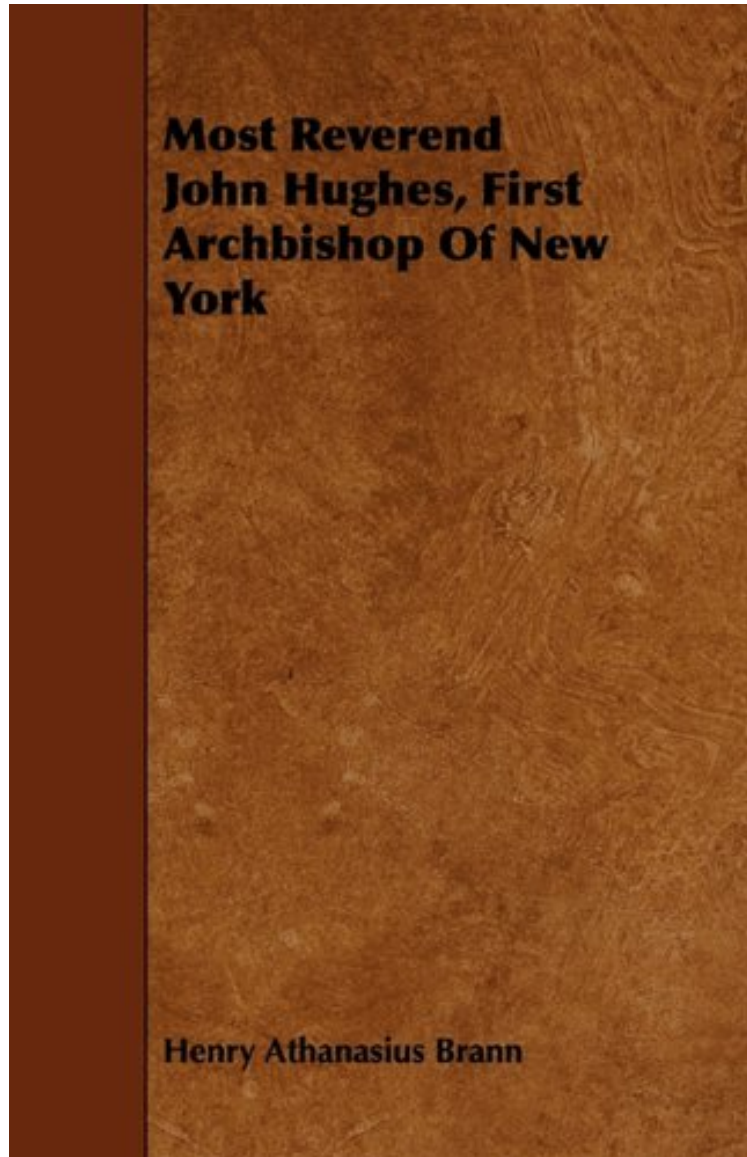


(Free download) Most Reverend John Hughes, First Archbishop of New York

## Most Reverend John Hughes, First Archbishop of New York

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A nice biography of an interesting manBy Falco del FiumeMost Rev John Hughes (aka Dagger John) was the Catholic archbishop of NYC during the influx of Catholic emigrants during

the potato famine. He had a very practical approach to the many problems he faced. When he found out that many of the "nymphs of the pav" were Irish Catholics women trying to support themselves he had nuns/sisters teach them skills so they could find employment as nannies as cooks as maids in the homes of the well-to do and then guarantee their behavior and stated he would personally make up any losses. I ask you what Irish Catholic would be willing to risk a face to face with Dagger John. When discussing prostitution from the pulpit he called them the "Daughters of Mary" rather than any derogatory term (this would increase their self esteem and remind them of the need for and value of virtue). When he found out that much of the violence was committed by Irish men (paddy wagon) during those early years, he again found training for them and then employment. This approach was reviewed in the Wall Steet Journal many years ago in a very long editorial about his approach and its application to modern problems of our society. He sought out the root causes and tried his best to eliminate them. No weeping and gnashing of teeth at the pulpit, no telling others from an office what to do; he always lead from the front line. When No-Knowing gang came to burn down a Catholic Church he was at the head of a group of Irish men that he had armed with diocesan funds.No Catholic Church in NYC was torched during those years.He was personally thanked by President Lincoln for stopping the draft rebellion of NYC during the Civil War with no bloodshed after Bishop John Highes began his efforts. He was held in such high regard by the Catholic faithful that upon his request, they simply went home.He did not suffer unwarranted criticism lightly. In a debate he pointed out that at his birth he enjoyed all the privileges and rights of a citizen of England but when baptised he could no longer be taught to read and write,his right to own property was greatly limited, when his sister died a Catholic priest could not bless her body or even enter the cemetary. He was a fierce debater pointing out that during a cholera epidemic while he was personally performing the last rites for the sick and dying, that Catholic sisters and nuns were attending and comforting the sick and dying, many of the clergy of other faiths had fled to the country.This is a small well written and accurate book about an interesting man. Another editorial about him is titled The man who saved New York City. A nice part of the book is a chapter about the actual laws discriminatory to Irish Catholics.A good read for those interested in Irish Catholicism in the US, in a history of NYC or the Civil War. By the way I am not Irish.

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