

JOHN HOWARD,

A LECTURE

BY

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WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

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THIS pencil sketch of Howard was purchased Feb. 1st, 1876, from Mr. Charles E. B. Gillions, who gave the history of the sketch as follows:—"It was originally in the possession of Mr. Palmer, M P. for Reading, in the County of Berks. Mr. Palmer was a landed proprietor in Bedfordshire, who lived at St. Mary's Abbey, Potter Street, Bedford, and is known as having carried the famous 'Tom and Jerry Act.' During the elections at Reading, Mr. Palmer was accustomed to visit at the house of Mr. Tanner, a brewer in that town. On one of these visits he gave the sketch to the daughter of this gentleman, in whose album it was preserved with the words 'Good John Howard,' &c. written beneath it, until transferred by her to Mr. Gillions.

Like a more recent philanthropist, George Müller, Howard had a very strong objection to having his portrait taken, and resorted to amusing devices to frustrate the designs of his admirers. This pencil sketch was taken by stealth in Church.



PREFACE.



THIS Lecture was recently delivered in connection with the Bedford and District Free Church Council, and is now published at the request of the Deacons of Howard's Church. It is hoped that it may be of some service not simply in calling attention to the fact, too seldom remembered, that Howard was a Free Churchman, but also in reviving interest in the life of one of the most remarkable of Englishmen. I have not thought it needful to alter the form in which the Lecture was given, nor to make it more complete by the addition of further details. It is not a Life of Howard, nor even a Monograph, but only a Lecture.

Our special thanks are due to Sir Frederick Howard for his kindness in obtaining from Russia four of the accompanying photographs.

H. H. S.

*The Inscription on the Monument, which is in St. Paul's Cathedral,
is as follows :*

THIS EXTRAORDINARY MAN HAD THE FORTUNE TO BE HONOURED
WHILST LIVING,
IN THE MANNER WHICH HIS VIRTUES DESERVED ;
HE RECEIVED THE THANKS
OF BOTH HOUSES OF THE BRITISH AND IRISH PARLIAMENTS,
FOR HIS EMINENT SERVICES RENDERED TO HIS COUNTRY AND TO
MANKIND.

OUR NATIONAL PRISONS AND HOSPITALS
IMPROVED UPON THE SUGGESTION OF HIS WISDOM,
BEAR TESTIMONY TO THE SOLIDITY OF HIS JUDGMENT,
AND TO THE ESTIMATION IN WHICH HE WAS HELD
IN EVERY PART OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD,
WHICH HE TRAVERSED TO REDUCE THE SUM OF HUMAN MISERY
FROM THE THRONE TO THE DUNGEON HIS NAME WAS MENTIONED
WITH RESPECT, GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION.

HIS MODESTY ALONE
DEFEATED VARIOUS EFFORTS THAT WERE MADE DURING HIS LIFE,
TO ERECT THIS STATUE,
WHICH THE PUBLIC HAS NOW CONSECRATED TO HIS MEMORY.
HE WAS BORN AT HACKNEY IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX,
SEPT. 11TH, MDCCXXVI.

THE EARLY PART OF HIS LIFE HE SPENT IN RETIREMENT,
RESIDING PRINCIPALLY UPON HIS PATERNAL ESTATE
AT CARDINGTON, IN BEDFORDSHIRE ;
FOR WHICH COUNTY HE SERVED THE OFFICE OF SHERIFF IN THE
YEAR MDCCCLXXIII.

HE EXPIRED AT CHERSON, IN RUSSIAN TARTARY, ON THE
XXTH OF JAN. MDCCXC.

A VICTIM TO THE PERILOUS AND BENEVOLENT ATTEMPT
TO ASCERTAIN THE CAUSE OF AND FIND AN EFFICACIOUS REMEDY
FOR THE PLAGUE.

HE TROD AN OPEN BUT UNFREQUENTED PATH TO IMMORTALITY
IN THE ARDENT BUT UNINTERMITTED EXERCISE OF
CHRISTIAN CHARITY :

MAY THIS TRIBUTE TO HIS FAME
EXCITE AN EMULATION OF HIS TRULY GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS.