# A MANUAL OF DEVOTIONS FOR DOMESTIC AND PRIVATE USE, PP. 1-239

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A Manual of Devotions for Domestic and Private Use, pp. 1-239 by George Upfold

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BY

## GEORGE UPFOLD, D. D.,

BISHOP OF INDIANA.

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THE "FAMILY PRAYERS" of the late Henry Thornton, Esq., of Clapham, England, from which this MANUAL OF DEVOTIONS has been chiefly compiled, were presented to the compiler by a distinguished gentleman in Canada, some three years ago. They have been used in his family worship over since, with great acceptance, and he trusts with spiritual edification. The devotional fervour which they breathe throughout, the variety of sentiment and expression, their adaptation to private as well as domestic devotion, and their truly evangelical spirit, have so far commended them to his judgment and confidence, as to lead him to think that the publication of an American edition, with such modifications as would be required to meet the peculiar circum-

stances of this country, might be a good service to the Christian public generally, and to the people of his own diocese particularly, in encouraging and facilitating the important, but too much neglected duty of family prayer. The only modification contemplated at first, was the necessary change in the petitions relating to Civil Rulers and Government. But on a careful review of them in reference to publication, other changes and modifications seemed to be needed, in the supply of certain omitted topics, and in substitutions and additions to some extent. This has been accordingly attempted by remodelling all, or nearly all the prayers; in some instances changing the expression where it seemed to be less clear and definite than was desirable; in others, transposing portions to a more fitting connecting position ; in divesting several of their somewhat too didactic character, and restoring them to a more strictly supplicating form; and in

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enlarging and expanding petitions for certain objects, so as to make them more comprehensive, and more in unison with the true purpose of the objects to which they relate; the necessity of which would be more apparent to a theologian than to a layman. In doing this, however, the compiler has aimed to retain unimpaired the admirable and eminently devotional spirit of the original, a transcript of the devout mind and practical picty of its revered author; of whom the Editor of the English edition justly observes : "The world would be wiser and better, and therefore happier, in proportion as it shall imbibe the spirit of the life, and of the prayers of Henry Thornton. Admirable as have been the examples of excellence which the present generation has been permitted to witness, there has not been, perhaps, one individual in the whole number, who manifested in a more striking manner that combination of qualities which

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constitutes Christian consistency. His piety was fervent, and yet sober; his liberality was magnificent, and yet discriminating; his charity was large, and yet not latitudinarian; his self-denial was rigorous, yet unobtrusive."

The Supplementary Prayers, in the original, have been omitted, as the substance of them is incorporated in the general body of prayers; and a few Occasional Prayers have been added by the compiler, relating to cases and exigencies of most frequent occurrence in daily life.

G. U.

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INDIANAPOLIS, February, 1868.

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OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* 

## Before Reading a Portion of Scripture.

BLESSED LORD, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of Thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.