

# Hallamshire Worthies

Characteristics and Work  
of Notable Sheffield Men and Women.

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*"Memories of the late Archdeacon Blakeney, D.D.;"*

*"Memorials of Sheffield: its Cathedral and Churches,"*

*&c.*



We live in deeds, not years . . .

He most lives who thinks most,

feels the noblest, acts the best.

*P. J. Bailey* F<sup>ESTUS</sup>

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## PREFACE

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Biography is not only one of the most interesting branches of literature, but is also a powerful teacher. In reading of personal struggle and triumph, often against great and apparently insuperable difficulties, we see how, in the end, the desired goal is attained. In the battle of life success comes in various ways; to some it seems to come without seeking, whilst others, strive as they will, appear to be always in the shallows. No one can command success, but it is the duty of all to try to deserve it. It is a good thing to recall those who, by courage, industry, and perseverance, have attained fame, if not always fortune.

No apology is needed for an attempt to recall and keep alive the memory of notable men and women born in or closely associated with Sheffield who have dignified the city by their examples, enriched it by their generous gifts, and helped to make it what it is to-day. It has been said that the ideal biography is the short one. In the pages which follow will be found two hundred brief biographical sketches setting forth the characteristics and work of men and women in varying walks of life—Religious, Literary, Scientific, Industrial, Artistic, Medical, Legal, Educational, Musical, and Philanthropic—whose names lend honour to the city of their birth or adoption.

Interesting sidelights are cast on Sheffield of the past. The task of selection has not been easy, and notwithstanding that the volume is considerably larger than when first planned, space limitations have prevented the inclusion of several sketches which had been prepared.

It can hardly be expected that pages containing hundreds of names and dates should be entirely free from error, but every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. In several cases varying dates and conflicting statements have had to be adjusted. The contents of the volume have been gleaned and garnered from many fields; some are the result of personal knowledge, and much is due to kind correspondents who have courteously responded to inquiries.

For assistance in reading the proofs I am greatly indebted to the kindness of several friends. Canon Houghton has read those of the chapter on Clergy and Ministers; Dr. W. S. Porter those on Medical men and Scientists; Mr. J. R. Wigfull those on Architects and Surveyors; and Mr. J. B. Himsworth those on Artcraftsmen and Painters. Mr. Charles Drury has not only read those on Authors and Journalists, Benefactors and Statesmen, but has also given much valuable help in other ways. For errors and omissions I myself am solely responsible.

For many facts embodied in the chapters my warm thanks are due to Miss Poole, Mr. John Austen, Mr. E. S. Bramwell, Dr. George Elam, Mr. Charles M. Hadfield, Mr. H. T. Hems, Mr. W. Hewson, Mr. Bernard Hobson, Lieut.-Col. Lockwood Marsh, Mr. T. W. Parkin, Mr. A. E. Parton, Mr. Henry Richardson, Mr. S. J. Robinson, J.P., Mr. Hugh Smith, and Mr. F. Hubert Smith. I owe much to papers read before the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society by Mr. Bernard H. Hoole, the late Charles Green, John Holland, R. E. Leader, and others. Apart from my three large books of cuttings, collected during the last fifty years from the *Sheffield Telegraph*, the *Sheffield Independent* and the *Times*, this book could not have been written.

Amongst the many authorities consulted are Hunter's *History of Hallamshire* (Gatty's Edition); the *Dictionary of National Biography*; *Reminiscences of Old Sheffield*, by R. E. Leader; *Memoirs of James Montgomery*, by Holland and Everett; *Life of John Holland*, by the Rev. W. Hudson; *Memorials of Sir Francis Chantrey*, by John Holland; *Life of William Sterndale Bennett*, by his son; *S. Marie's Church, Sheffield*, by Charles Hadfield; *Upper Chapel, Sheffield*, by the Rev. J. E. Manning; *The People's College, Sheffield*, by Professor G. C. Moore Smith; *Bibliography of Sheffield*, by W. T. Freemantle; *History of the Sheffield Royal Infirmary*, by J. D. Leader and Simeon Snell; *Sheffield Literary*

*and Philosophical Society: a Centenary Retrospect*, by Dr. W. S. Porter; *History of Old Sheffield Plate*, by F. Bradbury; *Report of the Charities of Sheffield* (Blue Book), 1897; the *Sheffield Local Register*; Reports of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society; and the *Transactions* of the Hunter Archæological Society. My devoted niece, Miss Kathleen Beetham, has again rendered great assistance by typing the whole of the matter for the press.

My warm acknowledgments are due to the encouragement given me by so many subscribers; also to Messrs. J. W. Northend Ltd. for welcome advice and the excellent way in which the volume has been produced. Nor can I forbear expressing my gratitude to the Divine Giver of all good gifts for enabling me, in my eightieth year, to send forth another book, the preparation of which, in life's eventide, has been a pleasant and congenial task. May I close with Browning's words:

"If I live yet, it is for love, more good  
Through me to men."

W. ODOM.

Lindum Lodge, Psalter Lane,  
Sheffield,  
March, 1926.