CRANMER'S FIRST LITANY, 1544 AND MERBECKE'S BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER NOTED, 1550

This facsimile reproduction from the original printed edition of "Merbecke" should be of great interest to musicians as helping to solve the problem of what the composer wrote, at present a perplexing problem owing to the diversities of current editions.

J. ERIC HUNT

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MERBECKE'S BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER NOTED, 1550

> by J. ERIC HUNT

LONDON SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE NEW YORK THE MACMILLAN COMPANY 1939

DEDICATED TO

HIS GRACE

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY THE MOST REVEREND COSMO GORDON LANG

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FOREWORD

THE fame of John Merbecke is at its height today, nearly four hundred years after the publication of his Booke of Common Praier Noted which is his principal claim to fame. His book seemed to have died almost at birth that is, with the issue of a revised prayer book in 1552, two years after its publication—and thenceforward Merbecke himself was remembered only as one of the minor figures of the Reformation; he became merely a name in the history books. Two hundred years later Sir John Hawkins wrote of him in his General History of Music as "a man to whom church-music has greater obligations than the world is sensible of"; but that pertinent remark was supported by a fallacious reasoning:

It is certain that the Cathedral musical service of the Church of England was originally framed by Marbeck, and that the musical notes to the Preces, Suffrages, and Responses, as they are at this day sung in choral service, were of his composition.

That is manifestly untrue; we are now more sensible of the nature of our obligation to Merbecke because we have at least tried to sing him. Mr. Hunt here points out that "Merbecke, the Tudor Protestant, came into his own again through the Oxford Movement, the great Catholic Revival in the Church of England." It was not until as a result of that movement the Church began to feel the need for a musical service as different as possible from the Cathedral type that the Booke of Common Praier Noted was found to possess any practical utility at all. The Cathedral style from the first had been

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based on singing in harmony, and it embedded certain remnants of the ancient plainsong in its harmonized song. Merbecke, trained in the great polyphonic style of his age, eschewed harmony altogether for the sake of producing a plain tune which the clerks might sing in unison for the edification of the people. Nowadays, when everyone is a "clerk" to the extent of having learnt to read English, it has been discovered that the people may sing Merbecke's tunes to the glory of God and their own edification. Our obligation to Merbecke, then, is that he has given us the basis for a congregational service—above all, a congregational Eucharist.

But Hawkins was not the only one who confused Merbecke's purpose with that of Cathedral usage. The nineteenth-century revival added something to the confusion. Stainer printed Merbecke's Communion Service in his Cathedral Prayerbook (1891), fitting its melody to an organ accompaniment in strict time of four minims in a bar. Bridge popularized a similar version of the Lord's Prayer from the Communion Service, harmonized like a part-song for four unaccompanied voices. Later composers have done the like with various excerpts from the Booke of Common Praier Noted. Even the enlightened Church-Music Society issued a set of harmonized responses for Mattins and Evensong which claimed Merbecke's authority. On the other hand, plainsongists have published the Communion Service omitting all the indications of measured time about which Merbecke himself was particular. Moreover, as Mr. Hunt here reminds us in a footnote, the necessity for accommodating the words of 1540 to those of the Prayer Book of 1662 allows no modern editor justly to claim that " no note of Merbecke has been altered." What did Merbecke actually write? and how much of the many modern editions of him is adaptation? These are questions which still puzzle many competent Church musicians at the present day.

It is high time, then, that all concerned should be given the answer to these questions, and that was the author's first intent in preparing this volume of facsimiles. It is true that facsimiles began to be issued by Pickering and Rimbault as long ago as 1844. Some modern editors have even accepted them as their textual authority. But that is unsafe. A "facsimile" a hundred years ago was necessarily a book set up by hand. An editor might choose his text when two specimens of the original appeared to contradict one another. Mr. Hunt's facsimiles are photographic, and though even the camera may lie, it has not been allowed to do so here. The printer has cleared away some dirt and the marks of spilt coffee which obscured details of the text; he has expunged some jottings of household accounts which an irreverent owner had made on certain pages. Otherwise the negatives have not been touched. The reader can be assured that here he gets a true presentation of the original print, no more and no less.

But the first intention has grown a little. Though the Booke of Common Praier Noted is the main foundation of an English liturgical melody it is not the only one. Mr. Hunt has traced concisely yet carefully what may be called the process of peaceful penetration of the English language into the Church of Henry VIII, before war was declared against the Latin tongue with the First Prayer Book of Edward VI. Music had its part in this process, and Cranmer's First Litany (1544) more or less dictated the terms of the musical treatment of words which bound Merbecke's later and more comprehensive work. The Litany, therefore, is also produced in facsimile here, together with a specimen of what is probably the earliest harmonized setting of the English Communion Service. The unknown author of this Service, rather than Merbecke, may be fittingly pointed to as one of the progenitors of the Cathedral musical service. As far as can be judged from the

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as useless to point out the inferiority of Merbecke to the more subtle beauties of plainsong as it is to complain of the popular version of the Old Hundredth as a debased one. The worshippers sing both by ear, not by note; but their singing may be improved by the sight of the original notes. They may well be grateful to Mr. Hunt for offering them the notes. Their gratitude to Merbecke will endure because he has put a new song in their mouths.

H. C. COLLES.

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tenor part, which is all that survives, he, too, was held by Cranmer's principle of providing " for every syllable a note."

That principle is one which no musician would wish to see applied rigidly to vocal music, sacred or secular, and the limitations which it imposed on Merbecke and his fellows accounts for the comparative poverty of this early English Church music, alike in unison and in harmony. Such music, it has often been pointed out, lacks both the free arabesque of plainsong and the intertwined phrases of the Latin polyphony. But in accepting the limitation Merbecke became the pioneer of a native song. The syllable-to-a-note principle called attention to the existence of certain natural verbal rhythms inherent in the English language, and these Merbecke's simple notation (notes of four values together with a dot lengthening the normal one by half its value) was sufficient to render with fair accuracy. Once those verbal rhythms were recognized, English music had begun to take shape from the English language. The union of the verbal and the musical phrase was to become a distinguishing feature of the English madrigals of the next generation; it accounts for many of the delicate rhythms of Dowland and Campion in their songs to the lute; it influenced those more confined metrical ideas of Henry Lawes which earned the praise of Milton and Herrick, and it entered deeply into the dramatic declamation of Matthew Locke and Henry Purcell. In fact it laid the foundations of English music.

For that reason this practical exposition of what Merbecke did should have a value for other musicians today besides those directly occupied with Church music. The Booke of Common Praier Noted is an important historic document. For the worshippers at our Sunday Eucharists it is something more than that. Its melodies for Creed, and Sanctus, and Gloria are fast becoming as familiar as are the hymn tunes of their youth. It is

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PREFACE

THE main purpose of this book is to place in the hands of all who are interested a complete facsimile of *Cranmer's First Litany*, 1544, and Merbecke's *Book of Common Prayer Noted*, 1550.

To the best of my belief the *Litany* appears here in facsimile for the first time, while the *Book of Common Prayer Noted* has not been brought out in full since the facsimile editions produced by Pickering in 1844 and Rimbault in 1845 and again in 1871.

Copies of the original printing of Merbecke's work are very rare, possibly owing to the fact that the Second Act of Uniformity, 1552, threw much of his book out of use. Where it has not been possible to examine the existing copies directly, this has been done by means of photographs, with the exception of the one copy in Canada.

An attempt has been made to solve the problem—was the *Book of Common Prayer Noted* printed more than once? Whether this has been achieved or not must be left to the judgement of my readers, if I am so fortunate as to have any.

For the sake of completeness extracts have been included from all Merbecke's extant literary works, which are interesting both because they illustrate clearly his religious beliefs and for the quaintness of the language used.

I have examined many books in search of information during the preparation of this volume, and must acknowledge my indebtedness particularly to A New History of

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the Book of Common Prayer by Procter and Frere, to Foxe's Acts and Monuments, and to Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians.

I am very grateful to Dr. H. C. Colles not only for writing the Foreword, but for much valued help and advice, and to Sir Sydney Nicholson and Mr. J. H. Arnold for the interest they have taken throughout my task, always placing their knowledge and advice at my disposal.

My deepest gratitude is due to Dr. Walter S. Vale, of All Saints', Margaret Street. Owing to my failing sight the task of comparing the various copies of Merbecke's work would have been completely impossible if Dr. Vale had not lent me his eyes. In addition to this, his ever-ready kindness and guidance have been invaluable.

My thanks are also due to the authorities of the various libraries which possess copies of the *Litany* and the *Book of Common Prayer Noted*, for allowing these to be examined, photographed, and here reproduced.

Finally, I make my grateful acknowledgement to the Proprietors of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* for their generous subsidy, which has made the publication of this book a practical possibility.

J. ERIC HUNT.

November 25th, 1938.

Since writing the above, we have received news of Dr. Vale's death on January 27th, 1939. The position he had made for himself was unique. His boundless enthusiasm and expert knowledge were coupled wth an ever-ready kindness. Many will mourn his passing, while to those of us his intimate friends the loss is very keen. J. E. H.

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I

LITURGICAL REFORM, THE 1549 PRAYER BOOK

For many years before the appearance of our first English Prayer Book in 1549, the pressing need for liturgical reform had been recognized both at home and on the Continent. Abuses had crept in which seriously dislocated the scheme of worship, a fact clearly shown by a statement in the preface to the 1549 Prayer Book, which is a quotation from the Spanish Cardinal Quignon.* It tells how a book of the Bible is scarcely begun before it is done with, and how only a few of the Psalms are recited as the others are crowded out by the continual repetition on Festal Days. Much legendary matter had taken the place of the Scriptures, and, to add to all this, it was widely felt, both here and abroad, that the people did not understand either the services or the ceremonial.

The movement for reform was well under way abroad before it took definite shape in England. Here the issue was bound up with political affairs. Henry VIII had quarrelled with the Pope, whose name he had ordered to be deleted from the services in 1535, while in the previous year he had issued the first fixed formula for the Bidding of the Bedes. In this the king is no longer named after the Spirituality, but as the Supreme Head of both Spirituality and Temporality, next unto God. This is of great importance, as, though it did not mean

* See "Concerning the Services of the Church" in the 1662 Prayer Book.

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a break with the Catholic Church, it did undermine the allegiance of Canterbury to the Holy See of Rome. The rapid change of outlook which took place in this period is illustrated by the statements made concerning Ceremonies. The ninth of the Ten Articles of 1536 states that holy water, holy bread, the lights of Candlemas, and the ashes of Ash Wednesday are not to be cast away. but continued in order to put us in mind of the things they represent. This was again reproduced in the Bishop's Book of 1537 and repeated in the King's Book of 1543, but in No. 5 of the twelve Homilies published in 1547 Cranmer denounces such things as papistical. This shows that outside influence had been strong, some longing for a conservative reform of the Church, while others strove for an abolition of all that kept it within the bounds of Catholicism.

It was felt very strongly at this time, both here and abroad, that a better understanding of the services would result if they were rendered in the vernacular. In 1536 an English Bible was set up in all churches, from which in 1542 a chapter was ordered to be read after *Te Deum* and *Magnificat*. Six copies of the Bible in English were chained in different parts of St. Paul's Cathedral, and we are told that eager crowds gathered round while a scholar read aloud. This reading sometimes went on even during divine service.

Henry VIII ordered a Litany to be set forth in English, in response to which Cranmer wrote to the King on May 27th, 1544, saying: "I have travailed to make the version in English and have set the Latin note unto the same." This work, usually known as *Cranmer's First Litany*, was printed by Thomas Berthelet in June, 1544.

Though portions are Cranmer's original composition, by far the greater part is taken from the Sarum Processional, Luther's Litany, and the Greek Orthodox Litany. English as a liturgical language could have no finer beginning—this Litany ranking among the most LITURGICAL REFORM, THE 1549 PRAYER BOOK 17

superb works, not only in ecclesiastical, but in all literature.

After a long exhortation the Litany is prefaced by the following instruction, here rendered in modern English:

As these holy prayers and suffrages following are set forth of most godly zeal for edifying and stirring of devotion of all true faithful Christian hearts, so is it thought convenient in this common prayer of procession to have it set forth and used in the vulgar tongue, for stirring the people to more devotion: and it shall be every Christian man's part reverently to use the same, to the honour and glory of Almighty God, and the profit of their own souls. And such among the people as have books, and can read, may read them quietly and softly to themselves, and such as cannot read, let them quietly and attentively give audience in time of the said prayers, having their minds erect to Almighty God, and devoutly praying in their hearts the same petitions which do enter in at their ears, so that with one sound of the heart, and one accord, God may be glorified in His church.

And it is to be remembered, that that which is printed in black letters is to be said or sung of the priest with an audible voice, that is to say, so loudly and plainly, that it may well be understood of the hearers: And that which is in the red is to be answered of the choir soberly and devoutly.

One important point must here be noticed, as it materially affects the structure of the Litany. Owing to an oversight (or perhaps a relapse into earlier habit) the Amen at the end of the Collect, "O Thou that despisest not the sighing of a contrite heart," was omitted by Cranmer, thus obscuring the natural division of the Litany into its two distinct parts in such a way that the new section, "O Lord, arise," etc., has commonly

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been treated as a response to the Collect. The lay-out of the 1662 manuscript of the Sealed Copy is quite enough to refute such a conception. This Amen was replaced in the early Elizabethan Litanies, but again left out in subsequent revisions, not being reinstated until the Prayer Book of 1927-28.

A few other alterations have been made, also some omissions—for instance, "From the Bishop of Rome and all his detestable enormities "—but substantially the Litany remains today as Cranmer left it in 1544.

England being at war with Scotland and France at this time, the King required that Processions should be made throughout the realm, a regular custom in times of stress. He complained that the people were slack in their attendance. Nearly a year after the Litany had been composed, Henry wrote to Cranmer on January 18th, 1545, still complaining of slackness on the part of the people. In this letter he states that he has set forth "Certain Godly Prayers and Suffrages" which he sends to the Archbishop; he refers to the Litany, Cranmer's own work.

During the last years of Henry's reign very little was accomplished of a permanent nature. Cranmer revised the Breviary twice, but neither revision was ever published, though certain features were used in the 1549 book. These include the monthly instead of weekly recital of the Psalter, the elimination of all non-Scriptural lessons, the Old Testament being read once a year and the New Testament three times, and the formation of two new services, Mattins and Evensong, from the Daily Hours.

Edward VI succeeded Henry on January 29th, 1547. He was young, and consequently in the hands of his ministers. Events followed rapidly. The First Book of Homilies already referred to appeared in 1547, also an injunction that the Epistle and Gospel should be read in English. Shortly afterwards came the most important step of all. English as a liturgical language had been used first in 1544 in the Litany, and again for the singing of Compline in the King's Chapel in 1547, but in the next year came an Order of Communion.

Already in December, 1547, a Bill had been hurried through Parliament which provided for Communion under both kinds. This was followed a few months later by a form for Communion in the vernacular to be inserted in the Latin Mass. This Order comprised the Invitation, the two Exhortations, the Confession, Absolution, Comfortable Words, the Prayer of Humble Access, the traditional words of administration, and the Peace. As early as May, 1548, this Order of Communion was used at St. Paul's and at other London churches, while at the Cathedral Mattins and Evensong were rendered in English. These liturgical innovations culminated in the publication of the First Book of Common Prayer in 1549, which for the first time gathered together, in one volume and in the vernacular, all the services necessary for public worship. These included the new offices of Mattins and Evensong, Cranmer's Litany, known originally as "An Exhortation to Prayer," and a complete Communion Service.

It is not possible to discuss here in detail all the services which find a place in this first English Prayer Book, but a few words may not be out of place concerning those which Merbecke set to music in his *Booke of Common Praier Noted*. This appeared in 1550, and "contained so much of the Order of Common Prayer as is to be sung in Churches." The Litany is not included, presumably because this had been issued by Cranmer with a musical setting as recently as 1544. Mattins and Evensong, except for *Venite* before the Psalms in the former, are similar in structure; each opens with the Lord's Prayer, and the versicles and responses, followed by the Psalms and Canticles. The Lesser Litany is placed between the

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Benedictus (or the Nunc Dimittis) and the Creed. The services conclude with the usual versicles and responses and the Collects. The Quicunque Vult is provided for the six major festivals, while the Benedicite is appointed for use during Lent in place of the Te Deum. With regard to the Communion Office the following features are mentioned, as they differ from our liturgy of 1662. The service opens with the singing of a short Psalm as an introit. Instead of the Commandments there is the Kyrie in its ninefold form, followed immediately by the Gloria in Excelsis. The Mutual Salutation precedes the Collect of the Day. The Canon (which with certain important modifications is a fairly free adaptation of the Latin) opens with a second Mutual Salutation, the Sursum Corda, and the Sanctus combined with the Benedictus qui Venit. The Prayer of Consecration follows; this includes the prayer for the whole state of Christ's Church (a generous expansion of the older Latin intercessions), a prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit (absent from the current Latin use, but here inserted, though in an untraditional position), then the Narrative of Institution (from which the elevation is removed) and an anamnesis or offering of the Sacrifice, developing into the familiar Prayer of Oblation. Then comes the Lord's Prayer (to be said by the people) with its ancient introduction, followed immediately by the Pax. At this point is introduced, almost intact, the 1548 Order of Communion. During the time of Communion the clerks were ordered to sing the Agnus Dei. The service concludes with the singing of one of a number of sentences of Holy Scripture during the ablutions, a third Mutual Salutation, the Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Blessing.

At the Communion where there is a burial a special introit, collect, epistle, and gospel are appointed.

II

THE LITURGY ENGLISHED

It must be remembered that Latin was the only language which had been used in England for the services of the Church until the Reformation, while the music in general use was plainsong, most of which was florid in character.

When the new English services appeared, certain difficulties faced those responsible for their musical setting. Some English words which look similar to their Latin originals (e.g., "visible and invisible," visibilium et invisibilium) are pronounced differently; also the many feminine endings to sentences in Latin are in sharp contrast to the strong final syllables of Englishe.g. (in the Gloria in Excelsis), et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis-" and in earth peace, goodwill towards men "; Domine fili unigenite Jesu Christe-" O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ"; (in the Creed) et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum-" and in one Lord Jesus Christ "; ejus regni non erit finis-" whose kingdom shall have no end "; (in the Sanctus) Dominus Deus Sabaoth-"Lord God of Hosts "; (in the Benedictus) qui venit in nomine Domini-" that cometh in the name of the Lord "; (in the Agnus Dei) qui tollis peccata mundi-" that takest away the sins of the world."

Such circumstances as these made the mere clamping of plainsong on to English a practical impossibility. Elaborate music had more than once been called into question, so that the translation of the services gave a unique opportunity for its simplification.

It has often been stated that Merbecke's Booke of

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Common Praier Noted was done under the direct supervision of Cranmer. If this work be compared with *Cranmer's First Litany*,* it will be seen at once that there are unmistakable similarities. Cranmer and Merbecke, being steeped in Plainsong, drew on it for their own musical work, Cranmer making some use of the Sarum Processional for his Litany, while Merbecke borrowed freely from Plainsong sources, using a similar idiom in his original melodies.

Throughout, both men observed an important new rule—namely, one note only must be set to a syllable. Another strong likeness between the two is the way in which the music is presented. Merbecke tells us, in his short but all-important preface, that he has used only four sorts of notes. "The first note is a strene note and is a breve. The second is a square note, and is a semy breve. The iii a pycke and is a mynymme. And when there is a prycke by the square note, that prycke is half as muche as the note that goeth before it. The iiii is a close, and is only used at the end of a verse." Cranmer uses the first three, as does Merbecke, but not the close or dot. These two omissions do not alter the strong family likeness in any way.

