

CHURCH STUDENTS' MANUAL

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Church Students' Manual by C. H. Bromby

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STUDENTS' MANUAL

BY

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PREFACE.

A FEW years ago the author of the following work published a little volume under the title of "Liturgy and Church History," for the benefit of pupil teachers and students in Normal Schools. It passed through two editions, and found its way into other classes of schools for whom it was not originally designed. Instead of publishing a *third* edition, the writer has adopted the suggestion of friends engaged in schools of a higher grade, and given to the work a less controversial and argumentative character. With this view he has suppressed the chapters, which were headed "*The Rule of Faith;*" and "*the History of the Early Church during the first five centuries;*" while he has re-written and greatly expanded

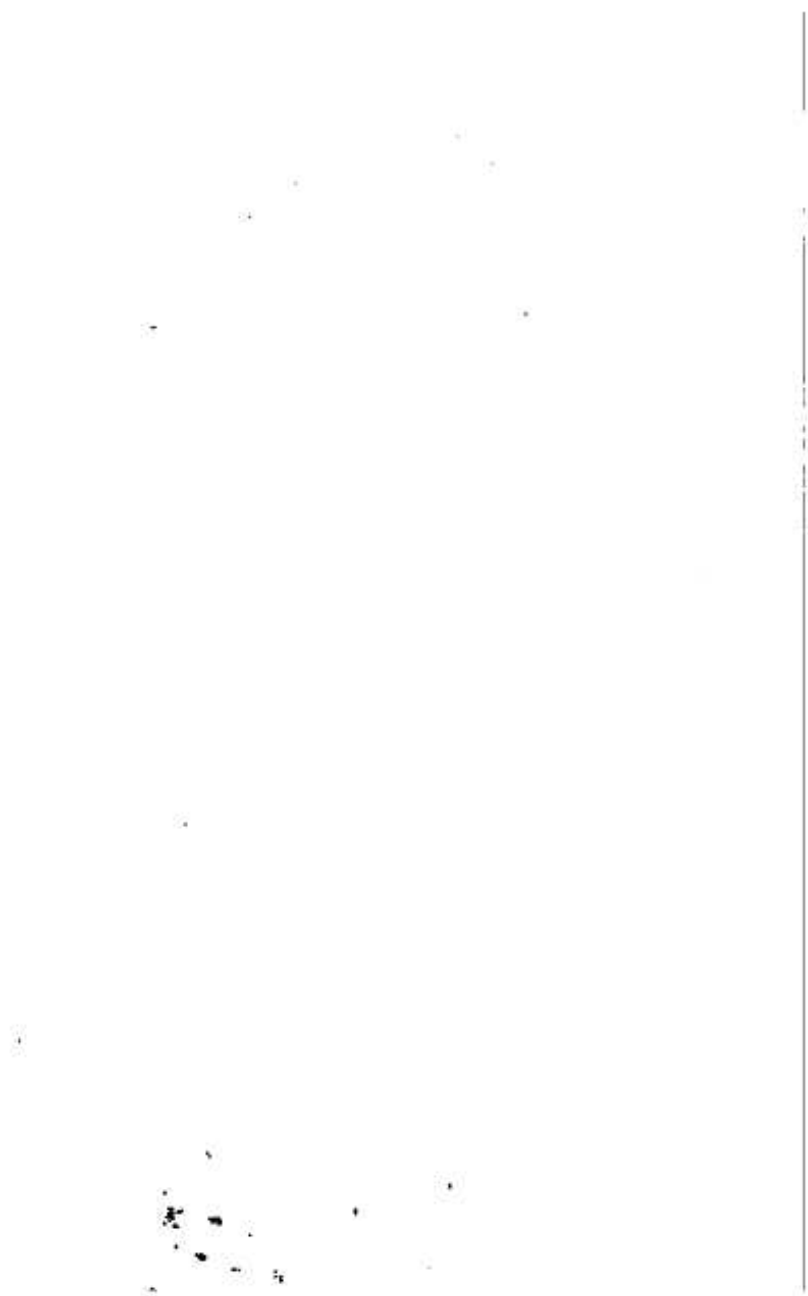
those which treated of the *English Liturgy, the History of the Early Church during the Apostolic days, and that of the British and English Church.*

In its present shape, he hopes that the work is adapted to the wants of our various educational establishments. To some it will be useful as a reading book; while to divinity tutors in Proprietary and Normal Institutions it will serve the purpose of full notes, to be expanded before more advanced pupils by the lecturer. The subjects selected will have their chief interest in Church of England schools; but it is hoped that they have been so treated as not to be distasteful to all students whose minds are open to inquiry. The wider theological ground has been taken up upon which alone the various sections of the English Church may take their stand. The Sacramental system is not unduly exalted; neither are the Sacraments reduced to mere witnesses. They are witnesses so far as they bear testimony to the loving call of our Divine Master, and to the power within the reach of all thus to make, by grace, that calling and election sure. If called to be "saints" on God's part, we are required to be

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"faithful" on our own, and so rise up to that grand ideal of the Church's perfection elaborated in the epistle to the Ephesians, which is addressed "to the *saints* and to the *faithful* in Christ Jesus." (Eph. i. 1.)



THE
CHURCH STUDENTS' MANUAL.

THE object of this work is to exhibit to the young student the Apostolic character of the Church established in our land. This will be shewn in future chapters, by the examination of its history, and by the comparison of the *modern* doctrines of Romanism—the offspring of a later and darker age—with its own characteristics of primitive Christianity. The present investigation will serve a double purpose; it will indirectly confirm the primitive character of our Church, and deepen our attachment to its communion, as we behold not only the hallowed antiquity, but the Scriptural orthodoxy, beauty, simplicity and comprehensiveness, of our BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER. The subject is also deeply important upon personal grounds, and this for two reasons: First, because we are prone to repeat, without attaching living meaning to, those sounds, to which we have been habituated from infancy; Secondly,