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the age of Elizabeth

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(Series E.)

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

For

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY

FOR THE

EXTENSION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHING.

SYLLABUS

OF A

COURSE OF SIX LECTURES

ON

THE AGE OF ELIZABETH

BY

ETHELBERT D. WARFIELD, LL. D.,

President of Lafayette College.

No. 3.

Price, 10 Cents.

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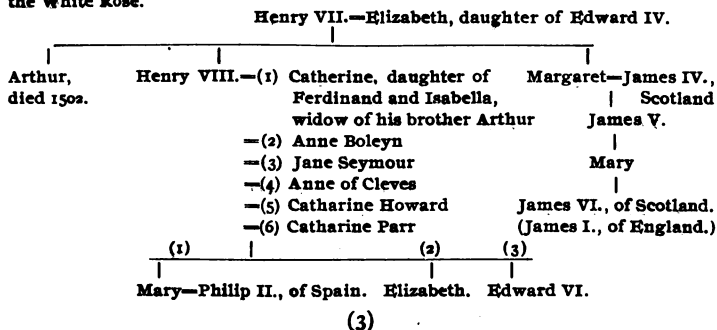
THE SPACIOUS TIMES OF GREAT ELIZABETH.

“This royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle,
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,
This other Eden, demi-paradise,
This fortress built by Nature for herself
Against infection and the hand of war,
This precious stone set in the silver sea,
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England.”

I. THE TUDOR MONARCHY.*

The English Constitution, King, Nobility, Commons. Parliament—its origin and development. The Wars of the Roses. Origin and claims of the Tudor family. The popular basis of the Tudor despotism. Henry VIII. (b. 1491, r. 1509-47). His character, divorce, relation to the Reformation, and influence on English growth. Edward VI. (b. 1537, r. 1547-53). Rapid progress of the Reformed doctrines. Religious and political elements in the Reformation

*Henry VII., the founder of the Tudor monarchy, was the g. g. grandson of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, son of Edward III, and founder of the party known by the symbol of the Red Rose,—by Catharine Swynford, a Morganatic wife. He was grandson of Owen Tudor, who married Catharine of France, widow of Henry V. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV, a representative of the White Rose.



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movement. Mary (b. 1516, r. 1553-59). The Catholic Reaction. The Spanish marriage. The martyrs—Cranmer, Ridley, Latimer. Reaction of parties. Elizabeth (b. 1533, r. 1553-1603). Her early life and character. Her hereditary position favorable to liberty and the Reformation. Her rivalry with Mary, Queen of Scots. Its personal and political aspects. Her attitude to domestic and foreign affairs at the beginning of her reign.

II. ELIZABETH; THE WOMAN AND THE QUEEN.

Elizabeth a true Tudor. Masculinity of the race. Her strong sense. Her successful sinking of the woman in the Queen. The splendor of the Age. The English Renaissance. The statesmen of the time. Walsingham and Burleigh. Domestic consolidation and development. Foreign wars and England's influence. Lack of a bold policy due to necessity of peace at home. The growth of Parliament. The succession to the throne. Marriage treaties. The woman sometimes dominates the Queen. The court and courtiers. Jealousy of Mary. Personal considerations. The Armada, 1588. The final success of the reign. The unsolved problems handed down to the Stuarts.

III. SOCIAL LIFE IN TUDOR ENGLAND.

"When England was Merrie England." Classes under feudal system. Decay of serfdom with growth of privileged towns. Peasant wars. The black death and its economic influences. The wool trade and its influence on town and country. The "sturdy beggars."

Town Life. London, its houses, palaces and streets. The guilds, their organization and halls. Dress and the conveniences of life. Carriages and roads.

Country Life. A typical manor; peasant life; food and drink; marriage and burials. Roughness of the age in speech and manners.

Court Life. Its parade and pretence. Luxuries far in excess of comforts. Elizabeth's love of show. Pageants. Sir Philip Sydney, Sir Walter Raleigh and their friends.

College Life. Oxford and Cambridge and their growth under the Tudors. Idle clergy in the colleges. Revival of learning. Change from clerical to lay foundations, and its influence on students.

The Commercial Revolution. Growth of the merchant class. The wool trade and farm extension. The depopulation of rural districts. Extension of trade. Influx of wealth. The new nobility one of "wealth and intellect," as opposed to the old nobility of "law and the sword." Steady progress of the commonalty.

IV. THE ENGLISH SEAMEN AND THE SPANISH ARMADA.

England a feeble sea power till the reign of Henry VII. His efforts to stimulate adventure. The Cabots. Henry VIII at first neglects and then improves the naval strength of the country. The growth of colonial interest. The early seamen and their dubious character. The profitable business of piracy. Sir John Hawkins. Drake's great voyages. Frobisher, Davis, Howard. The great adventurers and the founding of Virginia. Courtiers and merchants, and their shares in maritime ventures.