The conclusion to be drawn is either, as generally supposed, that Merbecke worked under Cranmer's direction, or that the Litany was really the work of

* It has often been stated that in 1544 a harmonized version of Cranmer's *Litany* was issued, but so far efforts to trace this setting have failed. There exists, however, in the British Museum (Add. MSS. 34191) a part-book containing what is evidently the bass part of a harmonized Litany, as it exactly fits with the plain chant as given by Cranmer. The excellent progression of the bass allows a far more interesting harmonic treatment than is found in the later "ferial" arrangement, with its constant iteration of one chord. The setting ends with the "Kyrie Eleison." The inner parts have been reconstructed and the whole issued for use (with the later suffrages according to the ordinary "ferial" use) by Sir Sydney H. Nicholson and Dr. E. H. Fellowes. Merbecke. There is no documentary evidence to support the idea that Merbecke was the musical author of the Litany, though it seems a likely suggestion in view of the fact that Merbecke's great ability is proved beyond question in his setting of words to music and as a musician generally, while Cranmer's musical reputation rests entirely on his supposed musical authorship of the Litany.

As stated in the previous chapter, Henry, in writing to Cranmer, claimed to have set forth the Godly Prayers and Suffrages which were really Cranmer's own work. Something of the same sort may have obscured Merbecke's real title to the music of the Litany.

A word must be said here about a manuscript in the British Museum which has recently been brought to light (Additional MSS. 34191).* In this is contained, in addition to various Latin services and motets, a Litany, Te Deum, and Communion Service in English (the tenor part only is given). The Latin part of the book is very well and clearly written, but the English is in a very inferior hand. From the style of the writing and the water-marks in the paper, this has been assigned to the closing years of Henry VIII's reign. Its extreme importance from our point of view is that it throws doubt on the claim that Merbecke was the first to set the English liturgy to music, unless, of course, this itself is Merbecke's work. Neither handwriting nor watermarks can be claimed as sufficient evidence for giving an exact date to a book. The writer of the music keeps almost invariably to the rule of one note per syllable, and uses for his musical characters a diamond, a diamond with tail, and an occasional quasi-square note, all on a five-line stave. A few dotted notes also occur.

Turning to the words, certain important points must be noticed. No *Kyrie Eleison* is given, the *Gloria in Excelsis* appears at the beginning, and both *Benedictus*

* See pages 51-59.

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oui Venit and Agnus Dei are included. These facts suggest a date anyway as early as 1550, if not before; but if a closer examination of the words be made, a later date seems far more likely. Both in the Roman Mass and in the rite of 1549, the Gloria in Excelsis contains only the traditional threefold plea, "that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us, Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us." It was not until the second Prayer Book of Edward VI, 1552, that a second "Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us" was inserted, thus destroying the threefold form of this section. The manuscript under consideration is in this respect the same as 1552. In the Creed the rite of 1549 reads, "And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the father; And he shall come again with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead," Merbecke renders it, "And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the father, whose kyngdome shall have none ende: and he shall come agayne with glorye to Judge bothe the quicke and the deade," while the 1552 book and this manuscript give these words as we know them to-day.

From which it will be seen that a date after, rather than before, 1550 is far more likely, though it may be argued that the omission of the words "whose kingdom shall have no end" in 1549, and the inversion of "whose kingdom shall have no end" and " and he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead" in Merbecke (*i.e.*, Merbecke making good the omission, but in the wrong place),* were only errors, and that this manuscript follows the traditional order of the Mass.

* The necessity to reset this broken limb in applying Merbecke's melody to the current rite of 1662 weakens any claim by a modern editor that "no note of Merbecke has been altered." A similar adaptation is required in Sanctus. Certainly, if these points be weighed carefully, the evidence is not strong enough to invalidate the claim that Merbecke was the first to set our English liturgy to music.*

There remains one important matter for discussionnamely, was the Booke of Common Praier Noted printed more than once, or are the differences which appear in various copies more apparent than real, and merely the result of tilting and slipping type and bad registering on the part of the printer? The art of music-printing in England was still in its infancy by the middle of the sixteenth century. The first book containing printed music published in this country was Higden's Policronicon, printed by Wynkyn de Worde at Westminster in 1495. In this book only eight notes appear, illustrating a passage in the text. In the previous edition, printed by Caxton in 1482, the notes were not printed but filled in by hand. When in the sixteenth century music-printing became established, the method followed in this country was that employed on the Continent: first, the stave was printed, after which the notes were superimposed on the already prepared lines, though it has been stated that the reverse procedure was adopted, and that the lines were printed after the notes. The order, however, is immaterial. The necessity for two successive processes, combined with a failure to secure exact registration the one with the other, makes the slight variations which appear in Merbecke easily accountable.

So far as can be ascertained, there are only fourteen copies of the *Booke of Common Praier Noted* in existence to-day. With the exception of the copy in California, all copies have been examined either directly or by means

* It is known that certain liturgical experiments were made before the appearance of the 1549 Prayer Book, though none is known to survive. It is quite possible that this is one of these experiments.

of photographs, and two of them may be taken here to illustrate this point—the King's Library in the British Museum, which is given *in extenso*, and the Marsh's Library.* There is no clef for the Creed, therefore the only real guide is the B flat. On comparing these two copies we find at the words "And was incarnate," etc., in the British Museum copy the B flat is on the top line, and the first note of the page is definitely in the bottom space, while in the Marsh's Library copy the B flat is in the top space and the first note is on the bottom line; and this difference affects the whole page. Other similar instances of bad type-registering will be seen at once if the facsimile given is carefully examined.

If further evidence against a second edition is needed, a reference to the Lord's Prayer in the Communion Service illustrates what must have been a mistake on Merbecke's part. As a rule he uses the square note or semibreve as the unit or ordinary note, while in the Lord's Prayer the shortest note—namely, the diamond or minim—is the unit. It is unthinkable that Merbecke intended the Lord's Prayer to be sung twice as quickly as the rest of the service. Another point in favour of considering this as a mere error is that using the diamond as the unit precludes the possibility of making it into a dotted note (since no smaller note is provided to follow the dot), and the dotted note is a striking feature in Merbecke's setting of words, in fact the strongest argument in favour of taking his preface literally.

As no provision had been made for the musical rendering of the services other than Cranmer's Litany when the 1549 Prayer Book was authorized for general use, Merbecke probably executed his work in great haste in order to obviate the confusion which must have occurred when those used only to Latin tried for the first time to sing services in English. Merbecke in his work shows himself to be such a keen and sensitive scholar of the

* See pages 60-63.

English language that, had a second edition of his book appeared, such an obvious error as that quoted above would surely have been corrected.

Merbecke, though a staunch Protestant, shows clearly his respect for tradition, not only, as has been stated, by drawing for his music on the current plainsong melodies of the Church, thus forging a strong link with the past, but in his presentation of the Lord's Prayer both in the offices of Mattins and Evensong and at the Communion. In the former offices no music is provided until "And lead us not into temptation," sung as a versicle by the priest, up to this point the prayer having been said silently by him alone, the response of the people following, "But deliver us from evil." At the Communion the priest sings alone up to the same point, the people answering as before.

The Booke of Common Praier Noted was but shortlived. The 1549 Prayer Book did not go far enough for the ever-increasing Protestant party, as a result of whose demands the second Prayer Book of Edward VI appeared in 1552, thus making obsolete much of Merbecke's work. In time, however, many decisions become reversed, and Merbecke, the staunch Tudor Protestant, came into his own again through the Oxford Movement, the great Catholic Revival in the Church of England.

The following is a complete list, so far as has been ascertained, of the extant copies of the Booke of Common Praier Noted:

Cambridge.	University Library, 1 copy, complete.
California.	Huntington Library.
Chislehurst.	Sir Sydney Nicholson, 1 copy, complete.
Dublin.	Marsh's Library, 1 copy, complete.
	Trinity College Library, lacks leaves 1,
	2 and 3, M 2 and 3, N 2 and 3.
Durham.	Bishop Cosin Library, 1 copy, complete.

THE LITURGY ENGLISHED

London. British Museum, King's Library, 1 copy complete.

Music Library, lacks final leaf, which has been supplied in MS.

Lambeth Palace Library, 2 copies, 1 copy, complete, 1 lacks title-page.

Manchester. Oxford.

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er. Rylands Library, 1 copy, complete.

Bodleian Library, 3 copies, 2 complete, the third lacks leaves M 2 and 3, and has the title-page mounted.

Students are referred to:

John Merbecke, by R. R. Terry. (Proceedings of the Musical Association, Forty-fifth Session, 1918-1919.) In this lecture Sir Richard Terry traces Merbecke's melodies back to their original sources.

Voice and Verse, by H. C. Colles (Oxford University Press): Chapter II, "The Emergence of the Vernacular."

Articles on the history of music-printing in the current edition and previous edition of Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, to which the writer is indebted.

III

JOHN MERBECKE: BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

It is a matter for great regret that so little is known concerning one whose influence on English Church Music has been very great. Neither the date of John Merbecke's birth nor that of his death can be given with any certainty. Burney states that he was born in 1523, but this is open to doubt, as it is recorded that Merbecke's first son, Roger, was born in 1536, making Merbecke a father at 13, an unusually early age. The events which are known in the life of Roger make the date given for his birth a likely one. With this in mind, the date of John Merbecke's birth must be given as probably early in the sixteenth century.

Concerning his early life, Merbecke wrote in the preface to his Concordance, published 1550, which was addressed to Edward VI, " I was one of your highness' most poor subjects, destitute both of learning and eloquence, yea, and such a one as in manner never tasted the sweetness of learned letters, but altogether brought up in your highness' College at Windsor, in the study of Music and playing on Organs, wherein I consumed vainly the greatest part of my life." The words, " wherein I consumed vainly the greatest part of my life," are of great importance, as they indicate that Merbecke turned aside from the work for which he was so eminently fitted, the composition of Church music, fairly early in his career, though it is known that he held the post of organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, over a very long period, as the first reference to him is as organist

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at Windsor in 1541. There are still extant a few compositions by Merbecke for the Latin rite, also a carol to English words, but with the publication of the *Booke* of Common Praier Noted, 1550, his contributions to Church music appear to have ceased, a fact greatly to be regretted, as what little remains shows him to have been a composer of the very highest order.

In 1543, Merbecke, together with Anthony Peerson, priest, Robert Testwood, singing man in the choir of Windsor, and Henry Filmer, tradesman of the same town, was arrested on a charge of heresy. It seems that they, among others in Windsor favouring the Reformation, had formed themselves into a society which held frequent meetings. Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, procured a commission from the king that suspected houses in Windsor might be searched for heretical writings. Certain works in the handwriting of Merbecke, including his Concordance, and extracts from a letter of Calvin against the Mass, were seized. On March 18th Merbecke was summoned to appear, together with Peerson, Testwood, and Filmer, before a commission, the charge against Merbecke being " that with his own hands he had drawn out certain annotations out of certain authors which then seemed to be repugnant to the Mass and the sacrament of the altar. Furthermore, that he said that the Mass wherein the priest doth consecrate the body of the Lord to be impure and defiled with much ungodliness, which for so much as it spoileth God himself of his honour, it ought in no wise to be suffered of Christians. Also that the elevation of the Sacrament doth as it were represent a similitude of the calves set up in the temple by Jeroboam. And finally that it was not to be doubted but that Christ herein was in a manner counted a mocking stock" (Foxe, Acts and Monuments). Merbecke was considered to have offended against the Six Articles of 1539, but advanced in his defence that his copying of the letter by Calvin, which was directed against the Six Articles, had been done before the passing of the Act.

Concerning the Concordance, he explained that owing to being poor he had undertaken the copying out of a Bible in English, recently published with notes by Thomas Matthews, not being able to afford to buy a copy, and had got as far as the book of Joshua when his friend Turner suggested that he should make an English concordance. He said he did not know what that was. His friend explained and gave-him a copy of the Bible in English and a Latin concordance. He undertook the work, and had got as far as the letter L. The commissioners were so surprised and incredulous that Merbecke asked them to draw out any words under the letter M and to supply him with the English Bible and a Latin concordance, and in one day he had filled three sheets, so far as the words given would allow. (Two pages under the letter M from the completed Concordance are given in facsimile on folders facing page 64.*) Despite the fact that the commissioners praised his work, and one of them, Dr. Oking, said that he had been better employed than his accusers, he was committed for trial. Merbecke was given in charge with these words, " Take this man and have him to the Marshalsea, and tell the keeper that it is the Council's pleasure that he treat him gently; and if he have any money in his purse, as I think he hath not much, take you it from him, lest the prisoners do take it; and minister it unto him as he shall have need." The next day one described by Foxe as the bishop's gentleman went to the Marshalsea and urged Merbecke with thinly veiled threats to betray his Protestant friends. This he resolutely refused to do, and the keeper of the prison was then told to put him into irons. On the following

* As the manuscript was, to use Merbecke's own words, utterly lost, the two pages of the *Concordance* here reproduced in facsimile are taken from the printed copy, date 1550, in the British Museum.

day (Wednesday in Holy Week) Merbecke was examined by Gardiner at his house at St. Mary Overy, but as he neither betrayed his friends nor gave way he was sent back to prison after further examinations to await his trial for heresy. During his imprisonment his wife often visited him, a privilege which she obtained with very great difficulty.

As has been stated already, the indictment against Merbecke was speaking and writing against the Mass; that against Peerson and Filmer, the use of irreverent expressions concerning the Mass, while Testwood was indicted for striking off with a key the nose of an alabaster image of the Blessed Virgin Mary placed behind the high altar of St. George's Chapel, for dissuading people from pilgrimages, and for answering during service in the chapel to the words "O redemptrix et salvatrix," "non redemptrix nec salvatrix."

All came to trial on July 26th, and were condemned to be burnt. Through the intervention of Gardiner, · Bishop of Winchester, and Sir Humphrey Foster, one of the commissioners, before whom the accused originally appeared, Merbecke was saved from this fate, though his three associates suffered their penalty at Windsor the following day. Merbecke seems to have been handed over to Gardiner, who greatly admired his skill in music. Foxe tells in Acts and Monuments that at the third examination of Merbecke at Winchester House, in Southwark, upon his appearance in the hall he found the bishop with a roll in his hand, and going toward the window, he called to him, and said, " Merbecke, wilt thou cast away thyself ?" Upon his answering, "No,"-" Yes," replied the bishop, " thou goest about it, for thou wilt utter nothing. What a devil made thee to meddle with the Scriptures ? Thy vocation was another way, wherein thou hast a goodly gift, if thou diddest esteem it." "Yes," answered Merbecke, "I do esteem it, and have done my part therein according to that little knowledge that God hath given me." "And why the devil," said the bishop, "didst thou not hold thee there?" And when Merbecke confessed, "I have compiled the *Concordance*, and that without any help save of God," the bishop said, "I do not discommend thy diligence, but what shouldest thou meddle with that thing which pertaineth not to thee?"

Notwithstanding Gardiner's active persecution of Merbecke, he seems to have possessed a kindly interest in his victim. Merbecke was feleased and obtained the king's pardon on October 4th.

Foxe in the first edition of *Acts and Monuments* stated that they all four were burnt, but in the second edition Foxe, after making scathing reference to his critics, who had pointed out his mistake, calling them, "carpers, wranglers, exclaimers, depravers, with the whole brood of such whisperers, railers, quarrel-pickers, cornercreepers, fault-finders, and spider-catchers," says: "He (Merbecke) is yet not dead, God be praised, and yet to this present singeth merrily, and playeth on the organs."

Not only was he set at liberty, but reinstated in his office as organist at Windsor. He applied himself with great diligence to his *Concordance*, the original copy of which had been lost. He set himself again to work on the *Concordance*, which had helped to bring him so much trouble, but now indulged these biblical studies and his Protestant opinions quietly enough to avoid further notoriety.

Some idea of the immense labour involved in the compilation of the *Concordance* is gained from his own words in the preface. "I began to practise divers and sundry ways, blotting a great number of quires of paper, before I could bring it into order, howbeit trusting that the beginning was the hardest, as after it proved, I continued my labours, and wrote the whole work in sentences, so that not only the reader might find any word that he desired, but also the whole sentence that it was written

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in, which made a great and a huge volume. And as I had about finished the same, my chance among others was, at Windsor to be taken in the labyrinth and troublesome net of a law called the Statute of Six Articles, where, by the means of good workers for my dispatch, I was quickly condemned and judged to death, for the copying out of a work, made by the great Clerk, Master John Calvin, written against the same six articles, and this my Concordance was not one of the least matters that then they alleged to aggravate the cause of my trouble: but the same time was my great work, among other, taken from me and utterly lost, which (beside my labour) I had spent no small time in. But the living Lord, who brought Daniel out of the lake of lions, and sent the Prophet Habakkuk to bear him food, moved the heart of the noble and famous Prince, your highness' father, to grant me his most gracious pardon, which I enjoyed and was set at liberty. After, being such an earnest device, for the furtherance of this good work, that I was never in quiet, till the same were done, I began again therewith and writ out the same, and when I had done, it fortuned me to show it to my friend, who when he saw it not only promised to aid me in the preferment thereof to the king's Majesty, your highness' father, but also, he would so move it to the Queen's grace, your highness' father's most virtuous and godly last wife, that he doubted not but that her grace would so prefer it to the King that his Majesty would command it to be published: but in any wise the same my friend would have a copy thereof, which being such a one as I might not say nay I eftsoons writ and delivered him. Then so happened it, that before the queen's grace could have true conceit to move the king's highness, God took him to his mercy, and anon I lost her grace also, God mercifully delivering her by death from the troubles and miseries of the world. And then was I bitterly in despair that ever it should forward. But when I saw that God had set your most

excellent Majesty in this your regal seat, and saw by the beginning of your proceedings (as before I have recited) that your travails tended wholly to the maintenance of God's most high honour, I was anon as a man newly renewed in spirit, and was then driven in myself to acknowledge that all that ever had chanced before (especially to this present work) chanced for the best, and that like as your highness was by God's providence sent unto England for the comfort of us all, so was it his pleasure that such things as appertain to any public benefit should safely pass under your highness' protection. And thus being encouraged, I resorted to the Imprinter hereof, with whom I counselled for the imprinting of the same, who, seeing the volume so huge and great, said plainly that the charges of the imprinting thereof would not only be importunate, but the books when they should be finished would bear so excellent price as few of your highness' loving subjects should be able to attain unto them: wherefore, by his advice, I vet once again anew wrote out the same, in such sort as the work now appeareth, and by the providence of God is now finished."

In its final form, the book contains nine hundred folios with three columns on each folio, and this, as can be seen from his own words, is an abbreviated edition. With the accession of Edward VI in 1547, Merbecke had nothing more to fear. Liturgical reforms which had been pending for so long soon came into force, and in 1549 our first English Prayer Book was authorized for use. In the same year Merbecke supplicated for the degree of Mus.B. at Oxford, and in 1550 he not only published his *Concordance* but produced the work for which he will always be famous, the *Booke of Common Praier Noted*.

In Edward VI, King's Commissions, October 26th (4 Edward VI), is the following minute:

"And whereas we understand that John Merbecke

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and George Thexton hath of your grant fees appointed to them severally for playing upon organs, we take order that the said John and George shall enjoy their several fees during their lives if they continue in that College in as large and ample a manner as if organ playing had still continued in the Church."

The implied discontinuance of organ-playing did not come into effect, and Merbecke stayed in his office until succeeded by John Mundy about 1585. It may be conjectured with some certainty that his death took place about this time, though no record is extant giving an exact date. The latter part of his life seems to have been devoted to the writing of books and pamphlets. Extracts from all those that survive are given. He seems to have retained his strong Protestant sympathies throughout his life. The Dedicatory Epistle to the *Book of Notes and Commonplaces* illustrates this point.

DEDICATORY EPISTLE FROM THE "BOOK OF NOTES AND COMMONPLACES"

To Right Honourable and his especial good Lord the Earl of Huntingdon, Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, etc., John Merbecke wisheth a most happy and prosperous estate, with increase of virtue in the fear of God.

