

**THE LITURGY REVISED; OR THE
NECESSITY AND BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF
AN AUTHORIZED ABRIDGMENT AND
CAREFUL REVISION OF THE VARIOUS
SERVICES OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH**

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ROBERT COX

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To which is prefixed,

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BY THE REV. ROBERT COX, M. A.

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AN ADDRESS

TO THE ARCH-BISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF THE UNITED
CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND, ON THE SUBJECT OF
ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE.

MY LORDS,

IN respectfully presenting to the consideration of your Lordships a second edition of "THE LITURGY REVISED," I cannot but recall the anxious feelings under which the first was published. The nature of the work, however humble its author, however defective its execution, was naturally calculated to excite the attention of the reader, and to elicit the voice of censure or approval. I might indeed have professed an insensibility to both: but a recklessness of human opinion, though not unfrequently asserted, is I conceive seldom experienced by any one; and were it attained, it would argue rather the arrogance than the good sense of its possessor.

Under these circumstances, I cannot but feel a sincere pleasure in gratefully acknowledging, that my humble performance has obtained the approbation of several influential persons in Church and State. I mention this

fact, because it will acquit me of presumption in again directing your Lordships' attention to the necessity of a revision of our Liturgy; as well as in prefixing some additional suggestions, which, after a prolonged consideration of my subject, and the advice of men whom I am bound to respect, I shall humbly and diffidently lay before the public.

If, however, on the first publication of my work, I deeply felt the importance of a revised Liturgy, the present state of the times strongly forces upon my mind the absolute necessity of its immediate consideration. In consequence of circumstances, to which farther allusion is unnecessary, a revision of our Liturgy, I am aware, may be considered by many as comprising only a small part of our present duty. "Reform in some shape," remarks a writer in a religious periodical, the scrupulous tenacity of which for the rights and privileges of our Established Church, adds additional weight to the observation, "must come. It cannot come *too soon*;" "and we earnestly hope that the spiritual Rulers of our Church will immediately concert some measures for the consummation of so desirable an end." *

Should your Lordships join in these or similar wishes, you will, I trust, excuse me if, when about to propose a plan to amend our Liturgy, I previously venture to submit the means, by which it appears to me that the Church of England might not only obtain the highest moral sanction for a revised Prayer Book, but would

* Christian Remembrancer.