

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.



Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland.

THE present successor to St. Cuthbert in the great Northumbrian See is known to the world as the first Biblical scholar of the day. Dr. Westcott's life has been chiefly spent in academic seclusion, but the study of the Greek text has not crusted his nature with learned adamant. He is one of the kindest and most lovable of men; easy of approach, simple in his life and tastes, devoid of ostentation and self-seeking, but not without the personal dignity to fittingly maintain the traditions of the episcopal throne of the Princes Palatine of Durham. It would be difficult to imagine the Bishop making an enemy, so placid and uncontroversial is his habitual attitude. In appearance he is slight, rather under medium height, and walks with the head a little bent, as if in meditation. His snow-white hair crowns a noble brow, and his blue eyes are scarcely dimmed by age, seeming at times to have the sparkle of youth in them. When he is talking, the Bishop's face is radiant with a sweet smile, and he speaks in a musical voice with slow, clear enunciation. Like Victor

Hugo's saintly bishop, whom the people called Monseigneur Bienvenu, Dr. Westcott has a fine head, but it is so benevolent that you forget that it is fine; while his thought is so great that it cannot be other than gentle. Like Bienvenu, too, he has a tender heart towards *les miserables*, and the miners of Durham have had occasion to bless the Bishop for his kindly mediation when labour troubles have devastated their homes.

Dr. Westcott's sympathies are with the humanitarian spirit of the time. He feels that the Church should concern itself with the material life of the people as well as with their spiritual welfare, and such movements as those for the better housing of the poor, the provision of innocent recreations for the



Photo by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.
CASTLE GATE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

people, the establishment of old age pensions, the promotion of co-operation amongst the working classes, and the spread of education find in him a practical supporter.

The Bishop derives not a little satisfaction from the fact that his diocese contains one of the first elementary schools started in the country. It is in Bishop Auckland, within a short distance of Auckland Castle, and was founded by Bishop Barrington, one of his predecessors in the See of Durham.

Apart from his scholarship and literary work, with which all the world is acquainted, Dr. Westcott has several pursuits and hobbies little known outside his lordship's private circle, and it is probably these which have kept his spirit so fresh and youthful in old age. He is an enthusiastic botanist and geologist, and has been a collector all his life. There is a joke in the family circle that when

the Bishop returns from his holidays a truck seems needed to bring home his specimens. In nooks and corners of the gardens at Auckland are to be seen the Alpine and other

plants gathered by his hand. He has a poet's love of all things beautiful in nature and art, and his soul seems to perpetually bask in the sunshine of beauty. Summer and winter flowers decorate his study, and upon the walls of his room, amongst the portraits of his friends, are here and there exquisite works of art, delicate and simple in conception, which appeal to him by their religious symbolism and the perfection of their drawing.

The Bishop is himself no mean artist, and takes a sketch-book with him on all holiday journeys: he draws with a reed pencil in fine, delicate lines; and his favourite studies are architectural—quaint churches and houses abroad, glimpses of streets, and detailed drawings of windows and altar screens, executed with great minuteness and delicacy. These have been lovingly preserved by his family and fill several large volumes. In looking over the collection one occasionally notices a sketch which shows that the Bishop has an eye for the humorous. The heads of Odo, Harold, and William, copied from the Bayeux tapestry, is a case in point. The countenances of these worthies are not very lovely, but the Bishop thinks they show great character.

Next to sketching, music has been the favourite relaxation with Dr. Westcott, and his chief physical recreation has always been



From a photograph by Goshawk, Harrow.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM WHEN ASSISTANT MASTER AT HARROW.



From a photograph by Sutcliffe, Whitby.

MRS. WESTCOTT.

walking. It caused his lordship some little surprise when, in a published list of the recreations of the bishops, driving was set down as his favourite exercise. As a matter of fact, he thinks it rather humiliating to be dragged along by horses, and greatly prefers walking.

To come to matters of biographic detail, the Right Rev. Brooke Foss Westcott, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Durham, was the son of Mr. Frederick Brooke Westcott, and was born in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, January 1825. His father was the well-known botanist, and from him the future Bishop inherited his love of the natural sciences.

