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Cambridge

William Henry Samuel Jones

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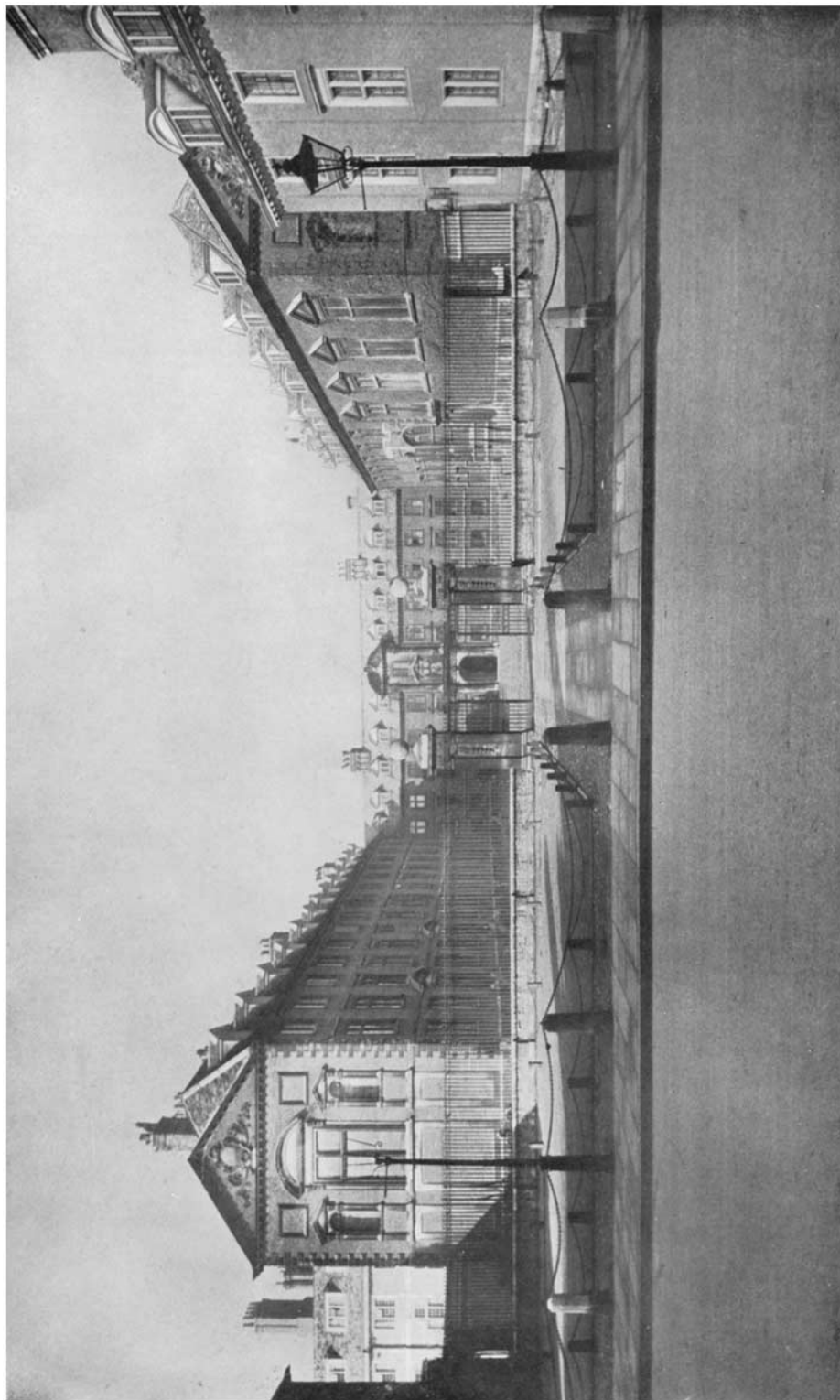
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St Catharine's College
Main Court

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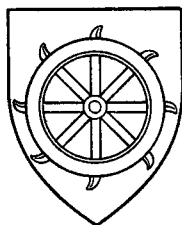
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A HISTORY OF
ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE
ONCE CATHARINE HALL
CAMBRIDGE

By

W. H. S. JONES, Litt.D.

President, late Bursar



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AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS
1936

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ERRATA

- p. 102 l. 22. *before* “Addenbrooke” *add* “after his death this interest survived in the College, and”.
- p. 135 note 3. There should be inverted commas to mark off the first pamphlet, which was written by the Master of Christ's College.
- p. 337 l. 1. Major Luard meant to write 5.30.
- p. 375 l. 20. The date (of which there is no written record) may be 1920, not 1919.
- p. 386 l. 17. *for* “Pleasant” *read* “Pheasant”.