As the children of Israel had inestimable cause to praise the great goodness of almighty God, and to render condign thanks unto him for his most merciful deliverance out of their vile captivity and bondage, which they so long had sustained under that proud resister of God's omnipotent power, king Pharaoh; Even so (Right honourable) are we no less bound, to honour, laud, and praise the same God with immortal thanks, which now of his entire love, pity, and compassion (in this our last age of the world) hath broken the yoke of

our miserable servitude, under that proud exalter of himself, the Romish Antichrist, and of the bondmen and slaves of that tyrant, hath made us free men in his son Jesus Christ, through the true knowledge of his eternal and everlasting word. For as the people that dwell in the country called Cimmeria do remain in continual darkness, by reason they want the clear light of the Sun which is so far distant from them, so were we (poor fools) during the time of our thraldom under the power of the Pope in like obscurity shut and pend up (as prisoners) in the dark dungeon of his Antichristian jurisdiction, and always constrained to feed on the scraps of his own unsavoury and most unfruitful traditions and devilish devices, for lack of the wholesome food of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, whereof the least little spark could not be permitted to put forth his light among us. But now (my good Lord) seeing that all the sleights and grounds of the Pope's intentions (which wholly consisteth in false superstitious worshipping, filthy Idolatry, fained hypocrisy, foolish scrupulosity, with other the like) be clearly sifted and bolted out, from the bolting tub of his Canon laws by infinite godly and learned writers, especially by such as be here expressed within this volume, it shall behove us to embrace and lay sure hold on the profound sayings of those so godly writers, or rather upon the truth uttered by their pens: that being weaponed with such artillery, we may be able to resist and overthrow, whatsoever the whole Popish army shall assay to assault us withal. For what is the cause that many at this present day, do fall a-lusting after Romish religion, as did the Israelites to feed on the flesh-pots of Egypt's gain ? But that they despise to apparel themselves with the armour of Christ, esteeming much better their old apparel of Poperv, although it seem never so vile in the sight of God. Which miserable and deceived sort (but yet truly most wilful and froward people) that I might by the mercy of God

in some measure persuade, if not wholly convert to the truth, I have the rather employed my diligence in collecting these commonplaces (sincerely expounded by the authors themselves) that in reading and earnest study thereof, there may some spark of God's true knowledge, kindle a right understanding in them which the Lord grant, that his only praise and glory may therein be showed. And now, Right honourable, having as yet no help for the publishing of my Concordance, which without special help is like to lie not only helpless, but also fruitless, inclosed in a huge volume of mine own writing, wherein I have spent many years, in purpose thereby to profit the studies of the godly affected, in the English tongue, so that I was not able, as my meaning was, to exhibit the same unto you: I shall most humbly beseech your honour to accept and take in good part, my simple travails in this other work, which God of his goodness, in these mine old years, hath now brought forth in me: That I may not seem altogether unfruitful to the Church of God, nor unthankful unto you mine especial good Lord, but that at the least a testification of my faithful heart to God's people, and of my good will to your honour, may somewhat therein appear. For whom as duty requireth, I will remain during life, a continual intercessor unto almighty God, that his blessings may be multiplied upon you, and that abounding in all good gifts both of body and mind, may you enjoy upon this earth a long life, in perfect health and honour, to his glory, and to the profit of others, and after the end of your race, may be blessed for ever in the felicity of the faithful. Amen.

It is unfortunate that no copy can be found of a book called *The Ripping up of the Pope's Fardel*, a delightful title which is all that remains of a book which, judging from his other Papal pronouncements, would have made entertaining reading. One point in the Dedicatory Epistle to the *Book of Notes and Commonplaces* is difficult to understand. The date of the book is 1581. It is not surprising to find him speak of this period as "these his old years," but he also states that he has "as yet no help for the publishing of his *Concordance*." It may be that he still hoped the complete work instead of only the abbreviated form would be published. On the other hand, this book may have been written before 1550, the date in which the abbreviated *Concordance* appeared, and not printed until 1581, but then Merbecke would hardly have referred to "these his old years" when at the most only in middle life.

Merbecke's son Roger, referred to above, whose birth is given as 1536, became Canor of Christ Church and Provost of Oriel in 1565, graduated as a Doctor of Medicine in 1573, and afterwards was appointed first physician to Queen Elizabeth. He died in 1605, and was buried at St. Giles', Cripplegate.

John Merbecke was a truly remarkable man, whose work deserves to be better known than it is, as it is safe to say that through his chief contribution to English Church Music, the *Booke of Common Praier Noted*, which shows him to be a keen and sensitive scholar, he holds a position of really great importance in the history of Church music.

LIST OF WORKS BY JOHN MERBECKE

Latin Compositions:

- Mass, "Per arma justiciæ" (5 v.). Oxford Music School Collection (now in the Bodleian Library).
- Mass, "Domine Jhesu Christe" (5 v.). Oxford Music School Collection.
- Motet, "Ave Dei Patris Filia." Peterhouse, Cambridge. Tenor missing.
- Carol, "A Virgine and Mother." (Given in Hawkins's "History of Music," p. 451, Novello edition. No original has been found.)

EXTRACT 1

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" Booke of Common Praier Noted," 1550.

" Concordance," 1550.

- "The Lyves of Holy Sainctes, Prophets, Patriarches," etc., 1574.
- "The Holie History of King David . . . drawne into English meetre for the Youth to Reade," 1570.
- "A Ripping up of the Pope's Fardel," 1581.
- "A Booke of Notes and Commonplaces," 1581.
- " Examples drawn out of Holy Scripture," including "A briefe conference between the Pope and his Secretarie," 1582.

" A Dialogue between Youth and Age," 1584.

EXTRACT 1

Two EXTRACTS FROM "THE LIVES OF HOLY SAINTS, PROPHETS, PATRIARCHS, AND OTHERS, CONTAINED IN HOLY SCRIPTURE, SO FAR FORTH AS EXPRESS MENTION OF THEM IS DELIVERED UNTO US IN GOD'S WORD, WITH THE INTERPRETATION OF THEIR NAMES: Collected and gathered into an Alphabetical order, to the good commodity of the Christian reader." (1574.)

ELI was the next judge after Samson, that judged Israel, and the high Priest descended from Aaron. He had two Sons, the one called Hophni, the other Phinehas, which were so wicked that everyone complained on them. And because that Eli did not punish them according to their deserts, God sent him word by his Prophet, that forasmuch as he had not ministered due correction unto his sons for their great offences, he would surely remove the high Priest's office from his house for ever and stir him up a faithful Priest (meaning Zadok, who succeeded Abiathar, and was the augur of Christ) which should do according to his heart's desire. And this shall be to thee (said he) a sign and token that shall come upon thy two sons, even in one day they shall both die. And so it came to pass, for when the Philistines went out to battle against Israel, the two sons of Eli (which waited upon the Ark of God) were both slain, and the Ark taken and possessed of strangers. Then Eli (being at that time 99 years of age, and also blind) hearing of the Ark to be taken of the Philistines, was stricken into such a sudden fear, that he fell backward of his stool, and brake his neck, after he had judged forty years.

ZACHARIAH, the son of Jehoiada, was an holy Prophet. And when he saw Joas king of Judah (whom his father had trained from his youth up in the fear of God) with all his people declined from the Lord to the worshipping of Idols, and would not hear the Lord's admonition sent by his prophets to call them home again, he stood up before the people and said: Why transgress ye the commandments of the Lord, surely it shall not prosper: because ye have forsaken the Lord, he also hath forsaken you. For the which the King (not regarding the kindness of Jehoiada his father) commanded the people to stone him to death, in the court of the house of the Lord. And as he suffered his martyrdom, he desired the Lord to revenge his death, and to require his blood (Published in 1574). at their hands.

EXTRACT 2

EXTRACTS FROM "THE HOLY HISTORY OF KING DAVID, WHEREIN IS CHIEFLY LEARNED THESE GODLY AND WHOLESOME LESSONS, THAT IS TO HAVE SURE PATIENCE IN PERSECUTION, DUE OBEDIENCE TO OUR PRINCE WITHOUT REBELLION, AND ALSO THE TRUE AND MOST FAITHFUL DEALINGS OF FRIENDS." Drawn into English Metre for the youth to read, by John Merbecke. (1579.)

To render you the cause or rather the causes (Right Worshipful Mistress) that first moved me to take in hand the travail of this divine History of the holy Prophet king David. This, in my judgment, were not so neces-

EXTRACT 2

sary, as it might prove tedious unto you, and therefore I omit it, saving that thus much I affirm, that as well in the writing, as in the delivering of it to the press, I not meanly regarded that such histories as God's spirit hath left and commended unto us in the sacred Scriptures, might be advanced before, and infinitely far above those vain, unstable, and most unfruitful devices whatsoever (so I term them as they are to be compared with the histories of God's holy Scriptures) whatsoever (I say) proceeding from the pen of man, albeit never so thoroughly dipped in the depth and soundest part of that that man's reason might reach unto: But much more I intended to the uttermost of mine hability, to impair hereby the credit as well of all lewd lying legends of unsound Saints, consecrated and canonized in the high court, of Rome (the sovereign seat of that purple Whore, whom the Lord with the breath of his mouth shall shortly destroy to the great glory of the Lamb) as also of all filthy, fond, and unsavoury songs, books, and fancies far unfit and ill beseeming the eyes of baptised Christians. And the better to bring this to pass, I have not only endeavoured myself to be plain and familiar in all things, but also (for the more delectation of the Reader) have continued the history whole and entire of itself, without intermingling any matter or discourse that might seem to digress from the order of the Story. And now, having in this sort finished the same, and not finding in myself hability sufficient whereby to express the thankfulness and entire affection of my heart, which I would should be manifested unto you (to whom, as to the right worshipful gentleman your husband, the Lord hath granted great measures of zeal to his truth and love to his poor Saints) what other shift shall I make, being now, as my years and infirmities tell me, trudging to the end of my race, but to use this as a pledge of these the premises which the Lord Jesus alone must make absolute at his coming ? This little book, therefore, in this only consideration and

respect, I humbly dedicate and exhibit unto you (right worshipful Gentlewoman) that in receiving it at my hands, you will look into that that my heart hath herein behighted, namely that it be taken as a poor supply of the thing which I owe, but (for want of hability) can not otherwise render. I leave to be tedious unto you, beseeching that Lord that hath a continual eye to his Church, to preserve you and your right worshipful husband long time as bright burning lamps to the comfort of the same, and in the end of your earthly pilgrimage to clothe you, as he hath already chosen and called you, to wait upon the Lamb, and with him to live and reign eternally. Amen.

The opening lines give a good idea of the style of the work:

When as the Lord out of his sight did Saul the king reject,

Unto the Prophet Samuel his word he did direct,

- On this wise saying unto him: How long wilt thou lament
- For him that I have cast away, and of his reign repent?
- Fill now thy horn with oil, and come, for I have great delight

To send thee forth to Isai, that ancient Bethlemite: Because I have provided me a king among his seed To rule and govern Israel: make haste and go with speed.

EXTRACT 3

FROM THE "BOOK OF NOTES AND COMMONPLACES." (1581.)

AMEN. What this word signifieth. M. 5-22.

Amen is an Hebrew word, and signifieth even so be it, or be it fast and sure, approving and allowing the sentence going before: and when it is double it augmenteth the confirmation, as in many Psalms, and John 5 and 6.

Т.М. Арос. 1. 7.

EXTRACT 3

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Even so, Amen. Amen among the Hebrews betokeneth commonly an affirming or allowing of a thing. Like as Etiam doth among the Latins, and as yea, or so be it doth among Englishmen. By which term they mean that they agree to the opinion of other men, and subscribe their sayings, and also that they wish the same thing with their heart, which some forespeaker hath prayed in notes set together for the purpose. So is that term used in psalms and prayers, according as it is to be seen in the I Cor. 14. 16. Howbeit among the Hebrews, their Amen importeth an assuming or oath, according as we see the same term used in the Gospel.

Mark, upon the Apoc. fol. 15.

How shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks? I Cor. 14. 16.

One only made the prayers, and the rest of the people followed in heart his words, and when he had prayed, they all said, Amen, signifying, that they believed assuredly, that God would grant their requests.—GENEVA.

EXTRACT 4

EXAMPLES

drawen out of holy Scripture, with their Applications following. (1582) And therewithall a briefe Conference betweene the Pope and his Secretarie, wherein is opened his great blasphemous pride, the which by him is maintained unto this day.

By me. I.M. Examine all things (in these Examples) & hold that which is good. 1 Thess. 5. 21.

EXAMPLES DRAWN OUT OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

BENHADAD

Of his dronkennesse

When Benhadad king of Siria was come against Achab king of Israel, with two and thirtie kinges in his companye to aide him: He then ma, king light of Achabs power, fell to banketting with the kings his ayders, wherein hee became so dronke, that he and they in theyr dronkennesse (forgetting the matter they had in hande) were all overcome of Achab.

The Application

This example is a good admonition to all Princes, and such as have the doo, ings of warlike affairs under them, to beware of these two points. First, not to despise ye smaller power of their enimies, seeing that God many times hath respect to the smaler before the greater. The second, not to distemper theselves with overmuch drinke, for when the wit and strength of the bodie is all taken away in their dronkenes, the may they say, as Salomon saith by the dronken man. They have beat us and we know it not. For dronkennesse maketh men more insensible than bruit beasts.

3.Re.20.12.

A

Briefe Conference betweene the Pope and his Secretarie.

This is hee (saith Daniel) that shall speake mervailous things against the God of Gods. Dan. 11, 36.

Pope

The Pope now sitting alone in his privie Chamber, ercogitating and musing on the high estate of his supreme dignitie, calleth his Secretarie onto him, who being entered the chamber, and standing before his high magnifence to knowe his holynesse pleasure. The Pope beginneth on this wise to say onto him: Forsomuch as by good experience wee know thee both learned, trustie and wise, our pleasure is to have some conference heere with thee in secret, of matters concerning our high supremacie which (as thou knowest) is greatly disdained and sore impugned of manye lewde personnes abroade in the worlde.

Secretarie

Alasse holye Father, I am so afraid and so loth to meddle in any such matter, as is like to be unpleasaunt onto your holynesse, that I cannot tel what to do, yet forsomuch as it is your pleasure to have me wade therin, graunt me your pardon, and I shall (so nigh as I canne) most trulye olter their meanings, without any feare or respect of person, in aunswering to your demaunds.

Pope

Wee graunt thee our free and absolute pardon. . . . And now first of all what is the cause (as thou thinkest) that our most terrible censors, the which we have sent EXAMPLES DRAWN OUT OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

and pronounced at sundrie times against those rebellious dominiens which ought to be subject to us and our holy Lawes, are nothing feared, neyther yet regarded.

Secretarie

I cannot well conceive what shoulde move them to set so light by your sore maledictions, onlesse they imagine (as I feare mee they doe) your holynesse to have no such power in cursing, as canne (in effect) do them any harm, either yet work Gods displeasure or indignation against them.

Pope

They are greatly deceived, for as Christ did curse the Figge tree . . . so I his Lieuetenant may curse all those that will not obeye us. . .

Secretarie

They will not denie (as I take it) but that your holynesse may for your pleasure curse at all times (and whom you will) . . . God notwithstanding hath so provided his blessings for them against your cursings they do prosper and fare not a whit the worse, but a great deale ye better.

Pope

And what will the Noddies then have us to be ?

Secretarie

Your holinesse not displeased, they take you but onelye as a meere man, subject to sinne and death, and to all other worldlye calamityes (by Adams transgression) as they themselves bee.

Pope

They prattle (like a sorte of malitious heretiks) they wote not what . . . for I being all in all, whatsoever I doe, is said to be done, not of man, but of God himselfe. And so being God, all truth must needes be in me.

Secretarie

They doe compare your holinesse with Satan the God of this worlde, because ye doe seeme unto them to have the same or like properties, that rightlye belong to his divellishe nature.

Pope

I am weary to heare any more of thy talke, for I do perceive their obstinate hearts will never relent. . . . So, thou hast done like an honest man. And now thou hast leave to departe, for I will goe walke in my garden and solace me there for a while.

Finis

(length 24 pages)

Imprinted at London by Thomas East dwelling betweene Paules Wharfe and Baynards Castle. 1582.

FACSIMILES

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(ADDITIONAL MSS. 34191)



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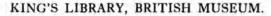
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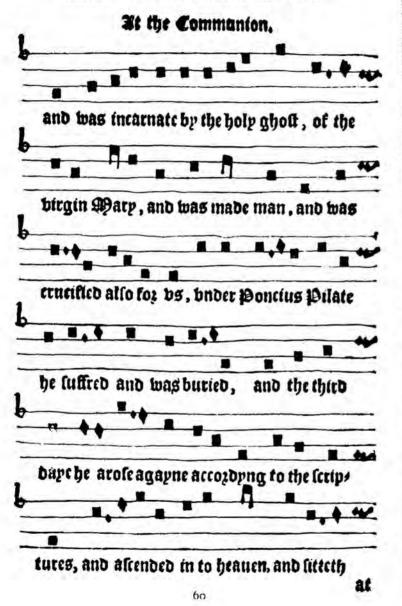
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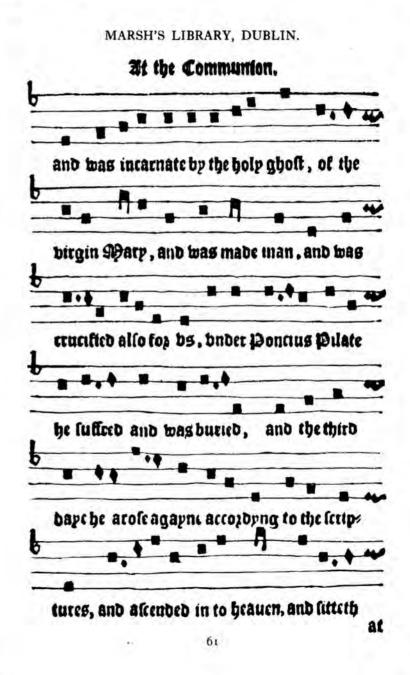
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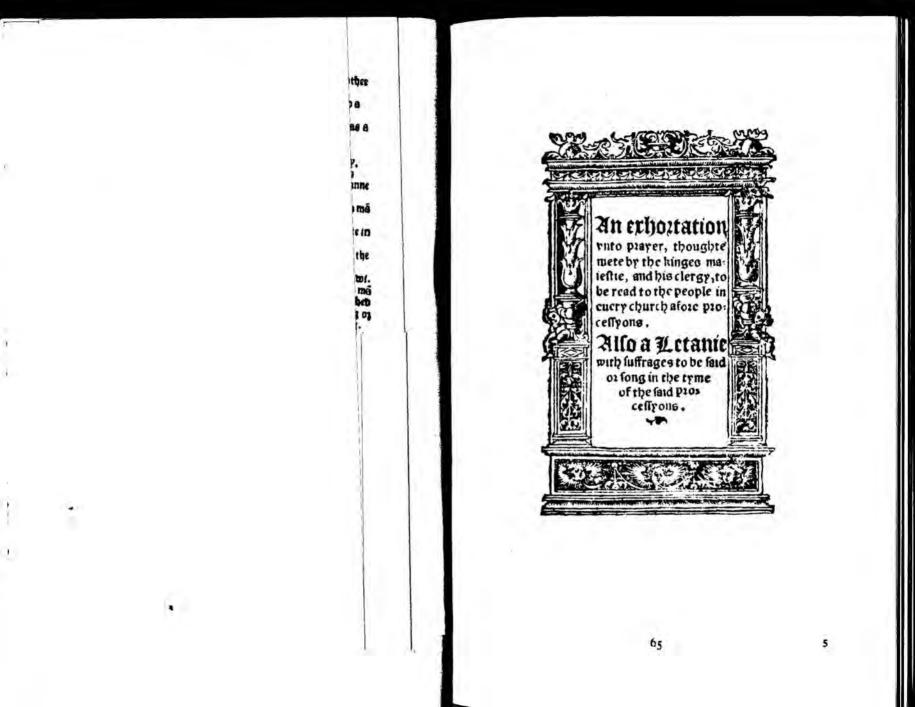
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ORASMVCHE as player is the beray true meane oldepned of al = mightie god, and taught bs playn=

ly in his holy word, wherby not onely we may, but allo by gods holp comandement be bounden to haue a recourfe and a refuge for helpe and appe of almightie god our heauenly father, not onely in all our neceffities, and tribulations of this world, but allo bniuerfally in all our affai= res and bufineffes, what focuer Malbe fall buto bs,ozels what focuer thing we mall enterpaile oz take in hand. Ind fozalmuch allo as our father in heauen, of bis mere mercie and infinite 2.it. 000D-

goodnes, bath bounden himfelf by his owne free promife, and certified by of the fame, by his owne fonne, our oncly fautour and lozbe CHRIST IESV, II his golpel, that what locuer we thall albe of him, we thall have it. fo that we alke fuch thinges, and in luche foste, as we ought to Doo . for thele caules good chriftian people, beynge thus arounded byon the fure foun= Dation of goddis holie a bleffed word, which can not becciue bs, we are here at this time gathe= red togither, to make our comon prayer to our heauenly father. But nowe good chailtian peo= ple, that by the true ble of plater we may obteine and entope bis gratious promile of aibe, com= foste,

TO PRAYER.