Not having brothers, he was thrown much upon his own resources, and he found his chief amusement in rambling about the country with his hammer, collecting geological specimens. As evidence of his sensitive nature it may be mentioned that he could not enjoy the sport of Isaac Walton, of which his father was a devotee, because it pained him to see the fish pulled out of the water. He was a serious-minded boy, distinguished by great conscientiousness, and accustomed at quite an early age to make up his mind about things. His youth was passed in stirring times. Chartist meetings were being held in Birmingham, and the Bishop retains a vivid recollection of the impression made upon his mind by the exposure of the tyranny under which the masses laboured and which excited his youthful indignation. In those early years were sown the seeds which have borne fruit in the Bishop's outspoken utterances on the labour problems of our own time. His lordship has great sympathy with the efforts of Christian socialists, and his views on the subject can be found in his book, "Social



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE LATEST PORTRAIT OF THE BISHOP IN HIS STUDY.
(Taken especially for THE LADY'S REALM.)

Aspects of Christianity," and in the paper on socialism which he read before the Church Congress at Hull in 1890. The Bishop defines the central idea of true socialism as the seeking of the common wellbeing of all alike through conditions which provide for the fullest culture of each man, as opposed to the special development of a race or a class by the sacrifice of others in slavery or serfdom or necessary subjection. "Socialism seeks such an organisation of life as shall secure for every one the most complete development of his powers."

The future Bishop received his early education at King Edward VI.'s School, Birmingham, under the mastership of Dr. James Prince Lee, afterwards first Bishop of

Manchester, for whom he retains a grateful and profound admiration. It was from this remarkable man that Dr. Westcott received the mental impetus in the direction of the study of the Testament in the original. When a mere schoolboy his enthusiasm for the Greek text was kindled, and at that period he had also a great desire for a scholastic career. One little incident in these schoolboy days reveals not only a very good trait in young Westcott's character, but is specially interesting from the result which followed. As he was leaving school one afternoon he saw a small schoolfellow being

entered the school about the time when he was leaving. The three met again at Cambridge, where a lifelong friendship was cemented.

The Bishop's college career was one of unusual distinction. He went up to Trinity, Cambridge, full of the spirit of work, and was not beguiled by the pleasures of undergraduate life from the goal of scholarly attainment at which he aimed. He was a serious student, living in the greatest simplicity, without even an arm-chair in his room, and found his only relaxation in walking and in botanical and geological



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

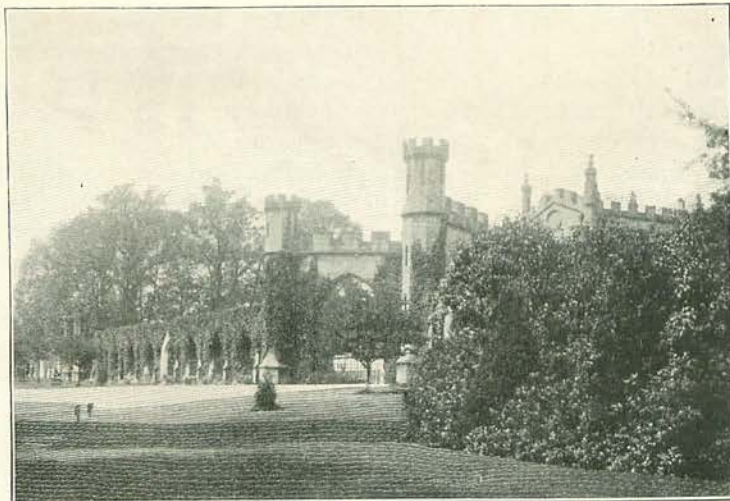
A DISTANT VIEW OF AUCKLAND CASTLE.

bullied by a big street boy. Instantly he put down his books, gave the bully his deserts, and conveyed the small boy safely to his home. A friendship naturally resulted, and young Westcott became a frequent visitor at the house of the boy whom he had championed, and in due time married his eldest sister, Miss Whittard, the lady who has been the Bishop's devoted helpmeet for nearly fifty years.