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PREFACE

THE real history of a college is a thread spun out of the lives of those who have lived together within its walls. It is, however, only during the last century that the community life of St Catharine's has been recorded with any degree of fulness; down to the nineteenth century at least much more is known of "Catharine men" after they left the College than when they were in it, and of those who died while they were members of the Society most are shadowy figures. Every now and then the common will of the College manifests itself in some corporate act, or its efforts at self-expression appear in disputes, whether amicable differences of opinion or passionate quarrels. But events like these are occasional. This history, therefore, is episodic, a sequence of incidents usually to all appearance disconnected and separate. Doubtless the links are always there, but only sometimes are they seen by us; more often they have been lost for ever in the mists of oblivion.

A college history, therefore, must be annalistic in character, and nothing is gained by disguising this truth instead of frankly admitting it. Only occasionally is it wise to attempt to connect one episode with another, and then only tentatively and with every possible precaution. The spirit of a period, its mentality, is the true bond between one event and another, and it cannot be caught, except partially and with much uncertainty.

If this continuous thread of human lives could be reconstructed, the history of a college would be as interesting as a novel. The annalist is often tempted to exercise his constructive imagination when he finds that all that remains of a period is a dull list of dates and events. He is, however, in duty bound to keep himself in check and to chronicle only the bare facts. But no such restraint is placed upon the reader; he can, if he be a devoted "Catharine man", have no more delightful task than that of attempting to clothe in flesh and blood the skeleton that is all the historian can give him for most of the life of the College. If a reader asks: "Why this dull account of Overall's election instead of entertaining matter like 'Robinson's vote'?" the answer is ready. The entertaining matter exists in the latter case, but in the former

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it is wanting; the historian must not invent, but the reader may, if he likes, and he will derive great pleasure from his efforts.

The duller parts of the history have been grouped together in Part II under the title of "Materials". The name was chosen after very careful consideration. It indicates that, at least from most of the sections, material can be extracted to feed the fancy. Especially fruitful are the letters, which have been selected for their intrinsic interest, though some of them do not concern St Catharine's at all. Only want of space has prevented the inclusion of many more.

In spite of its fragmentary nature, a college history has certain lessons to teach. Of these perhaps the most obvious and the most important is that a college serves best each age and generation when it is true to itself, and tries to realise the ideal set before it in its statutes. This ideal may not, in fact often does not, commend itself to posterity, but a worthy posterity will see to it that a new and more enlightened ideal is embodied in fresh legislation. A second lesson, at first sight inconsistent with the one just indicated, is that a college must never think only of the present; unless it realises its duty to posterity it may prove a "dead hand" in very deed, cramping development and compelling the future to be content with less than its best. A selfish college may do more harm than a lazy one. A really great college is always true to itself without forgetting its successors.

It was found to be unwise to observe a rigid uniformity in modernising obsolete methods of spelling. These are sometimes irritating and a hindrance to the reader, especially in long documents and in letters; at other times the old spelling is an aid to a true understanding by giving the appropriate atmosphere. A delicate sense of the fitness of things is necessary if one is to decide rightly when modernisation is, and when it is not, desirable, and I cannot hope to have been consistent in my inconsistency.

Another apology is perhaps due for grouping the incidents of the history under four main heads, after having adopted a quasi-annalistic method, and for treating certain subjects in separate sections or appendices. I can only say that to break the rule of annalistic treatment does at times appear to make for greater clearness and a closer sequence, although it involves a certain amount of repetition. Neither has it been possible to keep strictly to these four

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divisions; in particular, many financial matters are included in Chapter II because they concern closely domestic history.

I hope too that I shall be forgiven for attempting to mark the peculiar position of "scholars" at St Catharine's for two hundred years by using a small "s" instead of a capital in the part of the history where our earliest Scholarships are described. "Scholarship" I have always printed with a capital, except in quotations.

My thanks are due to the Master and Fellows of the College, who have undertaken the expense of printing the work. The Master, Mr D. A. Winstanley and Dr G. G. Coulton have helped by advice and criticism, while Mr E. A. B. Barnard, whose name ought to be on the title-page, has catalogued our muniments and ransacked the London collections of manuscripts for new evidence. He has moreover been generous to a fault with invaluable help and suggestions, and has compiled the index of names. To the staff of our College Office, in particular to our chief clerk Mr J. F. Ablett, more than a mere expression of thanks is due. They have all worked hard at the tiresome labour of typing; they have searched through ponderous tomes to find a quotation; and Mr Ablett actually read three out of the four volumes of *Alumni Cantabrigienses* to collect the references to St Catharine's men. Without the devoted help of this loyal staff the present history could never have been attempted.

No words of mine can express what I owe to the labours of Bishop Philpott and Bishop Browne. The former left the materials for a history of St Catharine's; the latter wrote one. My debt to both I gratefully acknowledge; the present book is but the effort of a pupil to carry on the work of his masters, and to add a record of the period they did not live to see. My thanks are due to Messrs Hutchinson and Co., the publishers of Browne's *St Catharine's College*, for kind permission to make use of it, and to quote from it several long passages.