Forte, and confolation, in al our affapres and necellities : two chinges, concerning prayer. are fpecially to be learned. The first is, to knowe, for what thynges we ought to make our request and petition in our praier. The fecond is, in what wile we shuld make our prayer, in suche forte as it may be acceptably hearde, and graciously graunted of our beauenly father.

L As for the first, we ought in= stantly to alke of our beauenly father, his holy and blessid states rite, godly wiledome, faith, cha= ritte, and to feare and dreade him, and that his holy name in al thinges, and euery where thorough al the hole world may be glorified, that his kyngdome A.ui. map

maye come buto bs, that is to lape, that here be map reigne in bs, by the faith of his welbelo= ued fonne our faujour IESV CHRIST, and after this lyfe allo to refane in bg , and ouer bs euerlaftingly in glozpe . we ought to pray that his blef= fed wpl map be fulfylled bere in this world emoges by his mor tall creatures, as it is of his immostall angels, and of al the boly company of the heauenly fbirites. we mufte pray for our Daply breade, that is, for our nes cellary fode and luftenace bothe of body and foule. Df body.as incate, dinke, and necellary ap= paratle, peace, belthe, and what foeuer god knoweth to be necef= fary for the behofe and confer= uation

TO PRAYER. uation of the fame. that we map Do to our lozde god true feruice therwith, every man in his fate and bocation, wherebuto god hath called hpm. Of the foule, as the word of god. and the true knowledge of the fame, the true conferuation of our beauenlye fathers boly and bleftid coman= Dementis, the lively bread of the bleffed body of our fautour Tes fu Chrifte, the holp and facrate cuppe of the precious and blef= fed bludde, whiche was thed for bs bpon the Croffe, to purchale bs parbon and forgyuenes of our lynnes . furthermoze we mult plap for the forgiuenes of our fynnes, that our beauenly father woll be mercofull bnto bs, and forgrue bs our fynnes 2.init. bothe

bothe many and great, whereby we offende againfte bis infinite goodnes, as we bo forgiue the offences of them that offend bg . whiche, howe areat fo cuer they appere bnto bg.pet in comparia fon of the offences that we bo a= gainft god, they be bothe fmall and fewe. 200e multe prap, that our heauenly father fuffre bs not to be ledde into temptation, for without his continuall aide and protection, we are but weke and foone ouerthzomen. Dur goftely ennemp is ftronge, bio= lent, fierle. lubtyll, and erceding cruell. Ind therfore we mufte cotinually pray, with al inftace. that in all his affaultes we map be Deliucred by the mighty hade of out beauenly father, from al eupil

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TO PRAYER. eupli. fpnally, and befoze all thing, ag faint Baule erhozteth bs in the fyalt epiltle to Timo= the. Let bs make our prapers, and supplycations, tendprage and gyupng of thankes for all men, and namely for kynges, plincis, and al other fet in chief Dignitie and high roumes, that by they? godly gouernace, their true faithfull and biligent erc= cution of iuffice and equitic bn to all their fubiectes, out hea= uculy father may be glozified, the common welth may be bailp promoted and increaled , and that we al, that are they? fubte= ctes, map live in peace and qui= etnes, with al godlines and bet tue, and out chaiften paincis & beades in bnitte and concorde 3.b. emonges

emonges them felfes, euer cals Ipna bppon thep; heauenlp fa= ther, whiche is the king of all kynges, and the lozde of all loz= Des, which thall iudge without respecte of persone, accordynge to euery mas boing or workes. at whole hande the weake Chall take no wionge, not the mpah= ty may not by any power elcape his jufte judgement. That out princes I lay, thus calling bppon they; heauenly father for grace, mape euer in all their af= faires be directed and gouerned by the holie fpirite of god, and bothe rule, and be ruled, by bis bolp feare, to their owne endles toye, comfoste. and confolation. and to they? owne euerlaftyng faluation, thorough our faut= OUC

TO PRAYER. our Jelus Chailt. GAND here fpccially let bs pray for our mofte dere and fo= ueraigne lozde the kynges ma= teftp, who dothe not onely ftudp and care Dayly and hourely for our profperitie and mealth, but allo fpateth not, to fpende bis fubstance and treasure, pea re= bye at all tymes to endaunger hpm felf foz the tender loue and fatherly seale, that he bereth to= warde this his realme, and the fubiectes of the fame . 200ho at this prefent tyme hath taken ba pon hym the great and danges cous affapzes of warre. Lette bs prape, that it may pleafe al= myghty god, lozde of hoftes, in whole handes is onely wealthe and bictozie, mercifully to allpft bim

him, fending his holy angell, to be his fuccour, keper, & defen= der fro all his aduerlaries, and from all eugls. Let bs play foz our bletherne, that bende them felfes to batail folgoddis caufe and our defence, that god mape grant them plofperous fucceffe, to our comfost, and the increase of his glozy. Let bs playe fol our felfes that remain at home, that almoghty god defende bs from fynne, fickenes, derth, and all other aduerlyties of bodye and foule.

The feconde thyng to be let= ned, concernynge plaier, is to know, howe we that make true player, fo that it may be graci= oufely harde, and mercefully graunted of oure heauenly fa= ther.

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TO PRAYER. ther. fpilt of al we mult, boon confideration of our heauenly fathers mercy and goodnes tos wardes bs, and of his cuerla= Aping trueth, and free promple made buto bs in his owne bolp worde, concepue a full affiance hoope and truft : and that with out wauctping of Doubtfull mis Aruftyng, eyther in his trueth. his goodnes, or in his almigh= tie power, certainely affuring out felfe, that both of his omnipotencie, he may do what focuer Challplcafe his gooducs, and allo for his infinite goodnes, and fatherlye affection towarde bs, that he woll both here and graunt al our lauful and godly tequelles, after that meafure. fost, and Dearce, as he of his in= finite

finite and incomprehensible wifbome knoweth the thynge to be mooft mete. mooft convenient, and behofeful both for his own glorge and honour, and for the profit, behoufe, and commoditie of bs his children.

furthermoze alfo it is necelfarily requipted to that, that our praper may be acceptable buto our beuenly father, to have charitie, and brotherly love betwirt neighbour and neighbour, and towarde all our even ehriften. So CHRISTE him felfe teacheth bs, fayinge, whan you stande to prape, forgue, if you have any dylpleafure agaynite any performe: that your father, whiche is in heaven, maye forgive you. It is a true faying,

TO PRAYER. that faint Augustine layeth: There is no good fruicte, no good deede. no good woozke, whiche springeth not out of the toote of charitie. And faincte Paule teacheth plainely, that where as charitie lacketh, no= thyng can auaple bs.

And moreouer we must in our prayer, be ware of bayne glorp and prayfe of man, outwardig thewing a great pretence of hos lynes, and being bayne of true godlynes inwardly, onely to have the commendation of men before the world, for if we to do, we thall lole the reward and bes nefit of our prayer, as our fauts our CHRIST faieth his owne felfe. We must take hede alfo, that we thincke not the bertue

of praper, to confifte in multis plyeng of many wordes with: out faythe and godly Deuotion, thynchyng as the heathen both. that for our many wordes or moche fpeking, we fhalbe herde of our heauculy father. who fo cuer both thinke fo, he Chall Decepue bim felfe. foz aod both not tegarde neither the fwete found of our boice, not the great num ber of our woo:Des, but the er= neft feruentnes and true fapth= ful benotion of our hartes. fy= nally we mufte beware in out praier of that common peftilent infection, and benemetull pop= fon of all good player, that is to fap, when our mouthe prapa eth, and our hattes prape not. Of the whiche the prophete C= fave

TO PRAYER. faie complayneth foze. Ind our fautour in fapite Mathemes golpel rebuketh the pharifees, for the fame, faying thus: Dhi= pocriteg, @faie the prophet pro= phecied well uppon you, when he fapo thus : This people Dia= weth nighe me with thep; lpp= pes, but their hartes are farte frome me, that is to fave, they fpeake with their tonque and lippes, the wordes of praier, but in their harte, they mpube no= thyng leffe then they fpeake, as that the goodnes of the player ftobe in the outwarde fpcaking oncly of the woorde, and not in the inwarde, true, and faythful requeft of the harte . Ind to the intent therfore your battes and lpppes mape goo together in p;aiet 13

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praier, it is berye conuenient. and moche acceptable to gob. that you (buld ble your private paper in pour mother tonque. that you bnderftandyng what pou alke of god, maye moze et= neftly a feructly Delpie the fame pour bartes & myndes agreing to your mouthe and woozdes. moherfoze let bg elcheme (good people in our players, al the a= fore reherled bices, for elles me thall not obteine our petitiong, and requeftes, but contrarpe wpfe we thall highly difpleafe god and greuoully offende him. Therfoze good Chaiftian bietherne, feynge we are come togpther to playe, let bs bo it ac= coading to our bounden duetie, and as it ought to be bone . Let

bg

TO PRAYER.

ng truely playe with a faithfull harte, and a fure affiaunce of our heauenly fathers infinite mercy, grace, and goodnes : let bs make our players, beyng in loue and charitie with all and euerp onc of our neighbours, e= uerbaupna in our barte an et= neft requeft and befpje of thole godly benefytteg, whiche at ap= poynted in goddes worde, that we fhulde play foz, and yet not preferibing buto god, either the time, place, meafure, oz begree of his gracious benefites, but bolly committyng our felues to his bleffid wyl and pleafure, re= cepuping in good woothe and with thankes gyupng, what fo euer, and when focuer, it thall pleale his gracioule goodnes, 25.11. to

to beftowe his gracious giftes boon bs. Let bs allo fournifbe and beautific this our prayer, that it may plefe god the better, and belite the cares of our hea . uenlie father, with fafting and holfome abstinence, not oncly from all delicious liuing in bo= luptuoule fare, and from all et= celles of meate and Dainke, but allo to chaftple and kplle the fpnfull luftes of the body, to make it bowe and reby to obey hnto the fotrituall motions of the holte goofte. Let bs allo furnif it with almes bebe, and with the workes of mercie and charite. fo: plaier is good and acceptable buto god, when it is accompanied with almole De= Des, a with the workes of mercy 85

TO PRAYER.

as the holy man Thobpe fapth, with the whiche, and blyng the bertues afozereherled, and alfo clebewing biligently the fozes laybe bices, our prayers Chalbe of muche price and balue, as mag the prayers of Hely, Das npel, a Doples, befoze our hca= uenly father, and that for our fautour Telus Chattes fake, whiche hathe redenied bs with his precioule blonde, and bathe figned & fealed bs bp to euer= lafting life. Co whom both nom and euer, with his father and the holie gooft, be glozie and honour mithout ende. AMEN. 13.iti. Ug

THESE holp prayers and fufe 5 frages folowing, ar fet furth of moft gooly scale for edifying and firtmat of Deuotion of all true faithfull chais ften bartes : fois it thoughte conuentent in this commune prover of procedion to have it fet furth and bled in the bulger tunque, for fipring the people to more Deuotion : and it thall be eucry chatten mans parte reuerentip to bic the lame, to the bonour and dow of als myghty god, and the profitte of their owne Louies. Ind fuch amonge the people as have bolics, and can reade, may reade them quiets ty and loftly to them felfe, and fuche as can not reade, let them quietly and attetifely give aubience in time of the faid praiers, haupng their myndes crect to almyghty god, and bes uoutly praying in thep; hartes, the fame pes titions whiche bo entre in at their cares. fa that with one founde of the hart and one ac: coide, God may be gloufied in his churche. Tanb it is to be remembied , that that whis che is printeb in blacke letters, is to be lapbe or longe of the puelt with an audible borce. that is to fape, fo loude and fo playncip. that it mape well be onderftande of the heaters : 3nd that whiche is in the rebbe, is to be aunfwered of the quiere Cobielp and beuoutely.

THE LETANY O God the father of heau?:

haue mercie bpon bs mile.

rable synners.

D god, the father of heauen: haut mercie bpon bs milerable fynners.

O God the lonne, redemer of the worlde : haue mercie byon bs mylerable lynners. 23. D god THE LETANYAND

D god the foune, tedemer of the worlde:haue mercie bpon bs mileras ble fynners.

O god, the holy gholte, p20= cedyng from the father and the lonne: have mercy bpon bs mylerable lynners.

D god, the boly ghofte, procedyng from the father and the fonne : haue mercie bpon bs milerable lynners.

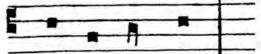
O holy, bleffed, and glozyous trinitie. in.perfons and one God:haue mercye bpon bs mylerable fynners.

D holy, bleffed, and glozious tri= nitie,thze perfons and one god: have mercie bpon bs miferable lynners. DOLY

s vf f R A G E S.

of God our Sauyour Jelu

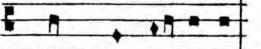
Chryft. Cidrayc for bs. 74 il holy Aungels and Archaungels and all holye of ders of bleffed spirites. Dape for bs. H ll holy Patriarkes, and B ij. prophe= THE LETANY AND Prophetes, Apostels, Mar. tyrs, Confessor, Chirgins, and all the blessed company of heauen: Propertor bs. R emember not Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers, neither take thou bengeaunce of our synnes: spare bs good Lorde, spare thy people, who thou hast redemed with thy most precious bloude, and be not angry wyth bs for euer:



Spare bs good Lozde. H rom

SVFFRAGES.

Hrom all eugli and mylchief, from lynne, from the craftes and allautes of the deuil, from thy weath, and fro eucriallyng damnacion.



Good Lozde delyuer bs. H rom blindnes of heartes from pyyde, baynglozy, and hypocrity, from enuy, harred and malice, and all buchary tablenes:

Good lozde deliver bs. Hroin foznycacion. and all deadly lynne, and fro all the 23 iij. decei= THE LETANY AND Deceiptes of the worlde, the flefhesand the deuili: Good lorde beliuer bs.

H rom lightnyng and tempeft, from plage, pestilence and famyne, from battayle and murder, & from sodaine death:

Good lozde deliver bs. H rom all ledycion and pzi = uey conspiracie, from the ty= rany of the billhop of Rome and all his detestable enoz= myties, fro all falle doctrine and herilye, from hardnes of hearte, and contempte of thy worde and commaunde= mente:

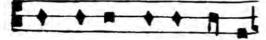
SVFFRAGES.

Demente:

Bood lozde deliver bs. By the mystery of thy holy mcarnacion, by thy holye na tiuyte and circuincyspon, by thy baptisme, fastynge and temptacyon:

Good loide deliver bs. By thyne agony and bluddy tweate, by thy croffe and paffio, by thy piecious death and buryal, by thy glouous refurrectyon and alcention, by the commyng of the holy Ghoft: Good loide delyver bs. I n al time of our tribulact on, in al tyme of our wealth, 28 iiij. in THE LETANY AND in the houre of death, in the day of iudgement: Good lozde deliver by.

Bood loade deliver by. We fynners do befeche the to heare bs(D load god) and that it may please the to rule and gouerne thy holy church bniversall in the ryght way.



we beleche the to here bs

good Lozde. That it may epleale the to kepe

SVFFRAGES.

kepe henry the. bill. thy ler= uaunt and our kyng and go= uernoure :

We belech the to here bs good low. That it mare please the to rule his hearte in thy faithes, feare, and love that he maye ever have affyaunce in the st ever seke thy honour z glow We belech the to here bs good low. That it may please the to be his defendour and keper, gruyng hym the byctorye o= we all his enemyes:

we beleche the to heare bs good Lozde.

That it maye please the to 28 b. kepe

THE LETANY AND

kepe oure noble Quene Ca= therin in thy feare and loue, gyuynge her increase of all godiynes, honour, and chyl= Dzen. Wee beseche the to here bs good lozbe.

That it maye pleale the to kepe and defende oure noble Psynce Edward, and all the kynges maieftics chyldsen. We beleche the to here vs good losd. That it may e pleale the to illumynate al bilhoppes paftours and mynifters of the church wyth true knowlege and vnderstandynge of thy word, and that both by their

SVFFRAGES.

pleachyng and lyuynge, thei maie fet it folth and shewe it accoldyngly: We belech the to here bs good lold.

We belech the to here bs good lozo. T hat it maye please the to endue the Lozdes of the cou sayle, and all the nobylytie wyth grace, wyledome, and bnderstandynge:

We beleche the to here bs good low. That it may e please the to blesse and kepe the magistra tes gyuyng them grace to er ecute iustice. I to mayntayne truthe:

We belicche the to here bs good low. That it maye please the to blesse

THE LETANYAND

bleffe & kepe all thy people: we befeche the to here bs good low. Th at it may e please the to gyue to all nacyons bnytie peace and concorde:

That it mays please the to geue bs an harte to love and blead the and dilygentlye to lyue after thy commaundes mentes:

We beleche the to here bs good low. That it mays please the to gyue all thy people increase of grace, to here mekelye thy worde, and to receive it with pure affection, and to brynge forth

SVFFRAGES.

forth the fruites of the spirit we beleche the to here bs good loso. That it may e please the to bypng into the ware of truth all suche as have erred and are deceyned:

We belech the to here bs good low. That it maye please the to strengthe such as do stande, and to comfort and helpethe weake hearted, and to rayle bp them that fall, and fynallye to beate downe Sathan bnder our feete:

We beleche the to here bs good lord. That it may eplease the to succour helpe and comfort al that

THE LETANY AND

that be in daunger.neceflitie and trybulacion: Roe befeche the to here bs good lozo. T hat it maye please the to preferue all that trauaple by lande oz by water, all wome labouryng of chylde, al licke perfons and yonge children, and to thewe thy pytie bpon all pyploners and captyues: We beleche the to here bs good lozo. T hat it maye please the to defende and prouvde for the fatheries chyldzen and wyddowes, and all that be delolate and oppzeffed: ave beleche the to here bs good loid. That

SVFFRAGES.

T hat it maye please the to haue mercye bpon all men: we befech the to here by good loid. That it maye please the to forgeue our enemies, perlecu tours and sclaunderers, and to turne they? heartes: De befeche the to here bs good lozo. That it maye please the to avue to oure ble the kyndlye fruytes of the earth, lo as in due tyme we may enioy the, and to preferue them: De beleche the to bere us good lozd. That it maye please the to grue bs true repentaunce.to forgeue bs al our fynnes.ne= gligences

THE LETANY AND

glygences and ignozaunces, a to endue bs with the grace of thy holy spirite, to amend our lyues accordynge to thy holye worde:

De befeche the to here bs good lozd.



Sonne of God:we beleche

1.20			
200			

the to heare bs.

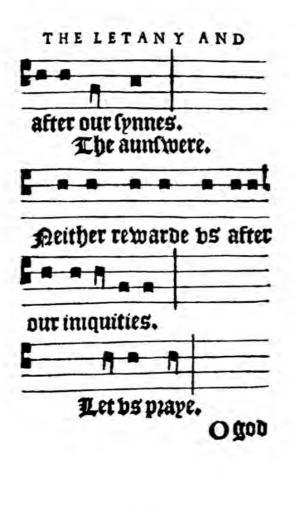
Sonne of god , we beleche the to beare bs.

D lambe









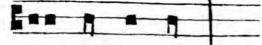
SVFFRAGES.