But we are anticipating. Before leaving this period it is interesting to note that Archbishop Benson was at King Edward VI.'s School at the same time as Dr. Westcott, and that Bishop Lightfoot, his predecessor at Durham,

collecting. Dr. Westcott graduated in 1848 as Twenty-third Wrangler in Mathematical Honours, and was bracketed first along with Dr. Scott, afterwards Headmaster of Westminster School, in the First Class of the Classical Tripos. In addition to these honours Dr. Westcott won many medals and prizes. He was ordained by the Bishop of Manchester, his old schoolmaster. He had also been elected a Fellow of his college in 1849, and remained at Cambridge as a tutor.

Never was teacher more beloved than Dr. Westcott, and the reading parties which he arranged for his pupils to different parts of



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE DRIVE, AUCKLAND CASTLE, LOOKING WEST.

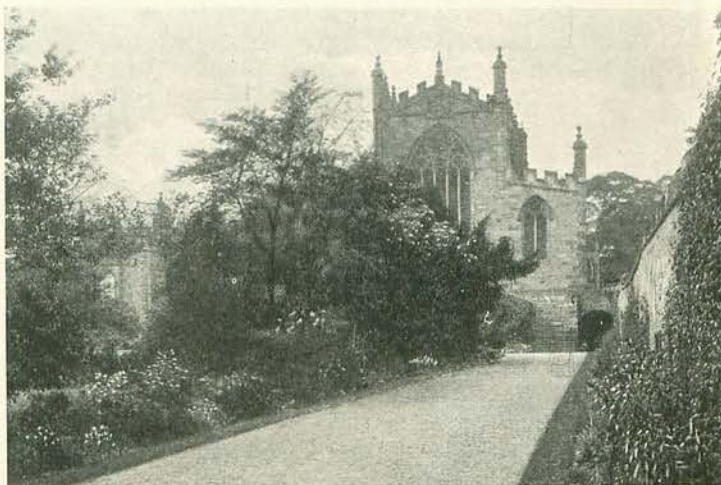
the country were among the most delightful expeditions issuing from Cambridge. Like Chaucer, he could beguile the pilgrims with many a tale by the way, and his knowledge of the treasures of the fields and the rocks made him an inspiring companion. The members of his reading parties returned with something learned not only from the printed page, but from the book of Nature.

Among the young men who gathered around him at this period were the future Archbishop Benson and Bishop Lightfoot. The three were like David and Jonathan with another added. They occasionally travelled together in Switzerland, and at Cambridge they held many seasons of fraternal communion in Dr. Westcott's room. Music occasionally beguiled the evenings, for the young graduate, immediately after taking his degree, had purchased a cottage piano for his own use. This instrument, which had been one of the solaces of his bachelor days, was afterwards used by Dr. Westcott's little girls for the regulation scales and

exercises, and is, I believe, still preserved as a family relic.

We must now, however, follow the Bishop from the classic shades of Cambridge to Harrow, where in 1852 he went as assistant master by invitation of Dr. Vaughan. The year following he married Miss Whitard, whose acquaintance he had made, as we have already seen, as a boy.

For close upon twenty years Dr. and Mrs. Westcott's family life rolled happily and serenely along at Harrow. Seven sons and three daughters were born to them, and they have had the great satisfaction of seeing six of their sons take Holy Orders. Four are engaged in mission work in India under the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, one at Madras, two at Cawnpore, and one at the Cambridge Delhi Mission; another is Assistant Chaplain to the Bishop at Durham, and the eldest is Headmaster of Sherborne School, Dorset. I am indebted to one of his lordship's sons for



