STUDIES IN CHURCH HISTORY

VOLUME 48

THE CHURCH AND LITERATURE

EDITED BY PETER CLARKE
and CHARLOTTE METHUEN

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Christianity and the book have been closely intertwined since the religion's very beginning. The Word itself takes a variety of literary forms: apologetic and polemic texts, sermons, poems, hymns, spiritual autobiography and Christian philosophical reflection, and secular literature often deals with Christian themes. This volume explores some of the ways in which the Church has both shaped and featured in the literature of different periods, with a particular emphasis on British literature in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The understanding of literature invoked here is a catholic one, reflecting the universality of Christianity itself, and allowing the exploration of a range of forms of writing emerging in the course of the Church's history, thus illuminating the enduring relationship between the Church and literary creation. Among the authors discussed are Thomas More, John Milton, Isaac Williams, W. E. Heygate, Charles Dickens, Benjamin Disraeli, Edna Lyall, Silas and Joseph Hocking, Robert Browning, Charles Williams, Canon Patrick Augustine Sheehan, Rose Macauley, D. H. Lawrence, W. H. Auden and Ellis Peters.

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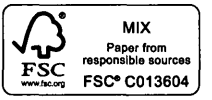
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