ELEVATION IN THE EUCHARIST: ITS HISTORY AND RATIONALE

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Cambridge : PRINTED BT JOHN CLAY, M.A. AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS. TO MY WIFE C. B. D.

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PREFACE.

FEW words must be said as to the origin and purpose of this book. Frequent mention was made, in the evidence given before the recent Royal Commission on Ecclesiastical Discipline, of the elevation of the Bread and Wine immediately after Consecration, and not unfrequently the practice of "elevation" was denied, even where the witness distinctly alleged that some such ceremony had taken place¹. It further appeared, from the evidence of several of the clergymen who were examined, that this discrepancy arose from a distinction drawn between elevating the elements after consecration so as to make them visible to the people, and the practice of a more moderate elevation, either when taking the paten and chalice into the hands, or at the words "Do this in remembrance of Me."

It is beyond dispute that, whatever name may be assigned to it, both types of this ceremony are now practised in many Anglican churches³. Yet there is

² See the letters from olergymen published in the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission. Vols. 1.--III.

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¹ This occurred in twenty-seven instances. Report of Royal Commission on Ecclesiastical Discipline, p. 36.