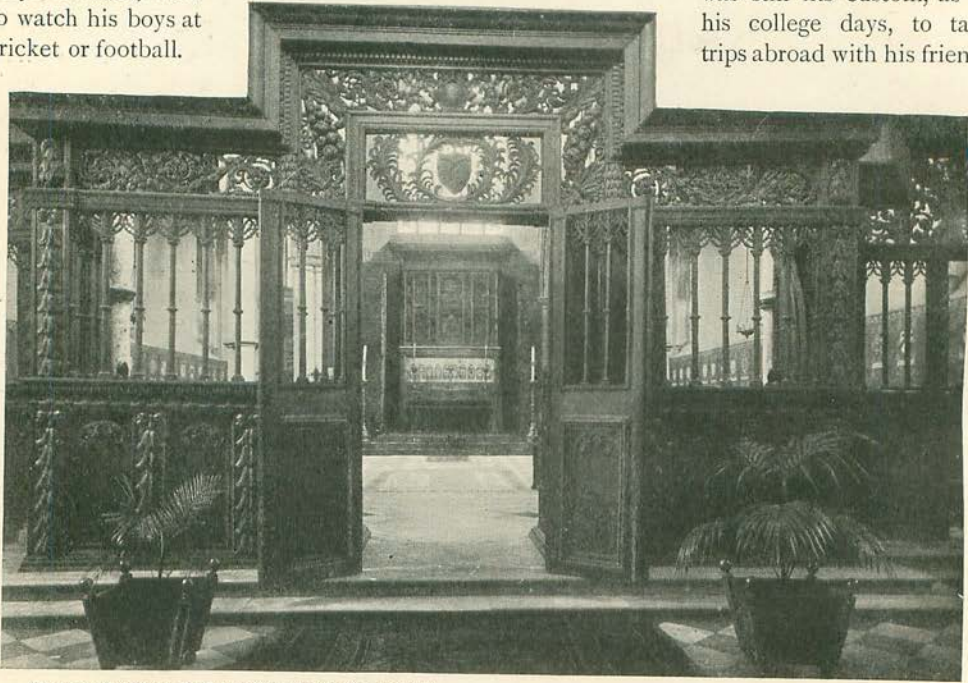
From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE WALK ON THE GARDEN TERRACE.

some reminiscences of the Harrow days. He recalls that the Bishop took an active interest in his family, and never allowed study to absorb his attention to the exclusion of his children. No matter how deeply he was engaged with his books he would always look up with a smile if one of them came into the room. The great maxim which he impressed upon his boys was, "Never shirk work." "Work like a lion" was a favourite expression of his. He always took an interest in the children's games, and, though no player himself, liked to watch his boys at cricket or football.

ment paper. "You know that father is very clever!" said an elder brother to the astonished owner of the toy. "Yes," was the reply, "I am sure he is, because he has mended my drum."

Another instance of the Bishop's skill in the use of his fingers and his fondness for manual labour—rather unusual in a learned professor—was a wonderful rockery which he constructed in his garden at Harrow for the reception of the rare ferns and plants which he collected during his travels. It was still his custom, as in his college days, to take trips abroad with his friends



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

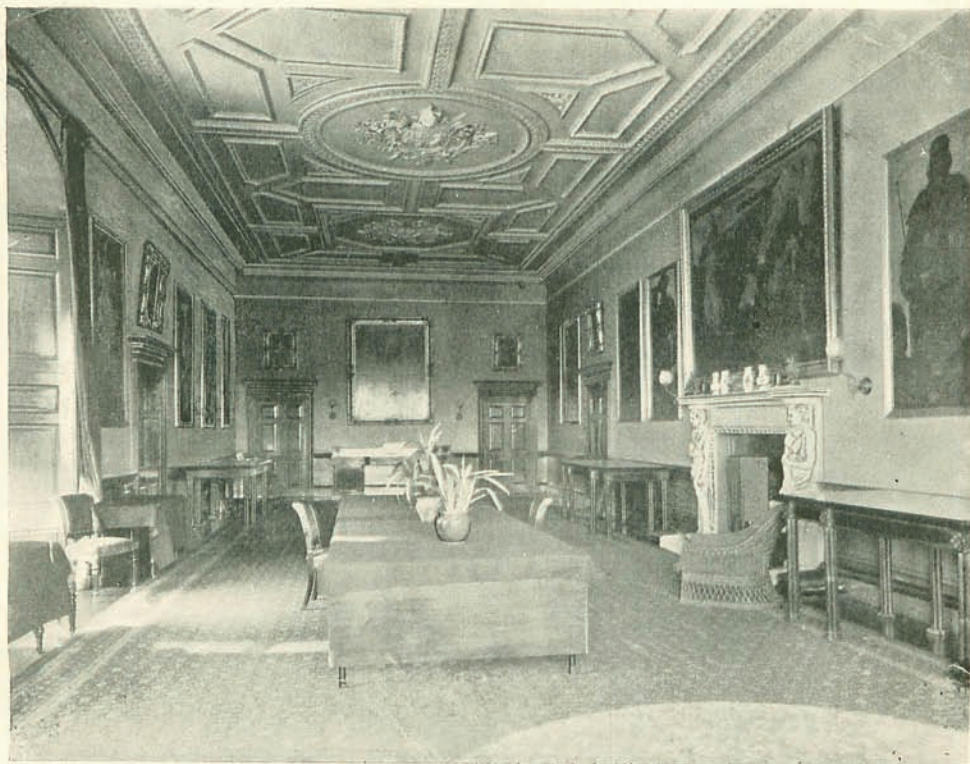
THE CHAPEL, AUCKLAND CASTLE.

