

**A BOOK OF
FAMILY PRAYER**

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A Book of Family Prayer by Walter Farquhar Hook

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WALTER FARQUHAR HOOK

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COMPILED BY
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DEAN OF CHICHESTER.

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PREFACE.

THE object of this publication is to adapt to the purposes of family prayer the Morning and Evening Services of the Church.

Those Services were considered by the Divines, who, at the Reformation, translated and rearranged them, to be fitted for daily and private use; all Priests and Deacons being enjoined "to

say *daily* the Morning and Evening Prayer, either *privately* or openly, not being let by sickness or some other urgent cause¹." To the adoption of them for *family* worship, it is urged as an objection, that something is required which bears more immediately upon domestic wants and circumstances; and to supply this deficiency a daily Prayer has, in this compilation, been provided, instead of the Collect of the week. The Collects for Wednesday and Friday are selected as relating to those events of our Redemption which took place on those days, and which have thus invested

¹ Preface to the Book of Common Prayer.

them with a degree of Holiness; our Lord having been betrayed on the Wednesday and crucified on the Friday*.

Another objection is raised, on account of the length of the Services as they are found in the Book of Common Prayer; and to obviate this objection, the Psalms are omitted, together with what are called the State Prayers, and the Lessons are so placed that they may be read or not, according to convenience. For the omission of the State Prayers the apology is, that in behalf of the King and all who are in autho-

* Apostolical Constitutions, lib. v. c. 15, lib. vii. c. 23.

rity under him, the daily Sacrifice of Prayer is offered in our Cathedrals and many of our Parish Churches, and no good Christian will forget, in his private devotions, to make supplication for the Peace of his Country and his Church: so that it does not seem absolutely necessary that this should form a part of domestic worship.

By those who really admire the Services of the Church, greater variety in their devotions will not be required than that which is afforded by the daily change of the first Collect. But as the same Prayers are used twice, perhaps thrice, on a Sunday, at Church,

two forms have been compiled for the Lord's Day; the Collects of which are chiefly taken from the English and American Books of Common Prayer.

Coventry,

Lent, 1835.

The continued sale of this little Manual for thirty years is sufficient to show that the plan on which it was compiled has commended itself to the judgment of many persons.

In the present edition the choice of two Collects is provided, one of which is to be used as the first Collect at