The great Armada. Its precursors. Its plan and preparation. Its proposed leader dies. The Duke of Medina-Sidonia chosen to command. His unsuitableness. The Armada sails. England rises to the nation's necessity. The English fleet. The sailors and their ships. The Armada appears. The great conflict terminated by a great storm. The terrible plight of the Spanish fleet. England breathes freely. The importance of the crisis and its effect on subsequent history. The beginnings of English colonial power the first fruits of the Armada.

V. ELIZABETHAN LITERATURE.

The Tudor period a time of great national growth. Literary effort a result of conscious national life. The first promise under Henry VIII. blighted. Colet, More and Erasmus at Oxford. Erasmus writes "The Praise of Folly," 1509. Colet founds St. Paul's school, 1512. More writes "The Utopia," 1517. The new impulse. Tyndale translates the Bible, 1525. A secular literature begins with Lyly's "Euphues," 1578, and Spenser's "Shepherd's Calendar," 1579. Marlowe begins the reign of the drama with "Tamburlaine," 1587. "The Faerie Queen," 1590. Shakespere, Johnson, Massinger, etc. Prose writers continue religious and political controversy in "Martin Marprelate Tracts," 1588, and Hooker's "Ecclesiastical Policy," 1594; and Bacon writes his "Essays," 1597. Variety and richness of the age.

VI. THE RISE OF PURITANISM.

Puritanism rested on the open Bible. Not confined to England. Augustinian in type. The Reformed church in Holland, France, Geneva and part of Germany, Puritan. Distinction between Puritan, Pilgrim, Huguenot, Protestant and Reformer. Not a political movement, nor a separatist movement. Its intellectual sympathies. Its individual force. Its social influence. Its democratic nature. It is opposed by the Tudors, especially by Elizabeth, on account of its democratic nature. Its hostility to the court life and demand for reform. Consistent with the Tudor view of a Parliamentary title to the throne, but hostile to the coming theory of "divine right of kings." The Scotch church Puritan in its tendencies. Evil prospects of the Stuart house in a conflict with Puritanism. Puritanism intrenches itself in law and literature and awaits its time. Peter Wentworth and the seed-time of puritan parliamentary reform. Its heroes, Pym, Elliott and Hampden. John Milton and John Bunyan. Its nobility and love of truth. Its reforms in manners, morals and government. Its legacy to America.

PARALLEL READING.

The literature of this period is exceedingly rich and entertaining. The suggestions here made are meant for those of limited time and previous study.

1. "The Age of Elizabeth," by Mandell Creighton, Epochs of History series, is an excellent hand-book of small cost. It should be read by everyone attending this course of lectures. Its tables of descent and maps are especially useful.

2. Green's "Short History of the English People" (chapters vi, vii and viii) is most excellent.

3. Shakespere's "Historical Dramas, from Richard II. to Henry VIII.," are invaluable for the picture they afford of the times, and the popular theory of government reflected in them. "Richard II.," "Henry IV.," "Henry V.," "Richard I." and "Henry VIII." are especially useful.

4. Scott's "Kenilworth;" Kingley's "Westward Ho;" Reade's "The Cloister and the Hearth;" are a few of the many novels giving a picture of the times.

5. Macaulay's Essay on "Burleigh and His Times," and on "Lord Bacon;" and Froude's recent "The Spanish Story of the Armada," are among the easily available essays.

6. Froude's "History" is the most attractive of the large works, and if somewhat variable as an authority, has the advantage of great fascination in style.

NOTE.—This course is not intended to give any special study to Shakespere, but to afford the basis for a full and detailed study of Shakespere and the Shakesperian drama.

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS.

All who attend the lectures are invited to send answers, not later than Wednesday of each week. Answers should not exceed four pages of note paper, and should be written on one side of the sheet only. Address Ethelbert D. Warfield, LL. D., President of Lafayette College, Easton, Penna.

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I.

1. Was the Tudor title to the throne valid? Why?
2. What was the key to the policy of Wolsey and Cromwell?
3. Were the Tudor monarchs popular?
4. What was the basis of England's greatness?

II.

1. What do we mean by the Catholic Reaction?
2. Why was peace necessary at this time?
3. Why was Mary of Scotland dangerous?
4. Give an estimate of Elizabeth's character?

III.

1. What was the dress of a courtier in 1600?
2. How did people travel? How amuse themselves?
3. Give some account of the food and table service.
4. What is the social importance of the growth of the wool trade?

IV.

1. What effect did the discovery of America have on England?
2. Why did England clash with Spain?
3. Why did the Armada fail?
4. What effect did the failure of the Armada have?

V.

1. What literature was there from 1400-1550? Why?
2. What book set the standard of English prose?
3. Mention some of the characteristics of Elizabethan literature?
4. When and by whom was printing introduced into England?

VI.

1. Distinguish between Puritan, Pilgrim, Protestant and Reformer?
2. Who were the first Puritans?
3. Where did Puritanism chiefly flourish? Why?
4. What influence did Puritanism have on morals, manners, worship, literature, science, dress, amusements, laws?

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