THE CATHEDRAL PRAYER BOOK
BEING THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER
WITH THE MUSIC NECESSARY FOR THE USE OF CHOIRS
TOGETHER WITH THE CANTICLES AND PSALTER
POINTED FOR CHANTING
EDITED BY
(Professor of Music in the University of Oxford)
AND
(Succentor of St. Paul's Cathedral).

EXTRACT FROM EDITORS' PREFACE.

The inconvenience and costliness of the number of separate Books usually requisite for the members of a Choir, in the performance of an ordinary Choral Service, have long pointed to the desirability of a manual which should, as far as possible, unite under one cover all that is necessary for the choral rendering of, at least, those portions of the Church's Services which are less liable to variation.

The Music of the Versicles and Responses—Festal as well as Ferial—a Psalter and Canticles pointed for chanting, are almost indispensable for the careful and accurate rendering of a Choral Service. And yet, hitherto, it has been scarcely possible to procure these, unless in separate numbers; involving not only much additional expense, but also the disadvantage arising from the continual shifting of books during Service time, which is such a hindrance to a devout participation in Divine Worship.

To remedy these evils, and to assist in promoting, as it is hoped, a more careful and revered performance of the Divine Offices, the Cathedral Prayer Book has been compiled.

The Editors are fully aware that they are not the first to make an effort in this direction. But they believe that several circumstances have tended to favour their attempt, and ensure its success, which have been wanting in other instances.

This manual provides not only for the daily Morning and Evening Prayer, and the choral celebration of the Holy Communion, in all its completeness, but also for the whole of the occasional Services contained in the Book of Common Prayer. A special feature of it, moreover, is that it includes an Appendix, in which are contained not only Tallis's Festival Responses and Litany, but a great deal of other additional and miscellaneous matter which it is conjectured will add greatly to its usefulness and value.

The Versicles and Responses throughout the Book (exclusive of the Appendix) and the Litany are from the arrangement used in St. Paul's Cathedral (Stainer and Martin, founded on Goss). They follow Merbecke, although with one or two slight variations which have become traditional in the Cathedral of the Metropolis, and, more recently, in many other Churches.

The Music to the Order for the Administration of the Holy Communion follows the Edition of Merbecke given in “A Choir Book of the Office of Holy Communion” (Stainer), and published some years since. The Order for the Burial of the Dead has also been arranged from Merbecke by the same Editor.

The pointing of the Psalms and Canticles is after that known as the Cathedral Psalter, edited by the Rev. S. Flood-Jones, the late Mr. James Turle, Dr. Troutbeck, Sir John Stainer, and Mr. Joseph Barnby. An Edition can also be had in which the Cathedral Psalter Chants to the Canticles and the Psalms are included.

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