

## UNIV ONLINE CATALOGUES

**UC:MA42 Papers of James Franck Bright (Master 1881-1906)**

J.F. Bright (1832–1920) matriculated from University College in 1851. Between 1856 and 1872, he was an Assistant Master of Marlborough College and then returned to University College as a Fellow in 1874, where he was elected Master in 1881. He was a historian in academic life, but also spent time as a member of Oxford City Council, and as Treasurer of the Radcliffe Infirmary. He remains the only Master so far to have been the victim of an attempted murder, when he was shot in 1892 by a woman claiming that his daughter's fiancé had first pledged himself to her (the story is told in detail in an article by Dr. L.G. Mitchell in the 1995 issue of the *University College Record*, and with some modifications in **UC:P39**). More about Bright's Mastership can be found in Robin Darwall-Smith, *A History of University College* (Oxford, 2008), Chapter 17.

Apart from a list (found in 1993) of subscribers to his portrait, which hangs in the Hall, the only papers of Bright in the College Archives were given to the College in February 1996 by one of his descendants, and consist of the texts of some his sermons. Family tradition remembers that Bright had a slight stutter, which may have increased their length.

Bright tended to write his sermons out complete in longhand in sheets of paper then sewn together, and give the text at the top. At some stage later in his life, he noted on several of them where and when he had preached them, and sometimes commented on their length and content. Several sermons have been corrected; it is not clear whether these revisions were made by Bright before they were preached, or when he delivered the sermon on a different occasion. He does not say whether any of these sermons were reused, but several of them bear corrections in an "older" hand, which makes this plausible.

Recatalogued in June 2002.

**UC:MA42/MS1 - SERMONS OF J.F. BRIGHT, 1858/9–1897**

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|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>UC:MA42/MS1/1</b> | Sermon on the texts "And my Father will love him and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John XIV 23) and "What God hath cleansed that call not thou common" (Acts X 15); place of delivery not given.  | <b>1858/9</b>  |
| <b>UC:MA42/MS1/2</b> | Sermon on the text "Oh Lord! My strength and my Redeemer" (Psalm XIX 15), place of delivery not given.   | <b>1859</b>    |
| <b>UC:MA42/MS1/3</b> | Sermon on the text "And the Lord looked upon him and said 'Go in this thy might and thou shalt save Israel from the hands of the Midianites, have I not sent thee?'. And he said 'Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? Behold my family is poor in Manasses and I the least in my father's house'. And the Lord said unto him, 'Surely I will be with thee'" (Judges VI 14-16); place of delivery not given. | <b>1859/60</b> |

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- UC:MA42/MS1/4** 1859/60  
Sermon on the text "Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, but to others in parable that seeing they might not see and hearing they might not understand" (Luke VIII 10); place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/5** Nov 1860  
Sermon on the text "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God (Matt V); place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/6** Dec 1860  
Sermon on the text "And the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them; and brought the ass and the colt and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon" (Matt XXI 6-7); preached at Advent; place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/7** 1861  
Sermon on the text "He came into his own and his own received him not, but as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John I 11-12); place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/8** 1862  
Sermon on the texts "Let him now down from the Cross and we will believe him" (Matt XXVII 42) and "I am crucified with Christ" (Gal II 20); preached at a Confirmation service, place not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/9** Autumn 1862  
Sermon on Matth XXII 36-39; place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/10** 4 Sep 1863  
Sermon on the text "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried and that he rose again the third day, according to the scriptures" (1 Cor XV 3-4); place of delivery not given. Described by Bright as "rather short".
- UC:MA42/MS1/11** 1863  
Sermon not on a text; preached at Ash Wednesday.
- UC:MA42/MS1/12** 1 Nov 1863  
Sermon on the texts "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth" (Heb XII 6) and "And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean" (Rev. XIX 14); place of delivery not given. Described by Bright as "short".

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- UC:MA42/MS1/13** **Apr 1869**  
Sermon on Hebrews II, preached at Prestcote.
- UC:MA42/MS1/14** **1869**  
Sermon not on a text, preached on the 4th Sunday after Easter; place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/15** **11 Jul 1869**  
Sermon on Romans VI, preached at The Holmwood.
- UC:MA42/MS1/16** **Jul 1869**  
Sermon on the text "Howbeit, Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee" (Mark V 19), called by Bright a "Holmwood Missionary Sermon".
- UC:MA42/MS1/17** **Nov 1869**  
Sermon on the text "Likewise I say unto you, There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one Sinner that repenteth" (Luke XV 10), place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/18** **n.d. (1860s?)**  
Sermon on the text "Could'st not thou watch with me one hour?"; date and place of delivery not given, but also described by Bright as a Lenten sermon.
- UC:MA42/MS1/19** **n.d. (1860s?)**  
Sermon on the text "He went out and wept bitterly" (Matt. XXVI, last verse); date and place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/20** **n.d. (1860s?)**  
Sermon on the text "I am not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance" (Matt IX 13); date and place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/21** **n.d. (1860s?)**  
Sermon on the text "Whether ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor X 31); date and place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/22** **n.d. (1860s?)**  
Sermon on the text "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the Wilderness to be tempted of the Devil, and when he had fasted 40 days and 40 nights he was afterward anhungered" (Matt IV 1-2); date not given, but preached at an illegible village "Ash...". Bright said of this sermon "Too hortatory for printing - preached in a village".

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- UC:MA42/MS1/23** n.d. (1860s-70s?)  
Sermon on the text "But I see another law in my members warning against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans VII 25 and 67); date and place of delivery not given.
- UC:MA42/MS1/24** n.d. (1860s?)  
Sermon on the text "Betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luke XXII 48); date and place of delivery not given, but described by Bright as a Lenten sermon.
- UC:MA42/MS1/25** Nov 1883  
Sermon on the text "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (1 John III 8), preached at St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford.
- UC:MA42/MS1/26** Dec 1884  
Sermon on the last 17 verses of Luke XVII, preached at Westminster Abbey in Advent 1884.
- UC:MA42/MS1/27** Jun 1886  
Sermon on the text "At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you (John XIV 20), preached at University College on Whitsunday.
- UC:MA42/MS1/28** 4 Dec 1887  
Sermon on the text "Be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you, saith the Lord of Hosts" (Haggai II 4), preached at Westminster Abbey.
- UC:MA42/MS1/29** 30 Apr 1894  
Sermon on the text "Pure religion and undefiled before God the Father is this, to keep himself unspotted from the world" (James I 27), preached at University College on the 5th Sunday after Easter and timed by Bright at 22 minutes, which he thought too long.
- UC:MA42/MS1/30** 15 Nov 1896  
Sermon on the text "How much more shall the blood of Christ purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God" (Hebrews IX 14), preached at All Saints, Oxford, and described by Bright as "too long".
- UC:MA42/MS1/31** 23 May 1897  
Sermon on the text "Whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer

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but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed”  
(James I 25), preached at University College.

**UC:MA42/MS2 - LECTURES BY J.F. BRIGHT**

**UC:MA42/MS2/1** **1853**

Lecture by Bright titled “The Church and its prospects”; place of delivery not given.

**UC:MA42/MS2/2** **n.d. (1880s-90s?)**

Lecture by Bright titled “The condition and prospects of the Female Sex”; date and place of delivery not given.

**UC:MA42/X1 - EPHEMERA**

**UC:MA42/X1/1** **Nov 1905**

Printed list of subscribers for the cost of the portrait of Bright which hangs in the Hall.