The Bishop has always been very skilful with his fingers, and if a toy was broken it was to their father's room that the children ran with it. One of his sons was very partial to drums, and the inevitable came about when one day a favourite drum got broken. His father noticed that he looked sad, and upon inquiry discovered the cause. "Bring the drum to my study and leave it there," was the paternal command, and the boy obeyed in faith. A day or two afterwards he was summoned again to his father's study, and there found his drum sound and whole. The Bishop had mended it with parch-

ment paper, and we can picture them setting forth, in the spirit of Kingsley and "Tom" Hughes :

Once a year like schoolboys Robin-Hooding go,
Leaving fops and fogies a thousand feet below.

Dr. Westcott left Harrow in 1870, and a year later returned to his Alma Mater as Regius Professor of Divinity, where he had Dr. Lightfoot as a colleague. Meantime he had been appointed a canon of Peterborough Cathedral and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop. For the next twenty years his life passed peacefully along in the congenial



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE DINING-ROOM, AUCKLAND CASTLE.



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE DRAWING-ROOM, AUCKLAND CASTLE.

atmosphere of Cambridge, an honoured friend and beloved master to the young men under his care, and revered as one of the ripest scholars which the University had produced. At Cambridge he completed his *Magnum Opus*, the New Testament in the original Greek, begun at Harrow, jointly with Dr. Hort, and published in two volumes in 1881. Several other volumes, dealing with Biblical exegesis and devotional subjects, were issued by Dr. Westcott during this fertile Cambridge period.

When, in 1890, Dr. Westcott was appointed to the See of Durham it seemed that Cambridge could never be quite the same again, so long had his benevolent presence shed radiance on the University and the ripeness of his thought and the profundity of his learning enriched it. He was the recognised leader of the modern Cambridge school, and his influence over young men was personal and strong. Many loving thoughts and regrets followed him to the North.

Auckland Castle, now the home of the Bishops of Durham, is situated eleven miles from the city at the busy market town of Bishop Auckland. It is a "castle" chiefly by courtesy, being in reality the Manor House of the See. It dates from very ancient times, and was rebuilt by the valiant Bishop Beck—soldier, hunter, and ecclesiastic—in the reign of Edward I. Only a small portion of Beck's building survived the ravages of the Commonwealth, and around it the present fabric has arisen in an irregular mass, rendered picturesque by the castellated stone wall, ivy-grown, which surrounds the private gardens and separates them from the more public park, beside which flow the Wear and its tributary the Gaunlass. The episcopal manor houses seem invariably to stand on the bank of a river—Bishopthorpe on the Ouse, Fulham on the Thames, and Auckland upon the Wear. One might linger long in describing the glories of Auckland Park, with its



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

THE BISHOP'S STUDY.

diversity of hill and dale, wood and water, and the beauties of the terrace garden of the Castle, where the full flower borders, bright with old English flowers, bespeak the Bishop's taste for horticulture. Or one may mount the Castle roof and gaze over the ancient Palatine with its fair and sylvan beauties in the near distance, and beyond the curling smoke of the pit chimneys.

