

**A STUDY OF  
MODERN  
ANGLICANISM**

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A Study of Modern Anglicanism by Gordon Milburn

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# A STUDY OF MODERN ANGLICANISM

BY

GORDON MILBURN, M.A.

*Das Wesen der Kirche ist ja dieses, dass sie Gemeinschaft sein will.*



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

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## PREFACE

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THIS book must not be regarded as the effort of a learned person to instruct the ignorant. Rather is it an attempt to appreciate the significance of certain things which the writer admits he understands very imperfectly himself. Yet I cannot but earnestly hope (though this seems very presumptuous) that, directly or indirectly, these pages may be of some real service, however small, in aiding the true development of the Church. A philosophy of Anglicanism is much to be desired. When it comes to be written may these chapters be of some little use, in spite of their popular character and many insufficiencies. I fear that the keener members of all the theological parties will strongly disapprove, some of some passages in them and others of others. I would ask such readers to think most about those points which may, perhaps, be profitable, and not too much about those which are more striking or unpardonable. Personally, I think I am quite open to conviction, and should be glad to receive criticism or instruction from any person who would like to communicate with me.

HOLLYWOOD HOUSE,  
WINBLEDON COMMON.

221587





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# A STUDY OF MODERN ANGLICANISM

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## PART I. CRITICAL

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### NOTES ON THE CHURCH PARTIES

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#### INTRODUCTION

§ 1. There are few things which appear at first sight so inconsistent, few things that are outwardly so self-contradictory, as the Church of England. The most opposite accounts are given of it by its own adherents. Its various schools of thought often show themselves bitterly hostile to one another. Why is it, then, that the majority of Anglicans have such a dogged faith in a unity supposed to be underlying all their differences? What vague conviction is it in the back of our minds that makes the appeal to logic and consistency often ring so hollow to us? It has been well remarked that "principles are wont to assert themselves, in thought as in action, before they are distinctly apprehended."<sup>1</sup> And

<sup>1</sup>J. B. Stallo, *Concepts of Modern Physics*, p. 16.