

**THE GENESIS OF THE AMERICAN
PRAYER BOOK: A SURVEY OF
THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT
OF THE LITURGY OF THE CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES; PP. 1-168**

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The Genesis of the American Prayer Book

A Survey of the Origin and Development
of the Liturgy of the
Church in the United States

BY

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Bishop of Albany

With an Appendix
on Changes Incorporated into the Prayer Book

BY THE

REV. SAMUEL HART, D.D.

Edited with an Introduction

BY THE

REV. C. ELLIS STEVENS, LL.D., D.C.L.

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TO
John Williams, D.D., D.D.,
WHO AS
PRIMATE OF THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES,
AND AS A LEADER IN THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A
STANDARD PRAYER BOOK,
HAS PROVED HIMSELF SO WORTHY A
SUCCESSOR OF THE VENERATED
Bishop Doane,
THIS VOLUME—
WHICH GOES FORTH FROM THE HISTORIC FANE
WHERE THE AMERICAN PRAYER BOOK
WAS FIRST ADOPTED AND WHERE
RESTS THE SACRED DUST
OF THE
FATHER OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH—
IS
AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.

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By the Rt. Rev. WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, D.D.,
LL.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Iowa, and Historiographer
of the Church.

The Prayer Book Enriched.

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LL.D., Bishop of Albany, and Chairman of the Joint
Committee of the General Convention on Liturgical
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By the Rev. SAMUEL HART, D.D., Professor in Trin-
ity College, Hartford, Custodian of the Standard
Prayer Book, Secretary of the House of Bishops,
Secretary of the Joint Committee of the General
Convention on Liturgical Revision, etc.

INTRODUCTION.

THE American Book of Common Prayer is historically associated with one sacred spot. The venerable fane of Christ Church, Philadelphia, is, in a special sense, its birthplace. And on that spot the American Church itself—as an independent national body owing no allegiance, save of love, to the Mother Church of England—came into organic being.

It was there that the first effort toward liturgical revision was made, at the first of the General Conventions of the Church—a Convention presided over by the then rector, William White. Dr. White had been a moving spirit in the measures leading up to this memorable council, and himself had formulated the principles on which the Church sought and attained organicism. He and Dr. William Smith—also intimately associated with Christ Church—were chief promoters of the work of revision; and after the Convention they were left to complete and issue the “Proposed Book.”

It was on that spot that the second General Convention met in 1786, and the third in 1789.