But let us enter the Castle. Passing through the hall you ascend a central staircase with flights branching to the right and to the left. At the head of the staircase, upon a velvet *Prie Dieu*, reclines a richly bound Prayer Book with the cipher of Charles II. The long velvet stool of the *Prie Dieu* was the one used by Her Majesty the Queen at her coronation in Westminster Abbey. It was given to

Bishop Maltby. The windows of the staircase command a lovely view over the river and the old fish-pond to the park. It is the Bishop's favourite view, and scarcely a morning passes, when his lordship ascends the staircase after early service in the private chapel, that he does not pause for a few minutes at this window. A picturesque and patriarchal figure he looks in the long cassock, with his fine head and

snow-white hair. Down by the river bank is a cottage having a red-tiled roof, and the effect of this bit of bright colour in the green landscape is peculiarly pleasing to the Bishop's artistic eye. He is sorry to see so many of the old red roofs disappearing from the district.

To describe in detail the rooms and historic mementoes of Auckland Castle would

require an article in itself. The Bishop takes a special pride in the portraits of the Bishops of Durham, from Wolsey to the last representative, many collected by his friend and predecessor, Dr. Lightfoot, which hang in imposing array around the great drawing-room. The collection is complete save for the portrait of Bishop Barnes, no likeness of him being known to exist. At one end of the



From a photograph by Taylor & Sons, Castle Auckland.

BISHOP COSIN'S ALTAR PLATE.

drawing-room is the episcopal throne of the Bishops Palatine, with the mitre and the arms of Bishop Barrington above it. In this room also is Bishop Butler's table, the traditional sword of the redoubtable Bishop Beck, and an elegant silver coffee-pot said to have belonged to Bishop Butler. It would be pleasing to think that the author of the "Analogy" drank coffee from such a dear little coffee-pot; but, alas! a

disturbing antiquarian has recently cast a doubt upon the relic, and, worse still, has a misgiving about the sword of Beck.

One of the most valuable possessions of the See of Durham is Bishop Cosin's altar-plate. Cosin restored the Castle after the Restoration. The large dining-room is hung with a unique collection of the patriarchs, painted by a Spanish artist, Zurbaran, in the seventeenth century, and collected by Bishop Trevor. Each patriarch has his distinguishing symbol according to Scripture; but the dresses have a distinctly Spanish style, which conveys the impression of the sons of Abraham flaunting in the finery of Spanish dons.

Amongst the old portions of the Castle nothing is more interesting from an historic point of view than the housekeeper's storeroom, a tiny apartment wainscoted in oak from floor to ceiling, and having the arms of many kings and nobles around the top of the walls. Here Charles I. probably played as a boy when visiting Bishop Toby Matthew; here he came again in great state as king, and yet again as a prisoner.

The private chapel at Auckland is one of exceptional beauty and interest. It was originally the old banqueting-hall, consecrated to its present use by Bishop Cosin on St. Peter's Day, 1665. The ceiling and clerestory are exceptionally fine. It owes its present beautiful appearance to the restoration by Bishop Lightfoot. The handsome carved screen and the marble pillars are among the architectural beauties of the chapel; in the centre is the grave of Bishop Cosin, bearing on the flat slab the inscription, chosen by himself: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord," modestly omitting the reference to the "works" which follow them.



From a photograph by Whitlock, Birmingham.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.

During the nine years in which Dr. Westcott has been at Auckland Castle he has carried out his idea that "a Bishop is not the father of the clergy only, but of the whole Church—the head not of an order only, but of a people."

Several times leaders in labour and co-operative movements have been invited to stay at the Castle when meeting for discussions. We regret to say that Mrs. Westcott has of late undergone a severe illness, which has prevented her from taking any active part in the work of the diocese. She has always devoted herself specially to the helping forward of foreign missions and to the Mothers' Union,