God, mercifull father, that dylpylest not the lighyng of a contrite heartes not the defire of fuche as be fozowfull, mercifully affifte oure prayers, that we make befoze the in all our troubles and admersities, when foeuer they oppzelle bs . And gracioulely heare bs , that those euils, whiche the craft and fubtilitie of the deuill of man worketh againft bs, be brought to nought, & by the providence of thy goodnes, thei maye be difperled, that C iij. we

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THELETANYAND

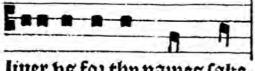
we thy feruautes, being hurt by no perfecuciós, may euer= more give thankes buto the, in thy holy churche, through



Jelu Chaift our lozde.

..........

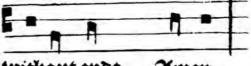
Dlozde,arile, help b5.7 des



liver bs for thy names lake. D god

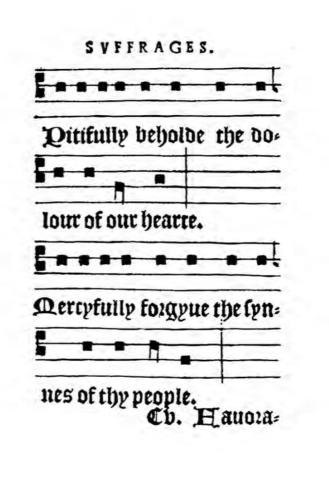
THE LETANY O god, we have heard with oure eares, and oure fathers have declarid buto bs the no ble workes that thou dyddeft in their dayes, and in the olde tyme before the. D topoe, arife, help vs, and belguer bs for thy honour.

O lozye to the father, the fonne, and to the holy ghoft, as it hath ben fro the begynnyng, is, f fhalbe ever world



without ende. Amen. C.iii. from













D father, mercifully to loke bpo our infirmities, and for the glorye of thy name lake, turne from bs all thole cuylles, that we mooft right= THE LETANYAND. ryghteouliye have delerued. Graunt thys D Lorde God for our mediatour and ad=

uocate Jelu Chuistes lake. Amen. OGDD. whose nature and properte is ever ro have mercye and to forgeve, receive our humble peticion, and thoughe we be tyed and bound with the chain of our linnes: pet let thy pitifulnes of thy great mercye leuse bs for the honour of Jelu Chui-

ftes

svffrages. des fake, our mediatour and aduocate.

Amen.

A Lunghtye and euer lyung God, whiche only workelt great meruay les lend downe byon our by hoppes and curates, and al congregacyons, commytted to they? charge, the healthfull spirite of thy grace, and that they may trulye please the : powre byon theym the contynual dewe of thy blefsing. Graunt this (D Lord) for the honoure of oure aduocate

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THE LETANY AND uocate and mediatour Jelu Chufte. Amen.

The belethe the (D lord) to thewe uppon bs thyne excedyng greate mercye, whythe no tounge can worthelye express, and that it mays please the, to deliver bs from all our lynnes, and allo from the paynes, that we have for theim deferued. Graunte this (D Lorde) through our mediatour and advocate Tefu Christ. Amé. O Baunt we belethe the, D almighty god, that we

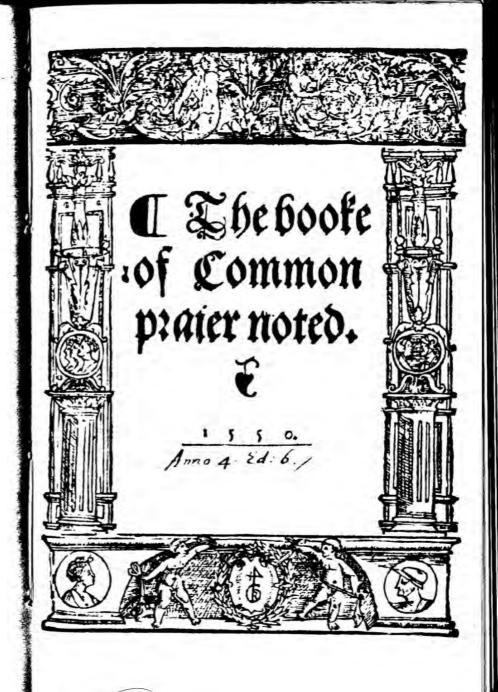
THE LETANY AND

we in oure trouble put oure whole confydence by on thy mercy, that we may agaynft all aduerlytie be defended bnder thy protectio. Graunt this D Lorde God, for oure mediatour and aduocate Jefu Christis lake. Amen.

A Lunighty god, which # 2000 hafte gyuen bs grace none. at this tyme with one accorde to make our commune supplications but othe, and boost promise, that what two or thre be gathered in thy D name

SVFFRAGES.

name, thou wilt graut their requestes: fulfil noweso lozo, the defires and petytions of thy servauntes, as maye be mooste expedient for them, graunting bs in this world knoweledge of thy truthe, f in the worlde to come lyfe euerlastynge. Amen.





2 In this booke as is conteyned to muche of the Dyder of Commo prayer as is to be fong in Churches: Wherm are bled only thefe T iiii. fortes of notes, he first note is a frene note and is abzeuc. The fecond a lquare note, and is a femy breue. The iii. a pycke and is a mynymme. And when there is a pypcke by the fquare note, that pypcke is halfe as muche as the note that goeth befoze it. The ini. is a close, and is only bled at fend of a berle. (1)

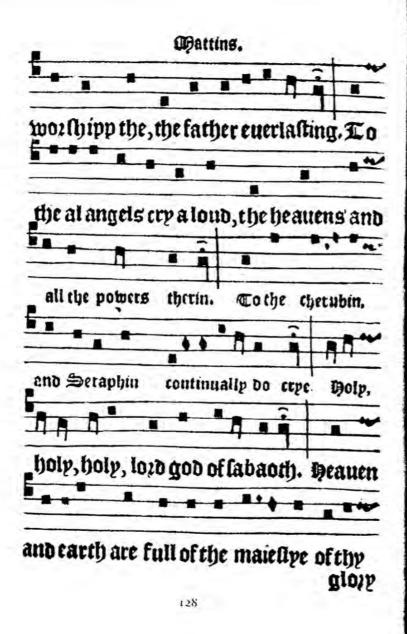
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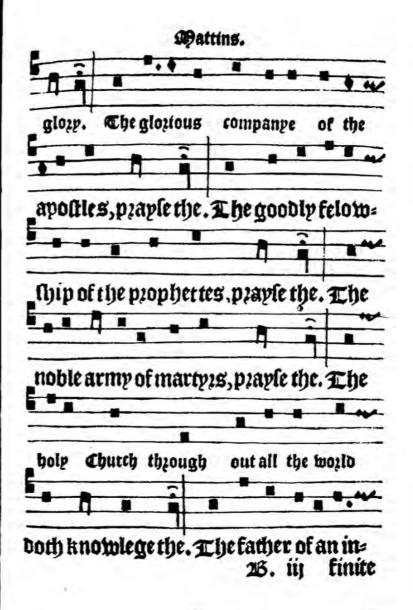
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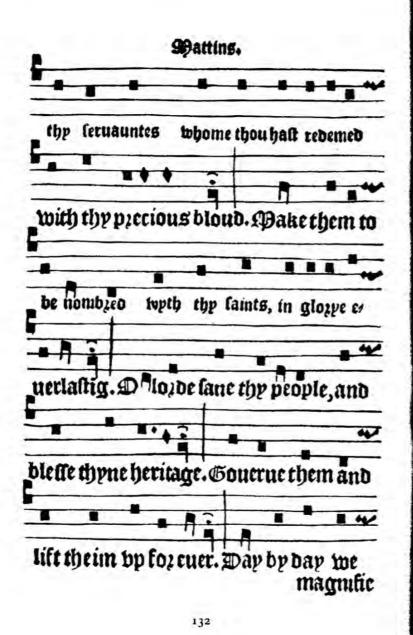




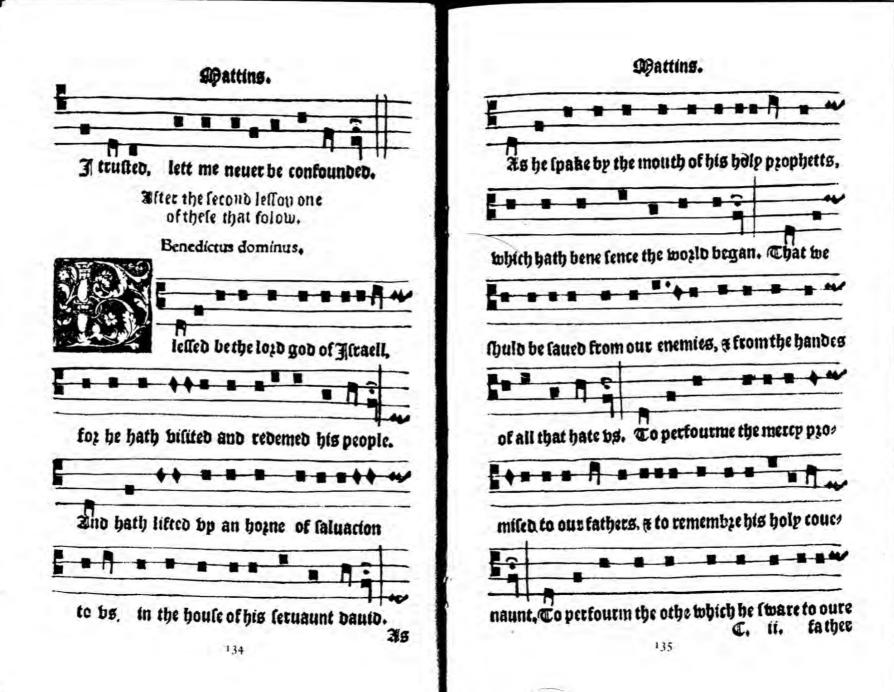


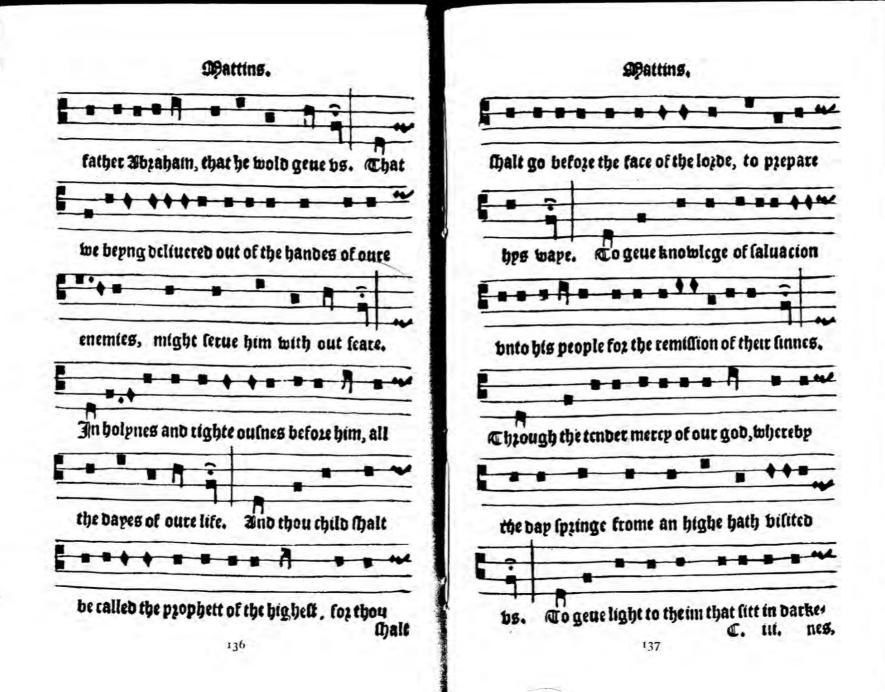


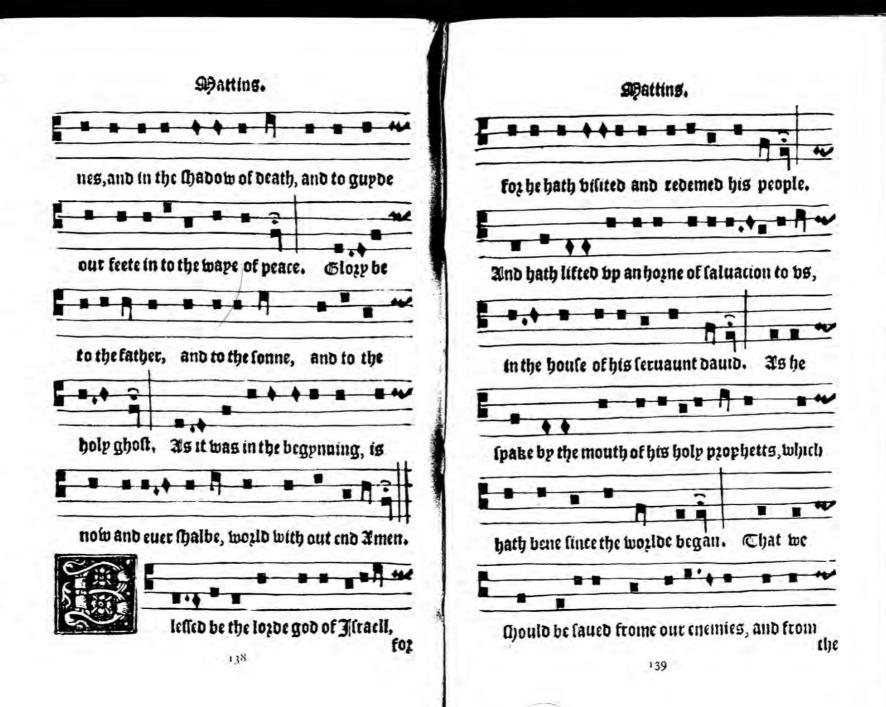


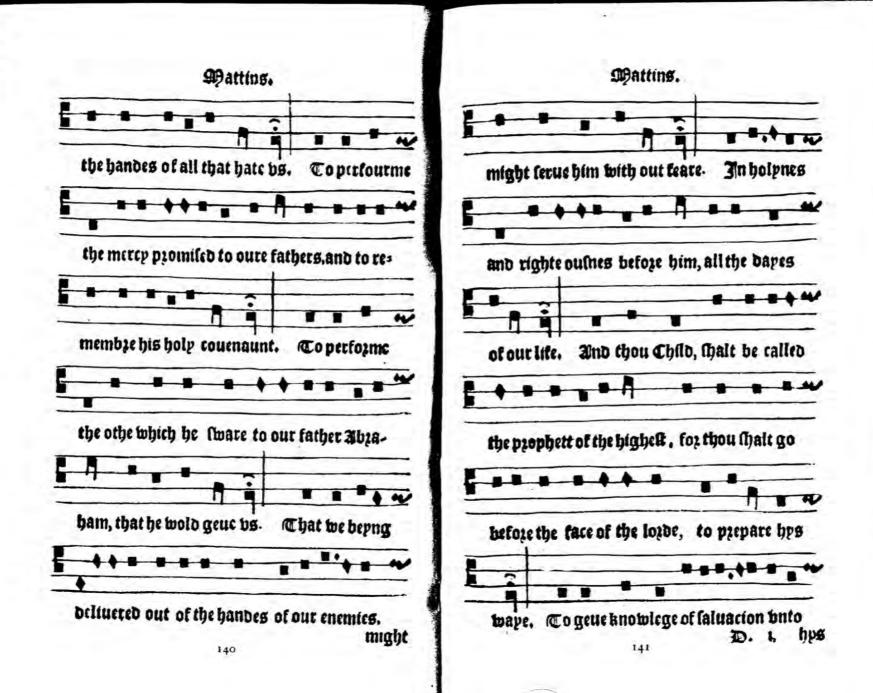










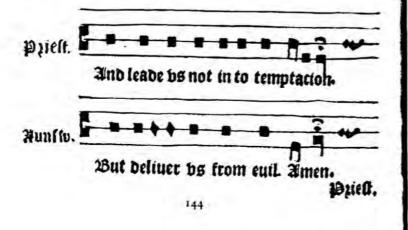


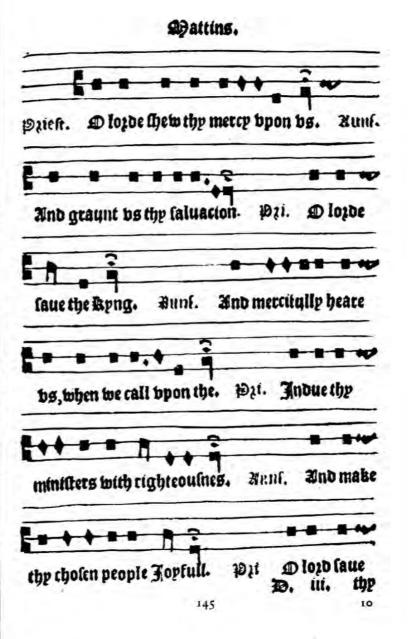


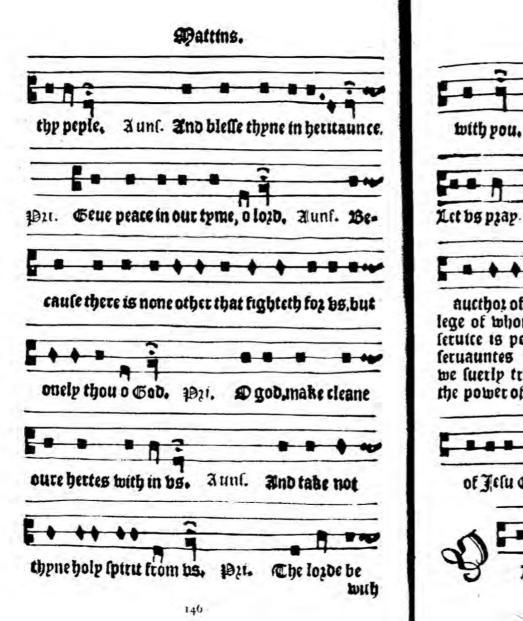
Datting.

tic, maker of heauen and carth. And in Jelus Chill his onely Some our lotde. Which was conceaued by the holy ghoft, boun of the birgin Mary. Suffred bnder Ponce Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, he deleended into hell. The third day he arole agayn from the dead, Bealeended into heuen, and litteth on the right hand of god the father almighte, from thence thall he come to Judge the quicke and the dead. I beleue in the holy ghoft. The holy Catholike Church. The Communion of faints. The forgeuenes of fpnnes. The refurrection of the body. And the life euerlaftpng.

ure father which arte in heauen, halowed be thy name. Chy kyngdome come. Chy wyll be done in earth as it is in heauen. Seue bs this Daye oure dayly breade. And forgeue bs oure trefpalles, as we forgeue theim & trefpalle agapult bs.







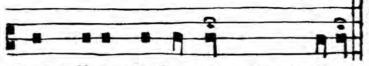


aucthoz of peace and louer of concorde, in knows lege of whome ftandeth oure eternall life, whole feruice is perfecte fredom: Defend bs thy humble feruauntes in all affaultes of oure enemies, that we fuerly truftyng in thy defence, maye not feare the power of any aduerfacies: Thyough § might



Matting.

tie and euerlyupng God, which halt fafely blought bs to the begynnyng of thys dape: defende bs in the fame wyth thy myghtye power, and graune that this day we fall into no fynne, neither runne into any kynde of daunger, but that all oure doynges may be oldred by thy gouetnaunce, to do alwayes that is righteous in thy fight:



Chrough Jelus Chrift our lozde. Junf. Zmen.