The best thanks of the College are due to several photographers, especially to Mr W. Tams, for their careful work, and to the officials of the University Press for their untiring patience.

W. H. S. J.

April 1936

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EPOCHS IN THE HISTORY OF ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE

WITH A LIST OF MASTERS

*The old ideal; St Catharine's
for its Fellows*

- 1473 Robert Woodlark
1475 Richard Roche
1480 John Tapton
1487 John Wardall
1506 Richard Balderstone
1507 Thomas Greene
1529 Reginald Bainbrigge

*The period of change; St Catharine's
begins to be a teaching institution for
the young*

- 1547 Edwin Sandys
1554 Edmund Cosyn
1559 John Mey

Quarrels

- 1577 Edmund Hound
1598 John Overall
1607 John Hills

Tutorial System at its best

- 1626 Richard Sibbes
1635 Ralph Brownrigge
1645 William Spurstow
1650 John Lightfoot
1675 John Eachard
1697 Sir William Dawes¹

Decline

- 1714 Thomas Sherlock
1719 Thomas Crosse
1736 Edward Hubbard²
1741 Kenrick Prescott
1779 Lowther Yates

Progress

- 1799 Joseph Procter
1845 Henry Philpott

Decline

- 1861 Charles Kirkby Robinson

Modern Regeneration

- 1909 Claude Hermann Walter Johns
1920 Thomas Wortley Drury
1927 Frederick Margetson Rushmore
1933 Henry John Chaytor

THE LIST OF MASTERS IN THE REGISTER OF DANIEL MILLES

Richardus Roche natus Tauntoniae...huius Collegii prefecturam primus obtinuit.

Ioannes Tapton...non alio ornatus titulo quam Magistri in Artibus.

Ioannes Wardall...Bacchalaureus sacrae Theologiae.

Richardus Batterston...sacrae Theologiae Bacchalaureus.

¹ Before Dawes there was elected Dr Peter Fisher, who resigned before admission.

² Before Hubbard there was elected John Sayer, B.D., of Queens' College, who resigned before admission.

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Masters in Register of Daniel Milles

Thomas Green sacrae Theologiae Professor.

Reginald Bainbrigg sacrae Theologiae Bacchalaureus.

Edwinus Sands... aliquot annos huic Collegio praefuit, sed regnante Maria Pontificiorum furori cedens diu apud exteros latuit donec mitiora Elizabethae tempora eum in nativum solum revocarunt, et non multo post ad Archiepiscopatum Eboracensem evexerunt.

Edmundus Cosins in Iure Civili Doctor.

Iohannes Mey sacrae Theologiae Professor... postquam optimum prudentiae et integritatis specimen apud nos praebuisset ad Episcopatum Carliolensem evectus est.

Edmundus Hownd sacrae Theologiae Professor in alieno solo natus, nempe Gallorum Caleti seu Gessoriaci.

Ioannes Overallus vir profundae eruditionis hanc Praefecturam, simulque Cathedram Theologicam pro Rege in hac Academia tenuit. Cuius rara et recondita Doctrina tantum apud omnes percubuerit ut post alios Dignitatis Ecclesiasticae titulos primo in sedem Lichfieldensem nec multo post in Norwicensem suffectus est.

Ioannes Hill sacrae Theologiae Professor in Comitatu Cantabrigiensi natus Praefectus Duodecimus.

Richardus Sibbs sacrae Theologiae Professor, omnium quos praesens aetas viderit pientissimus, Concionator mellitissimus, qui haud paucorum corda suavitate dicendi emolliit, et vivendi sanctitate ad bonam frugem plane rapuit. Hic erat qui Collegium istud partim temporum injuria, partim Praefectorum socordia et avaritia bonis suis spoliatum, et omni honore exutum ad pristinam famam et Dignitatem restituit, quaque erat apud omnes pios autoritate maxima, largam Benefactorum messem, in hoc vacuum Gymnasium faeliciter deduxerit. Adeo ut non nudo Praefecti nomine dignus videatur, sed alter ffundator censeri debet.

Radulphus Brownrigg, Ipswichi Suffolciensium Decus ingens et gloria, maximo totius Academiae comodo in Magistrum decimum quartum electus est. Vir supra communem mortalium sortem eruditus, ingenio plane mirabili, Iudicio exquisitissimo, quibus morum suavitas, et candor accesserit singularis. In concionibus facundissimus, pariter ac copiosissimus, in Disputationibus acutissimus, in re Collegiali prudentissimus ac diligentissimus. Ad maxima quaeque negotia aptus natus, et nihil minus spirans quam Episcopum in quorum sacrum ordinem Anno 1641 assumptus, Episcopus Exoniensis consecratus est. [*Mistakes uncorrected.*]