THE SCOTTISH COMMUNION OFFICE, 1764, WITH INTRODUCTION, HISTORY OF THE OFFICE, NOTES AND APPENDICES

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The Scottish communion office, 1764, with introduction, history of the office, notes and appendices by John Dowden

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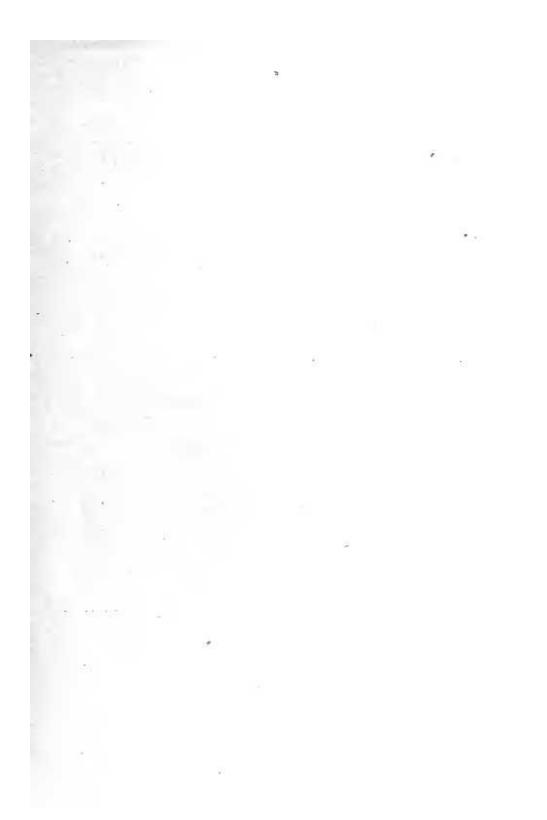
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PREFACE

In the following pages the reader is presented with an historical account of the growth of the Scottish Communion Office, and of the events which resulted in the adoption of its most characteristic features by the Church in the United States of America.

The history of the Scottish Office during the eighteenth century demands careful labour in an obscure field of research; and there will be found here a more complete and satisfactory account of the various stages of its progress than has yet appeared. To the late Dean Nicolson of Brechin the reader is indebted for my being able to bring some new facts to light, and to clear up some interesting points that were hitherto doubtful or indistinct; the manuscript copies, made by the late Rev. P. Cheyne, of Aberdeen, from original letters and other documents, which the Dean placed in my hands, are of much interest, and my obligations are acknowledged at various points in the course of the history.

The textus receptus of our Office, and in its purest form, is given in an exact reprint of the 8vo edition of 1764, published by Drummond, Edinburgh.²

¹ [The editor regrets that he has been unable to ascertain the present ownership of this collection, to which reference is several times made in the author's foot-notes.]

² Peter Hall's reprints, in Fragmenta Liturgica, vol. v, cannot be trusted for accuracy. The revised and enlarged edition of Blunt's

This will be a gain to liturgical students in England and America as well as here.

So much of the text of the Scottish Liturgy of 1637 is common to the contemporary English Book of Common Prayer that it has not been thought necessary to print it in full: but every variant (except those of [spelling], capitals, and punctuation) is exhibited. In a similar manner the texts of the Nonjurors' Office and of the Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion in the American Book of Common Prayer (1892) are fully indicated to the student, the standard of comparison being the English Book of Common Prayer. Much space is hereby saved; and the differences between each text and that of the English Book are much more readily apparent [than in the original edition of this work].

Much material, in the form of manuscripts of the eighteenth century illustrating the history of the Scottish Church, has come into my hands since the publication of the first edition of this book in October 1884. What is of most interest in respect to the growth of the Scottish Communion Office has been incorporated in the present edition, and some corrections and modifications of statement have been made.

To the acknowledgements made in the first

Annotated Book of Common Prayer (1884) professes to contain the Scottish Office of 1764 in extenso; but it is not in extenso, and the part printed is very inaccurate.

edition to friends in America and in this country who aided me in one way or another, I have now to add the names of the Rev. George Sutherland, formerly Rector of Portsoy, the Very Rev. Provost Ball, and Canon G. T. S. Farquhar.¹

Consideration for the needs of younger students will account for my occasional references in the Notes to sources of information that will be obvious and familiar to the better informed.

^{1 [}Now Dean of St. Andrews.]