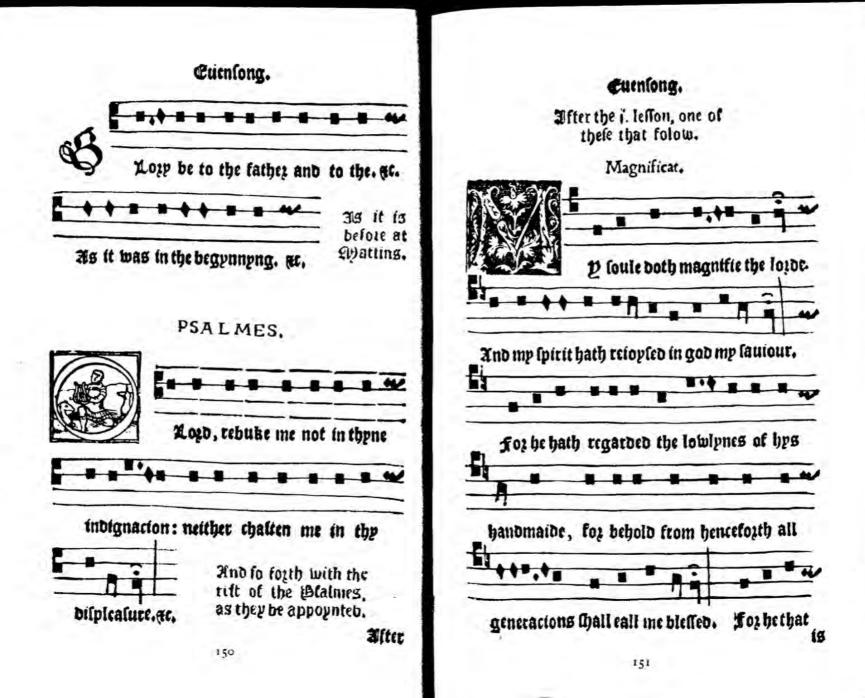
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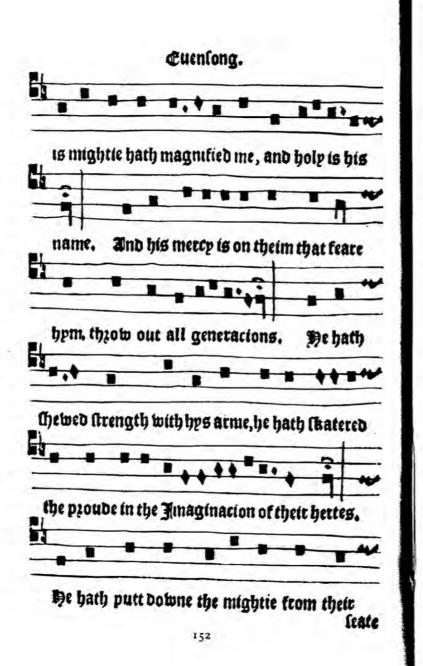
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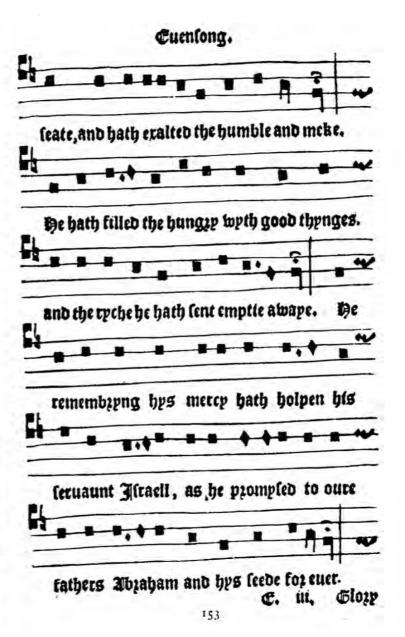


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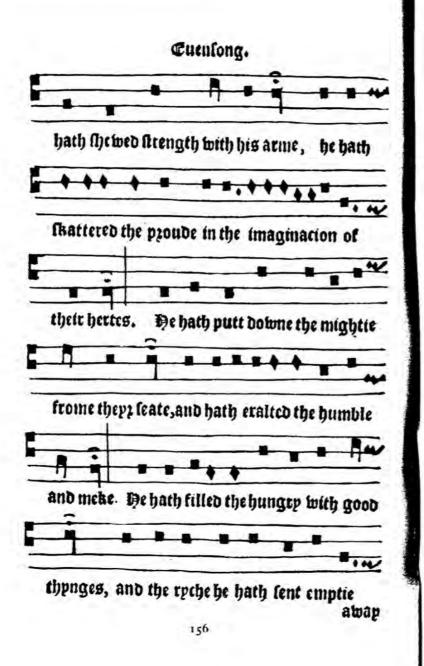




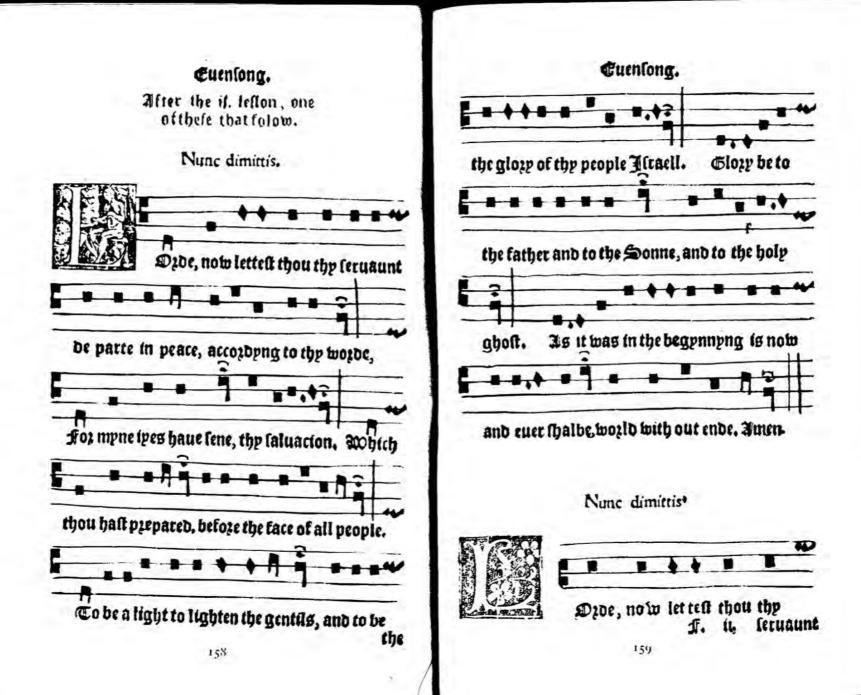


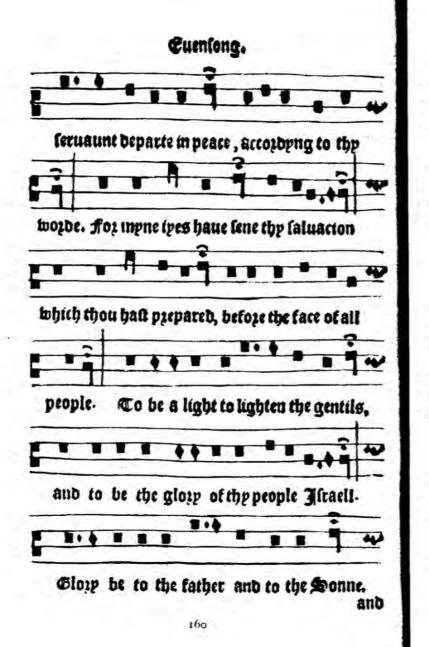


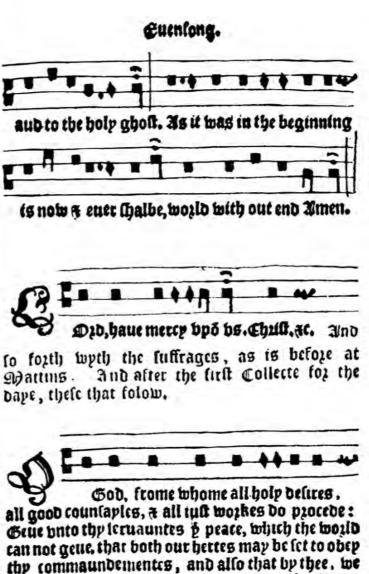










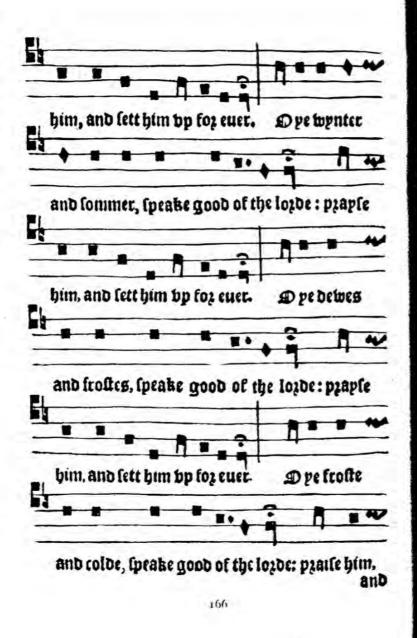


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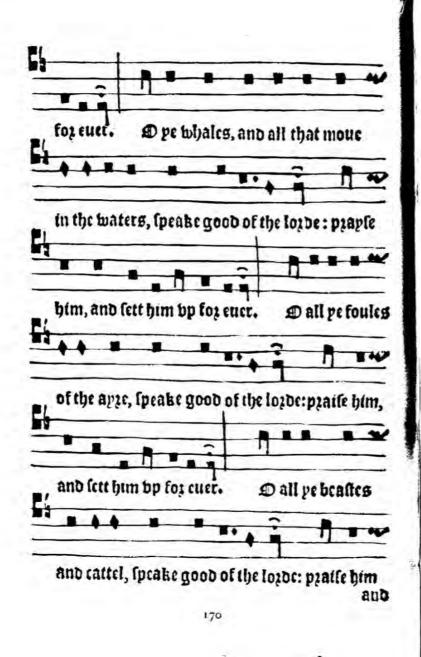


