country. He kept in touch to the end with a wide and varied acquaintance by means of a vast correspondence for which he always seemed to find time, though he wrote most of his letters with his own hand. In more intimate circles he was, perhaps, rather slow in giving his confidence, but when it was once won, he gave it ungrudgingly and completely. It was well said of him that ‘Ward never forgot a friend.’ ‘Do not be afraid of being sentimental’ was advice which he was fond of giving to his Manchester pupils. This touch of emotion was not the least of his
attractiveness to those who got near enough to him to realize its strength\textsuperscript{1}.

\textsuperscript{1} In preparing this notice I have made free use of an obituary of Ward in the \textit{Manchester Guardian} of June 20, 1924, for which I was mainly responsible. I have also borrowed something from the obituary notice in \textit{The Times}, clearly written from intimate knowledge, and from the personal sketch by the Master of Emmanuel and Professor W. Emery Barnes of Peterhouse, prefixed to \textit{In Memoriam: Adolphus William Ward}. Cambridge 1924. Among the friends who have helped me with material and advice, I wish specially to thank Mrs E. W. Barnes; and Dr T. A. Walker and Dr Harold Temperley, both of Peterhouse.

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