PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS

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Prayers and devotions by Lewis Macnaughten Humbert

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LEWIS MACNAUGHTEN HUMBERT

PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS

Trieste

PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS.

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PART I.

PRAYERS TO BE USED IN THE FAMILY

EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK.

PART II.

HELPS TO A PROFITABLE USE

OF THE CHURCH'S SPECIAL SERVICES.

FARNHAM:

R. AND J. NICHOLS, PRINTERS, BOOKSELLERS, ETC. LONGMAN AND CO, LONDON.

MDCCCL.

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TO HIS DEAR BRETHREN AND FLOCK,

12 m

AMONG WHOM HE HAS SO HAPPILY LABOURED,

THIS LITTLE BOOK OF PRAYERS,

WHICH HE TRUSTS MAY PROVE SERVICEABLE TO THEM

AFTER HIS DEPARTORE,

IS, WITH ALL PASTORAL AFFECTION, OFFERED

BY THEIR FAITHFUL SERVANT, L. M. H

L. M. HUMBERT.

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Hale, Lent, 1850.

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INTRODUCTION.

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THIS little Book consists of two parts. The first part contains devotions for each morning and evening in the week. They are intended for family use. The passage, or passages, of scripture may be read first, and then all should kneel, one member reading aloud and the rest of the family following in heart. The prayers are short designedly; but the Lord's Prayer should always be repeated (all joining aloud) at the close of each, with the "Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ": and, if any particular prayer were thought too short, the General Confession from the Common Prayer Book might be used at the commencement; or the Litany might be substituted on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The second part contains Scriptures, Prayers, and Hymns in reference to the Church's Special Offices. They are Offices, or Services, in which from time to time you are all most deeply interested : and this second part may furnish a profitable guide, not only in your approaches to the Lord's Table, but also at the Burial of your dead, in the chamber of Sickness, at the Baptism of your infants, the Confirmation of your children, and the Marriages of your grown up sons and daughters.

INTRODUCTION.

It was ever my aim while with you to show that Christ's Religion is a thing of daily life, and that all the circumstances of your lives, from the cradle to the grave, are bound up with the Church, and should be sanctified by a right use of her Services. Next to the Holy Bible you will always find the Common Prayer Book of our Church your best friend and companion; and the more fully you follow its godly leading, the happier you will be.

Only remember, dear Brethren, that however excellent the *form* of prayer, it is quite powerless without the *spirit* of prayer. The form, destitute of the spirit, is but the skeleton, without the breath of life. It is an express object of this little book to *prepare* your heart beforehand for a more profitable, because a more spiritual, use of the Church's stated services. If you make a cold and formal use of my book, it will prove injurious rather than helpful to your spiritual interests: but I heartily pray the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that He will bless it by disposing you to cultivate the inward life of prayer.

I have not only anxiously thought of the matter, but even the print of these prayers, and I hope I have sucweeded in getting it of a largeness and clearness which may suit the eyes of my aged friends, while the book is of sufficient lightness not to burden the hands of my sick and feeble friends. May God, in his mercy, accept this poor offering, and bless it to you all ! and when I am no more among you let me beseech you in your prayers to remember me, and to pray to God " for me,

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INTRODUCTION.

that utterance may be given me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel."

Finally, Brethren, stand fast in the Lord. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." PHILIPPIANS iv, 6. 7.

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Note.—I have used the word DEVOTION as well as Prayer. Devotion means the act of devoting yourself afresh to the service of God. The chief seasons for a Christian's *devotions* will be night and morning; and *Prayer* will always accompany them.

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PART I.

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FAMILY PRAYERS.

"I WILL BE THE GOD OF ALL THE FAMILLES OF ISRAEL."

JEREMIAH XXXI, 1.

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