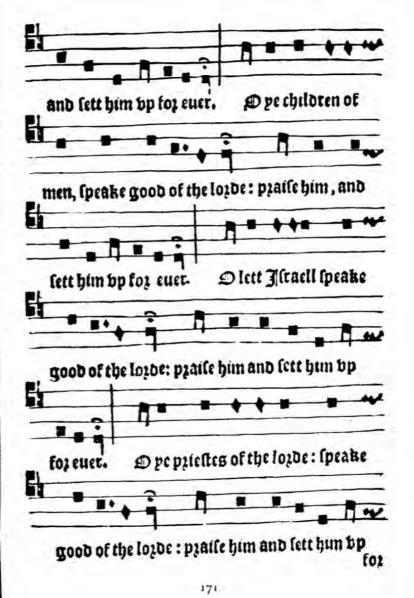


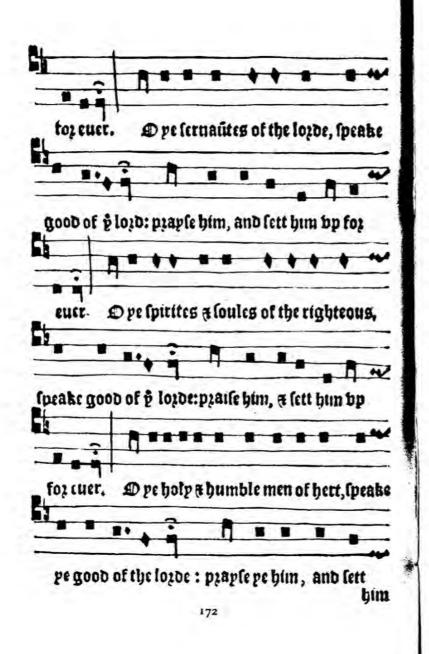




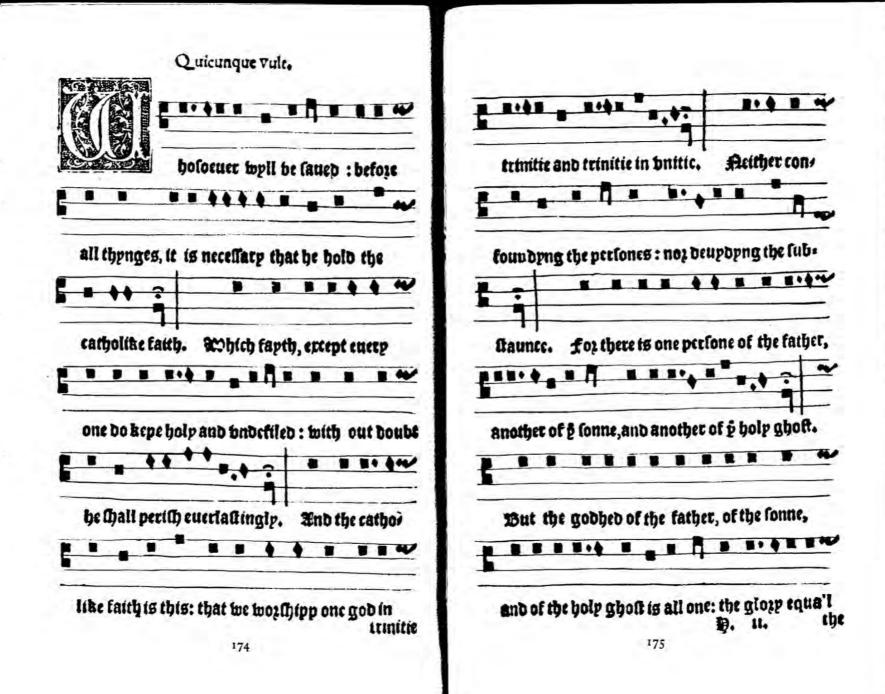






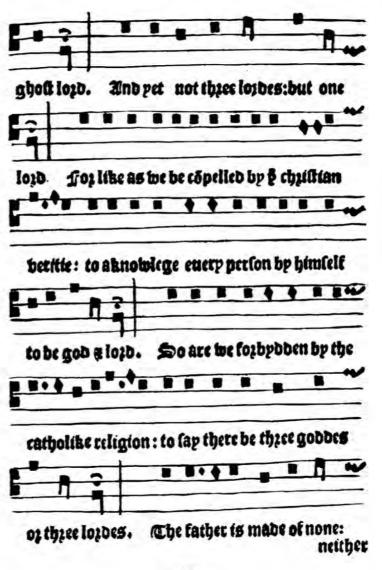






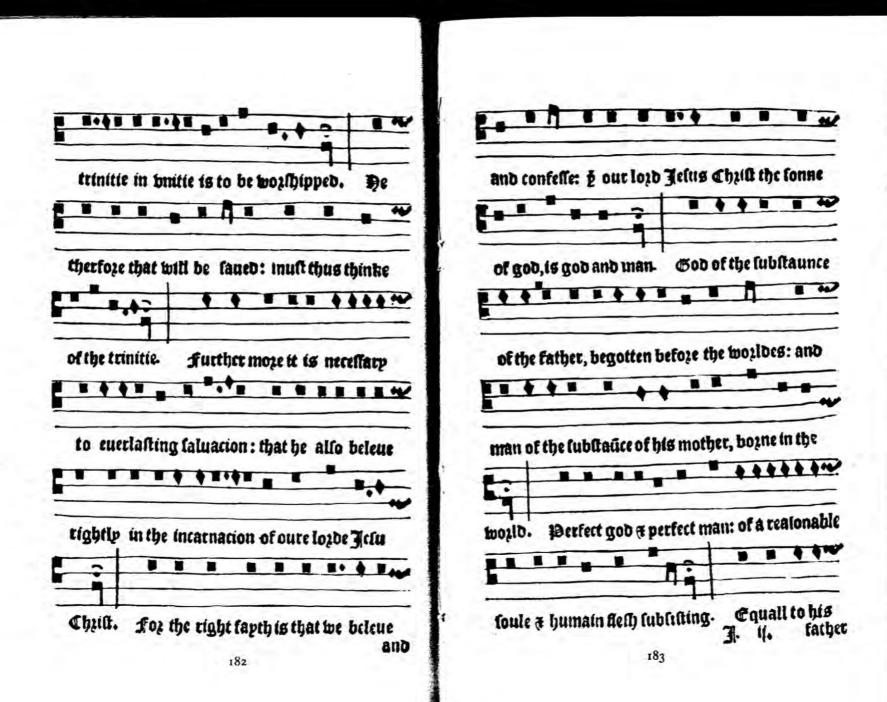


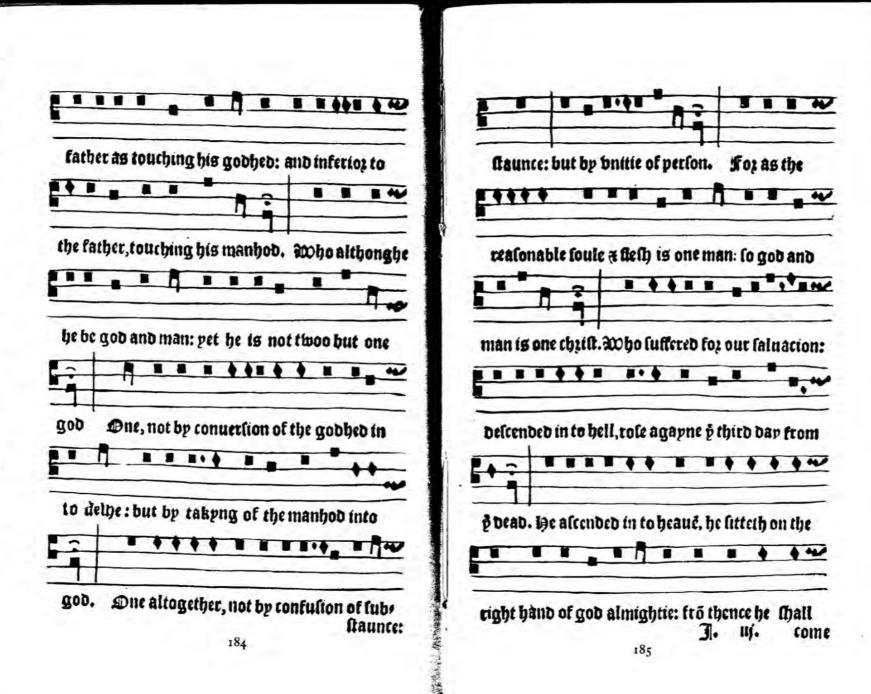


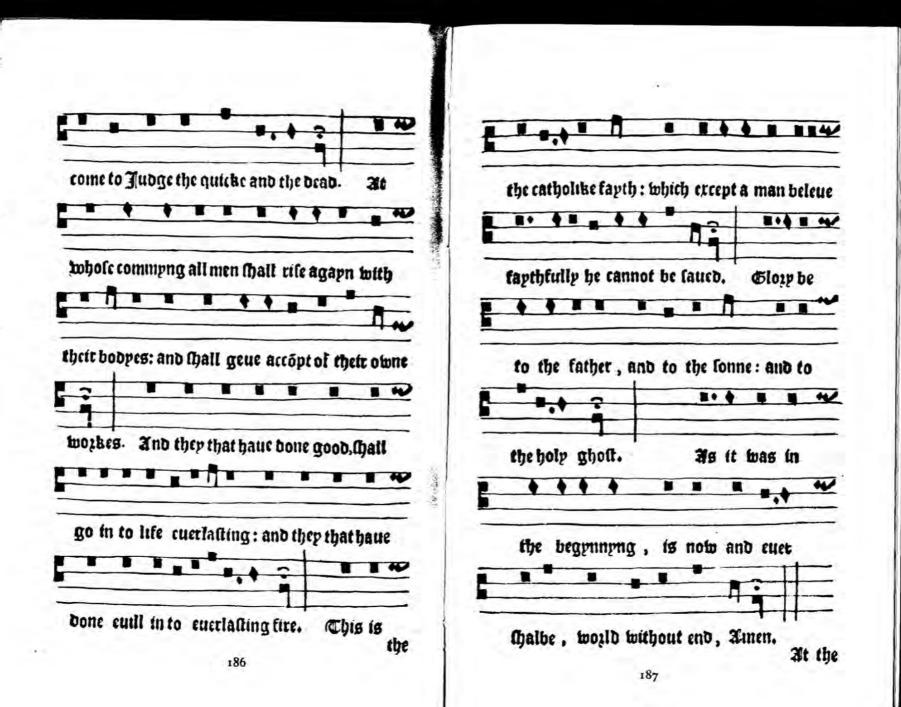


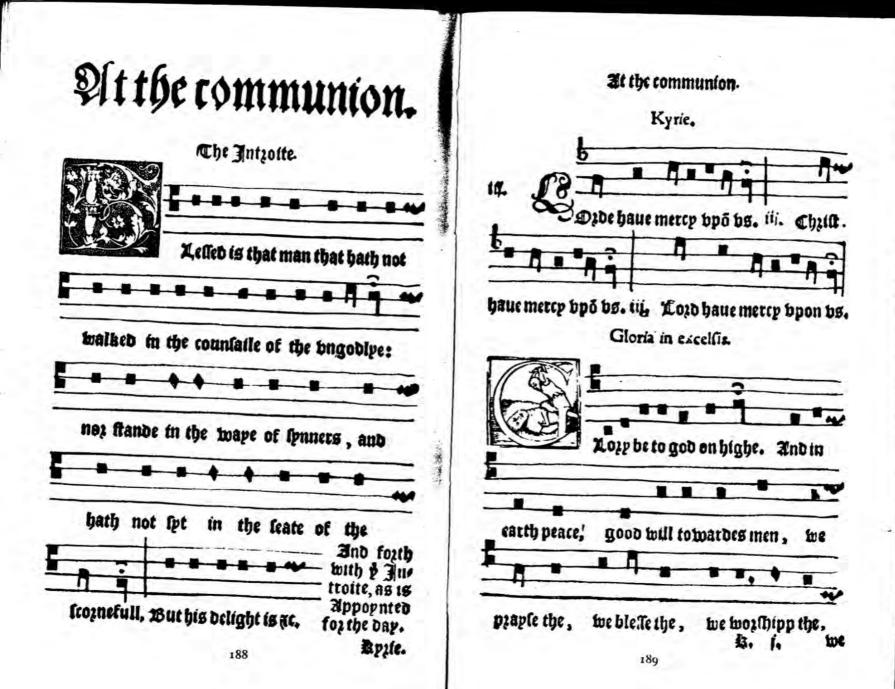


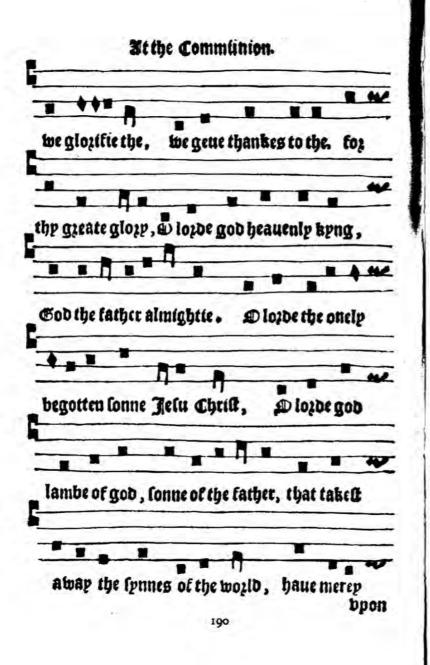


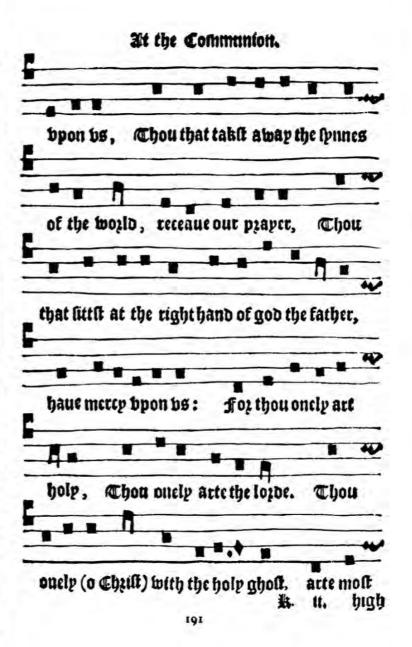


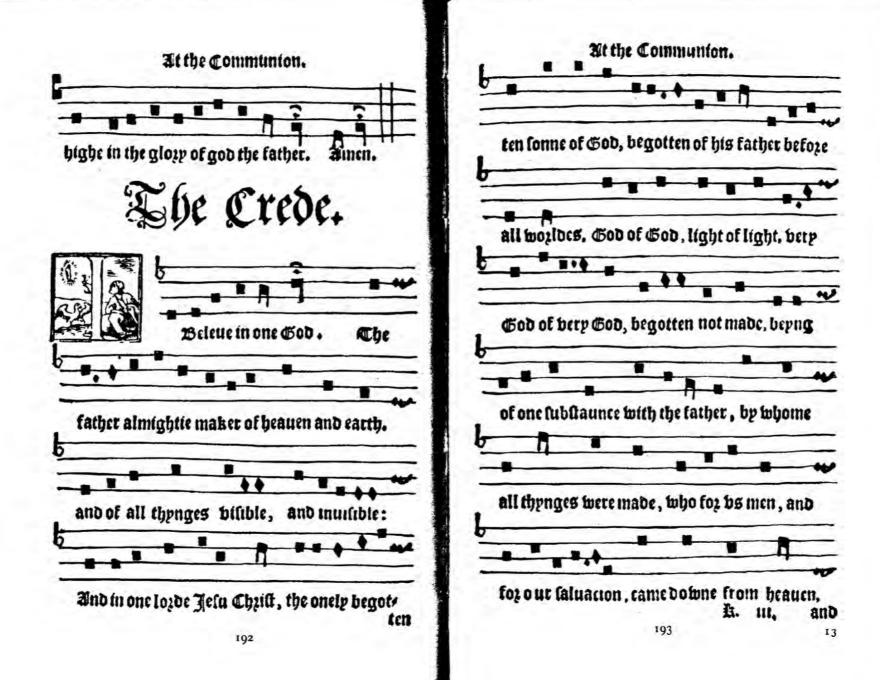


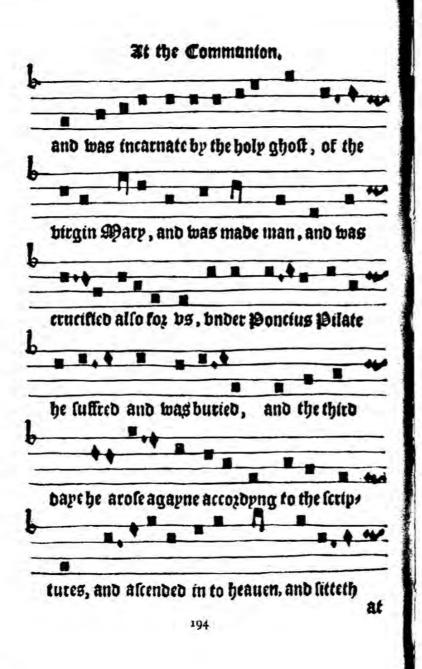




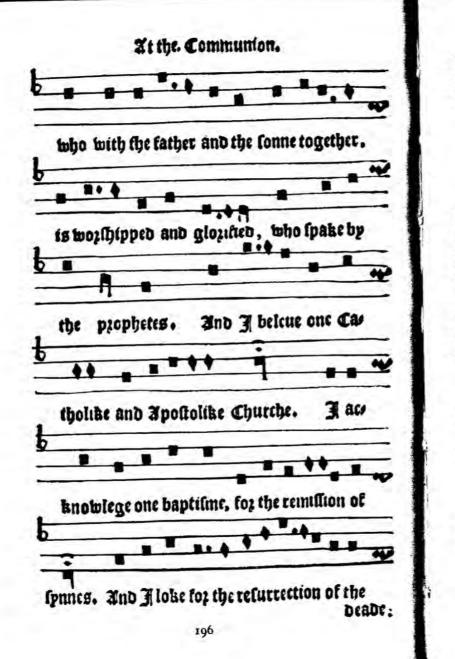


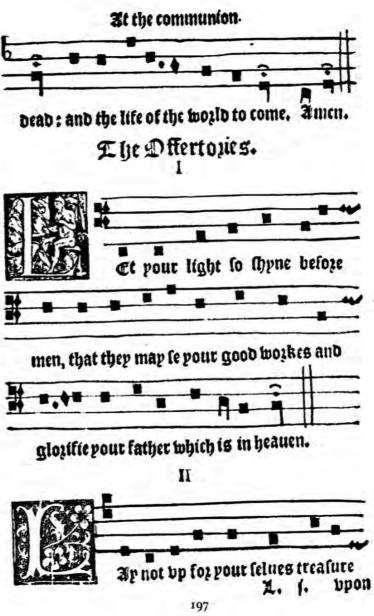








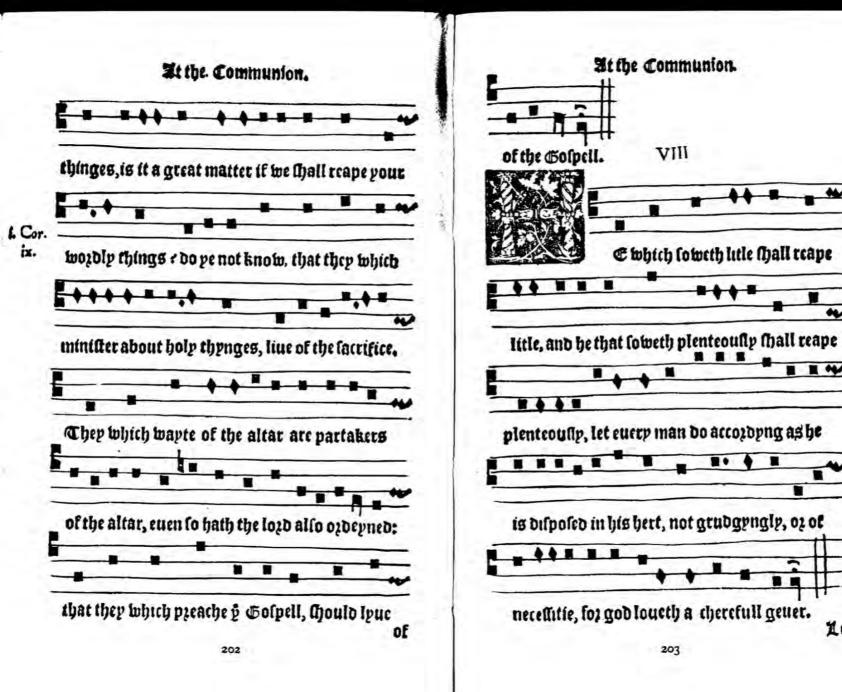










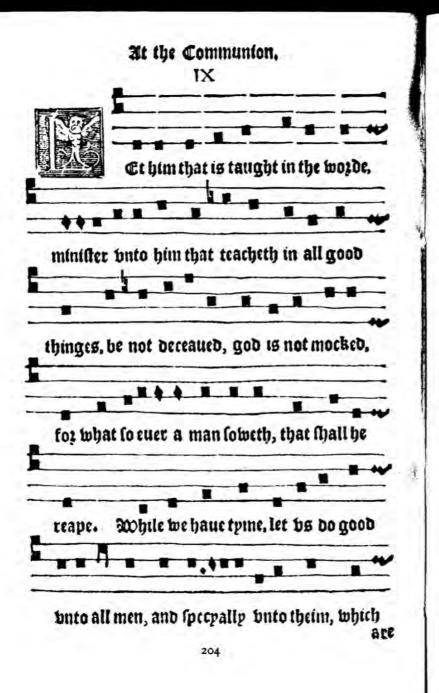


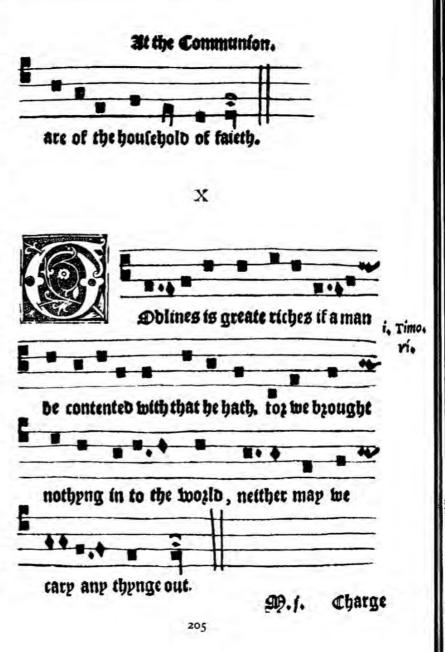
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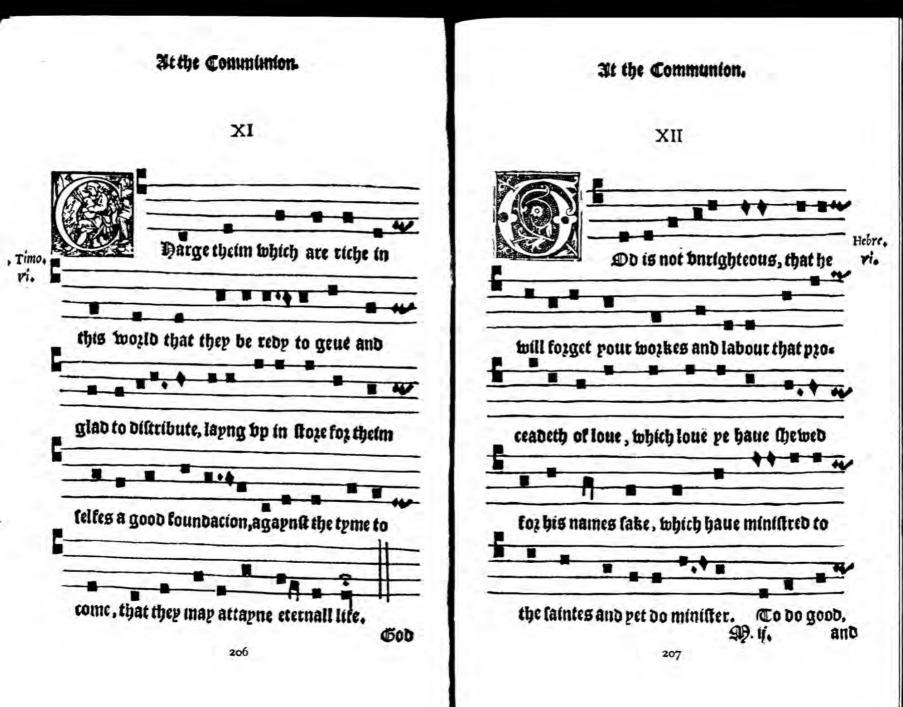
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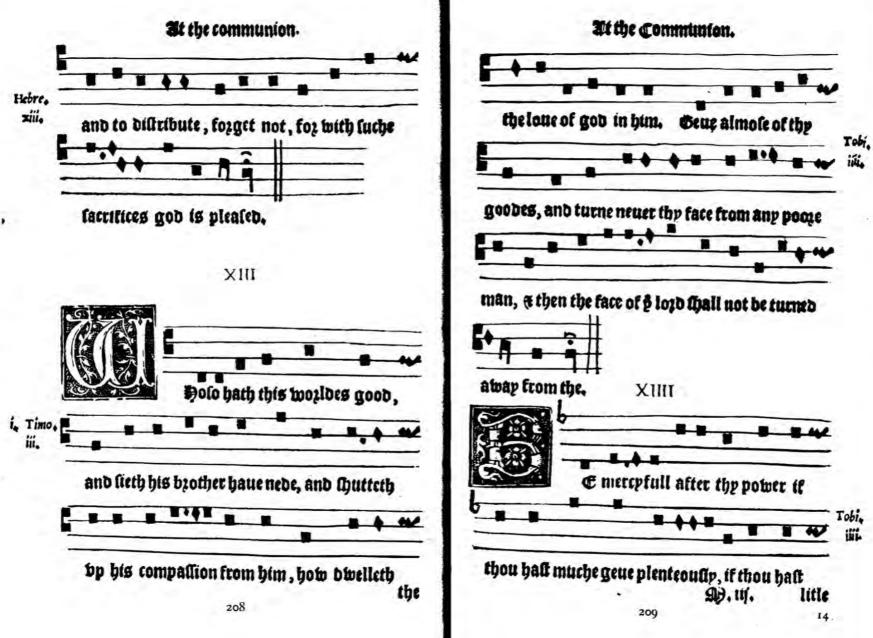
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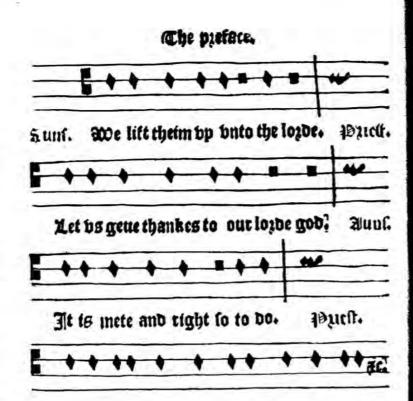






- 9.





T is bery meete right a our bounden dutie, that we fould at all tymes, and in all places geue thankes to the o lozde, holy father almightie cuerlaftynge god. Therefoze with angels and archangels, and with all the holy companye of heaven, we laude and magnifie thy glozious name euer moze praylyng the and fayng.

Propre prefaces.

Apon Christmas day.



Ecaufe thou dydelt geue Jefus Chaift, thyne onely fonne to be boane as this day for bs, who by the operacion of the holy ghoft was made bery man, of the fubftaunce of the birgin Marp his mother, and that without spott of spine, to make bs clene frome all spine. Therfore with angels ac.

Apon Eafter Day.

At chefly are we bound to prayle the, for the glorious relarrectio of thy fonne Jelus Chrift oure lorde, for he is the very palchal lambe which was offered for vs, 'and hath taken away the funces of § world, who by his death hath deftroged death, and by his tyfyng agayn, hath reflored to vs euerlaftyng life. Therefore with angels ac.

fl.j. Upon

It the Communion.

Upon the Alcencion Day.

+ + + + + + + + + + +

Hough thy most deare beloued some Felus Chaist our lozde, who after his most glozious resurrection manifestip appeared to all his disciples, and in their sight alcended by into beauen to prepare a place for bs, that where he is, thether might we also alcend and reigne with him in glozp. Theretore with angels ac.

Upon whiclonday.

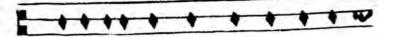
E + ++ + + + +++*

Hough Jelus Chiff our lozd, accordyng to whole most true promes the holy ghost came downe thys day from heauen with a fodayn greate found as it had bene a mightie wynd, in the likenes of fierry tongues, lightyng bpon the apostles, to teache theim, and to leade theim to all trueth, geuyng theim bothe the gift of dyuerse languages

at the communion.

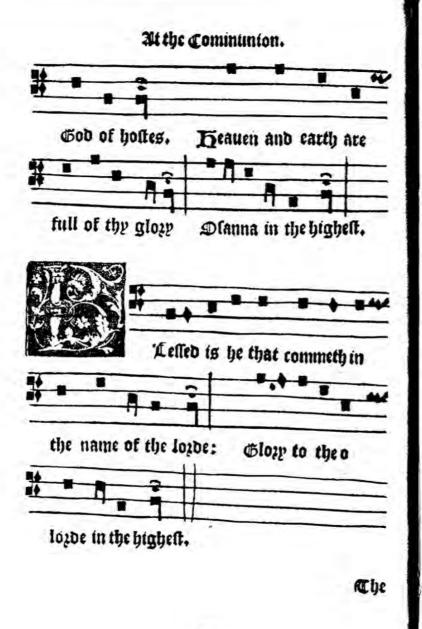
languages, and allo boldnes with feruent seale cons ftantly to preache & Golpell onto all nacions. wheres by we are brought out of darknes and erroz, in to the clere light and true knowlege of the, and of thy fonne Jelus Chailt. Cherefore with angels. Ac.

Apon the featte of the Trinitie.



T is berp meete, right, and our bounden Dutie that we thould at all tymes, and in Mall places, geue thankes to the o lozde als mightie, eucrialing god, which arte one god, one lozd, not one onely perfon, but three perfons in one fubftaunce, for that which we beleue of the gloup of the father, the fame we beleue of the fonne, and of the holp ghoft, without any difference or inequalistie, whome the angels and arch, &c.







whiche by thy holy apostle halt taught bs to make prayers and supplications, and to geue thankes for all men : we humbly befeche the mofte mercyfully to receaue thefe oure prayers, which we offer buto thy Dunyne matelipe, befechying the to ins force continually, the bniuerfal Church, with the fpirit of trueth, bnitte and concoade: And graunt that all they that do confelle thy holy name, may agree in the tructh of thy holy worde, and lyuc in bnitte and godly louc. Specyally we befeche the to faue and detend thy feruant, EDVVARD our kyng, that budet him we may be godiy and quietly gouerned. And graunt bnto hys whole countaple, and to all that be putt in auctoritic buber him, that they may truly and indifferently minufire iti= fice, for the punifyment of wickcones and bice, £. 11. and

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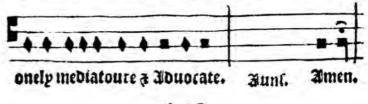
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The pacface.

and to g maintepnaunce of goddes true religion and beitue. Beue grace (Dhcauchip father) to all bys floppes, pallors and Curates, that they may both by their life and doctrine, lett forth thy true & littly worde, and rightly and dewly administer thy holy Sacramentes, and to all thy people geue thy heaues ly grace, that with meke hert and Due reuerence they may beare and receaue thy holy woorde, truely fer: uping the in holynes and righteoufnes all the dayes of thep? life: Jud we molt humbly beleche the of the gooducs (D lozde) to comfort and fuccout all thein, which in this transitoric life be in trouble, forow, nebe, licknes, oz any other aduerlitie. and elpecis ally we commend buto thy mercyfull goodnes, this congregacion which is here allembled in the name, to celebrate the commemoration of the moft glozis ous death of thy fonne : and here we do geue bnto the most highe praple, and hertie thankes for the wonderfull grace a bertue. Declared in all thy faints. from the beapinping of the world. And chiefly in the glozious and molt bleffed virgin Mary, mother of the fonne felu Chaift our loid and God, and in the holy Pattiatches, Prophetes, Apolites and Dartirs, whole cramples (D lozo) and ftedfallnes in the faith , and kepping thy holy commaundemens tes, araunt bs to folow. De commend buto the mercy (D lozo) all other thy feruauntes which are Departed hence from bs. with pligne of faith and now do reft in the flepe of peace : Graunt buto theun we beleche the thy mercy, a cuertaffyng peace, and that

It the Communion.

that at the day of g generall refurrection, we and all they which be of the milticall body of thy fonne, map alltogether be fer on his right hand, and heare that his molt topfull boyce : Come buto me, D ye that be bleffed of my father, a policite g kyngdome which is prepared for you, from g begynnyng of the world: Graunt this D father for Jefus Chailes fake, oure



Pzieff.

God heauenly father, which of thy tender mercy, Dibbeft geue thone one plonne Telus S Chuilt, to luffre Death bpon the Croffe. foz oure redemption, who made there (by his one oblas cion once offered) a full, perfecte and fufficient factis fice. oblation, and fatiffaction, for the fpines of the whole world, a bid infitute, and in his holp Golpell commaunde bs, to celebzate a perpetuali memozp, of that his precious beath, butill hiscomming agaphe. Bcare bs (D mercyfull father) we beleche the : 3nd with the hole fpitit a worde, bouchelafe to blogefle and fanc Hetifte thele thr aiftes, and creatures of breade and wone, that they may be buto bs the body and bloude of thy moft Dearely beloued fonne Tefus Chaift. 200 ho in thefame night that he was betraped : toke breade, and when he had blelled, and geuen thankcs

at the Communion.

thankes : he brake it, and gaue it to his diftiples laipng: Cake, Eate, this my body which is geuen for you, do this in remembraunce of me. Likewile after supper he toke § Cupp, and when he had geue thankes, he gaue it to theim fairing, drynke ye all of this, for this is my bloude of the new Celtament, which is thed for you and for many, for remission of fpunes, do this as oft as you thall drynk it in remembraunce of me.

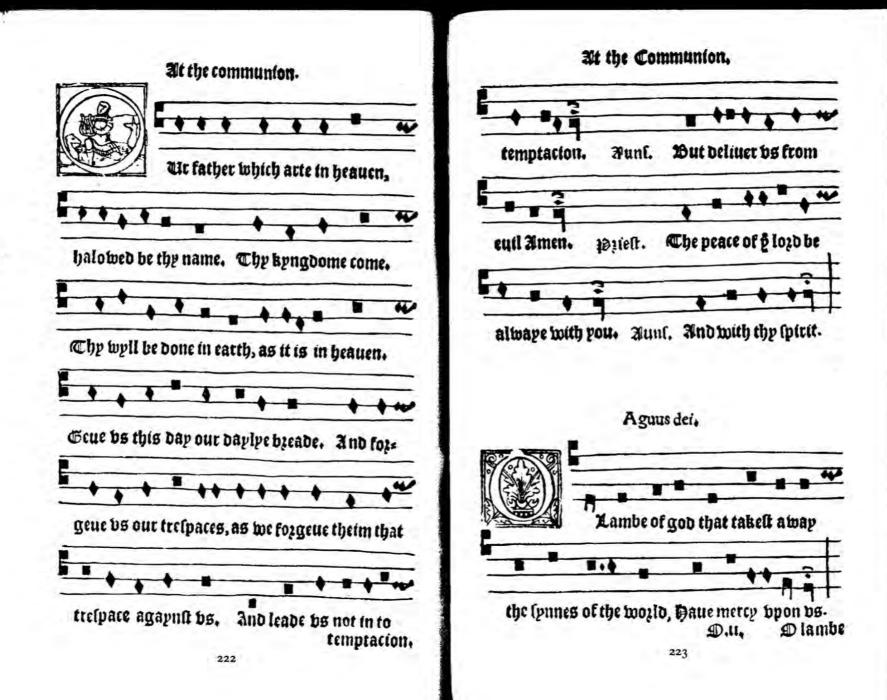
Derefore o lord and heauenly father, accord Dyng to the inftitucto of thy bearely beloued fonne, oure fautour Jefu Chaift , we thy humble feruauntes Do celebzate , and make bete be= fore thy Diupne matellie, with thele thy boly alftes. the memoziall which thy fonne hath willed bs to make, hauvng in remembraunce bis bleffcb paffion, mightie telurrection and glouous alcencion, tendes rong bnto the molt hertie thankes, for the innumerable benefites procured buto bs by by thefame. entierly delyzyng thy fatherly goodnes, mercifully to accepte this our facrifice of praile and thankes genyng: most humbly beferhyng the to graunt that by the merites and death of thy fonne Telus Chuft. and through faith in his bloud, we all the whole Churche, mape obtelane remiffion of oure fynnes. and all other benefites of his pallion. And here we offer and prefent buto the (D lord) our felfe, oure loules, and bodies, to be a realonable, holy a lyuely factifice buto the, humbly belechyng the, that whos loeucr.

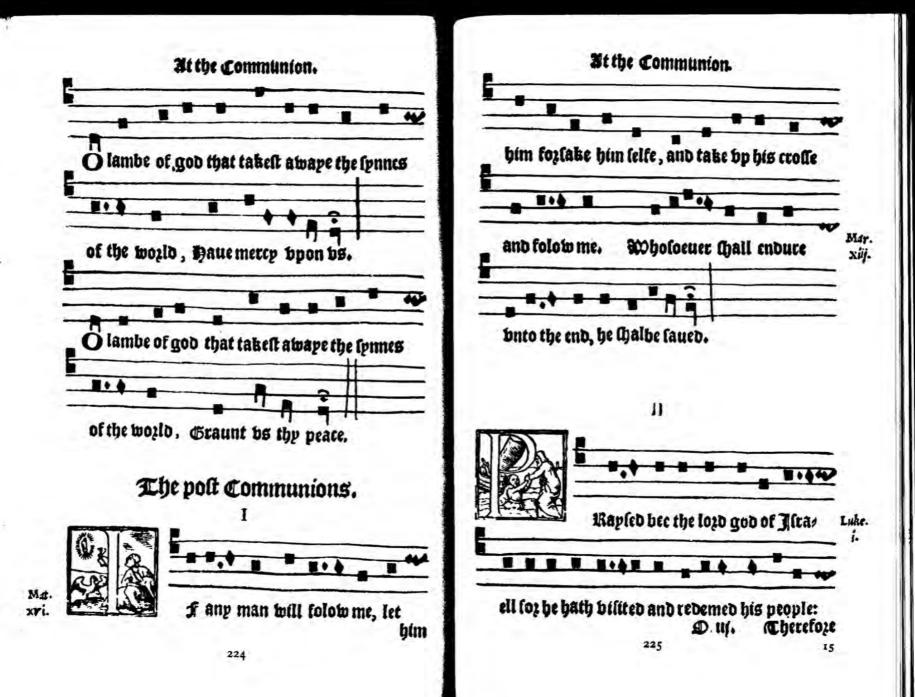
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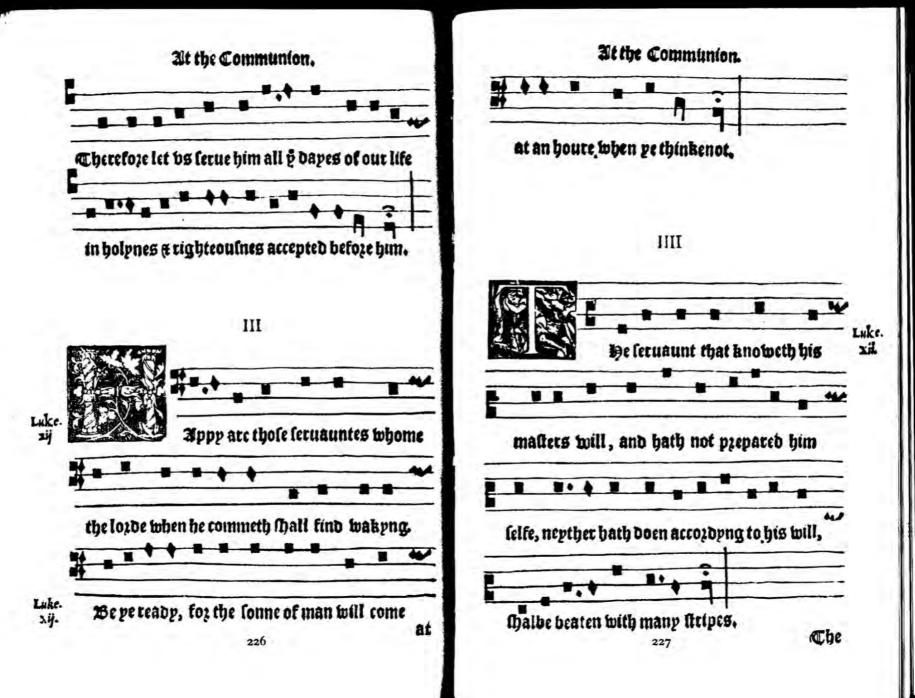
It the Communion,

focuer thalbe partakes of this boly Communion. map worthely receaue the molt precious bloub of the fonne Telus Chaift, and be fulfilled with the grace, and heauenly benediction, and made one bos Dy with thy forme Jefus Chaift, that he may Dwell in theim and they in him. And although we bebuy worthy (through out manifold fynnes) to offre buto the any factifice : pet me befeche the to accepte this oure bounden duetie and feruice, and commaunde thefe out prayers and supplications, by the minufte= ty of thy boly anacle , to be brought by into thy bolp Tabernacle befoze the light of the biupne mates ffie: not waiping our merites, but perdonying our offences, Chrough Chrift oure lorde, by whome and with whome, in the buitte of thy holy abolt, all bonoz and glozy, be bnto the D father Almightie.

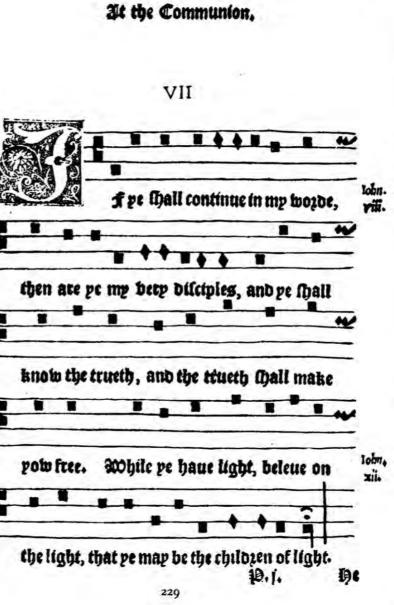






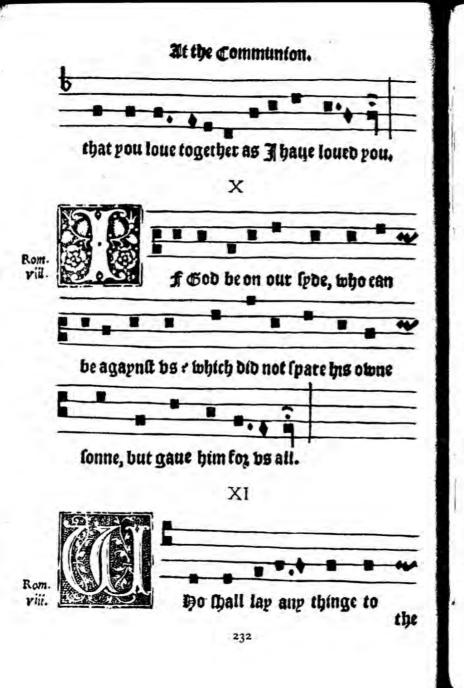


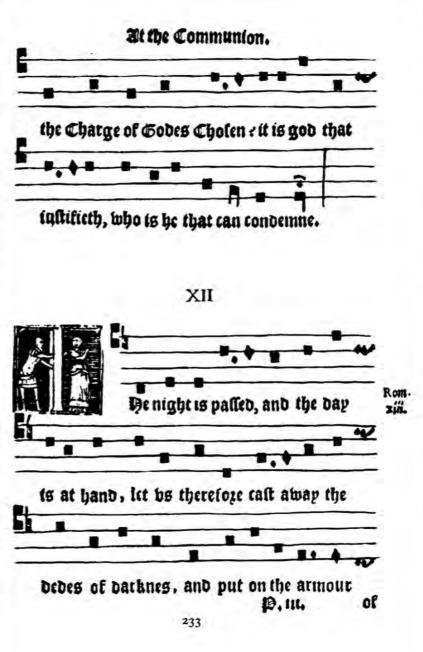


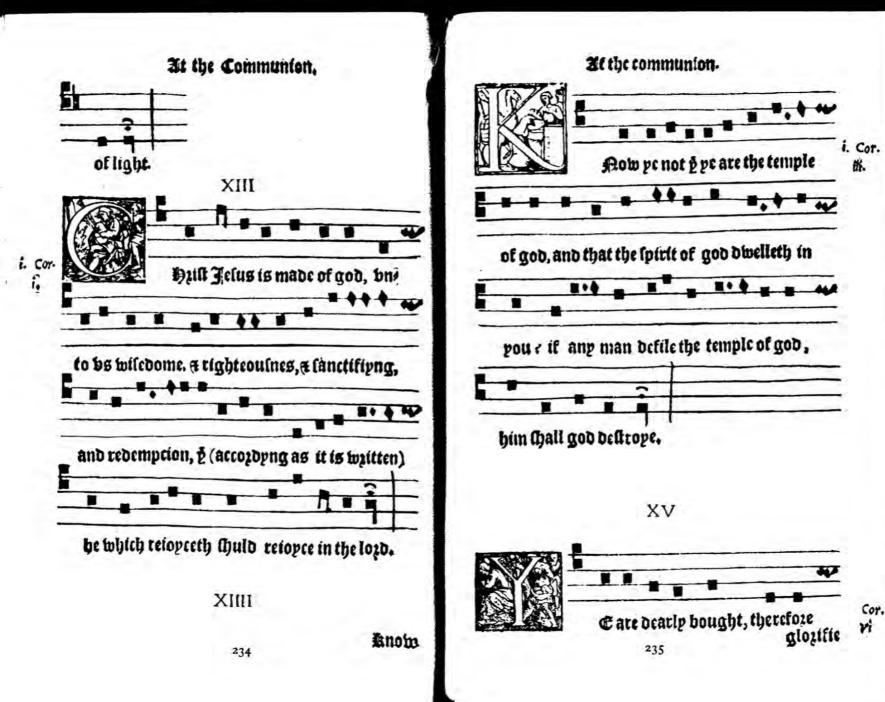
















A lmightie and euerlyupng God, we molt hertely thanke thee, for that thou halt bouchlafed to feede bs in these holy misteries, with the spiritual foode of the most precious body and bloude of thy some, oute saupour Jelus Christ, and halt assured bs (duely receiupng the same) of thy fauour and good= nes toward bs, and that we be bery membres, ins copparate in thy mistical body, which is the blessed companye of all faithfull people: And beires O.f. through

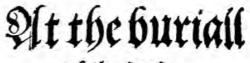
At the communion.

through hope of thy cuctlastyng kyngdome by the metites of the most precyous death and passion of thy deate some. We therefore most humbly beleche thee, D heauculy father, so to all humbly thy grace, that we may contynue m that holy felos shipp, and do all suche good workes, as thou hall prepared for us to walke in: Through Jelus Christ oute lord, to whome with the, and the holp



The peace of god. ac.

Finis.



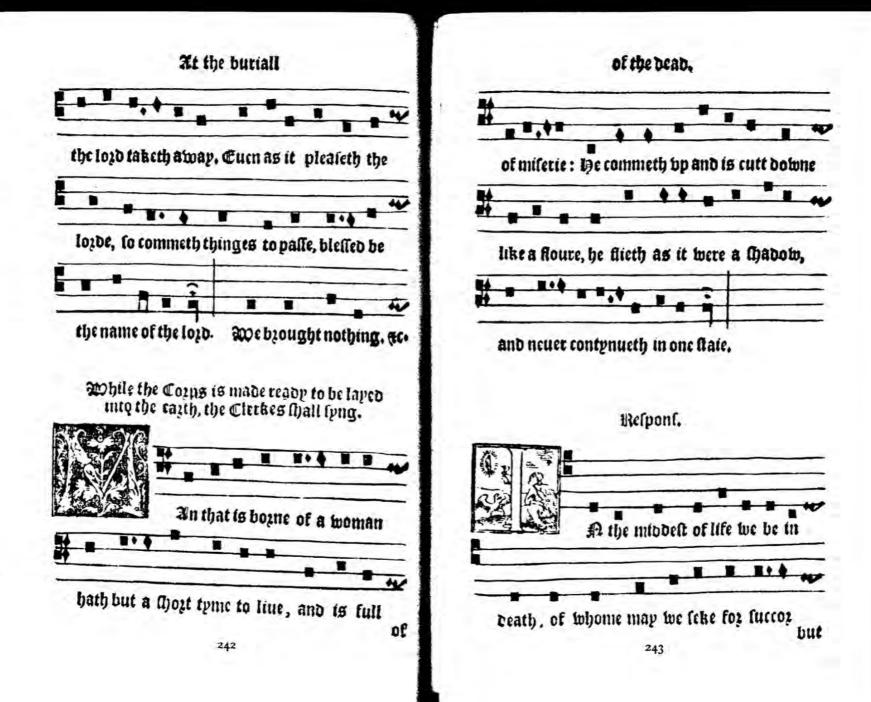
of the dead.

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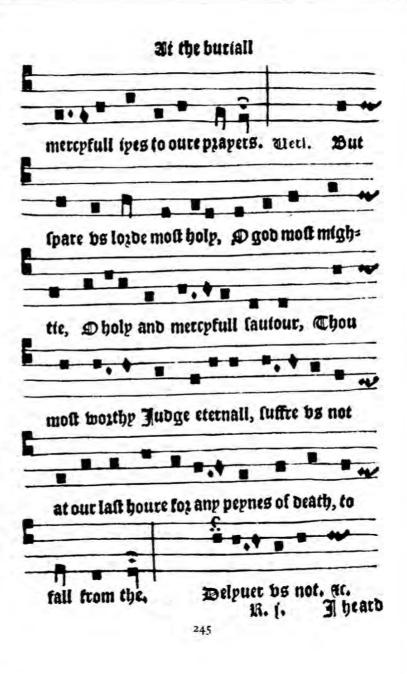


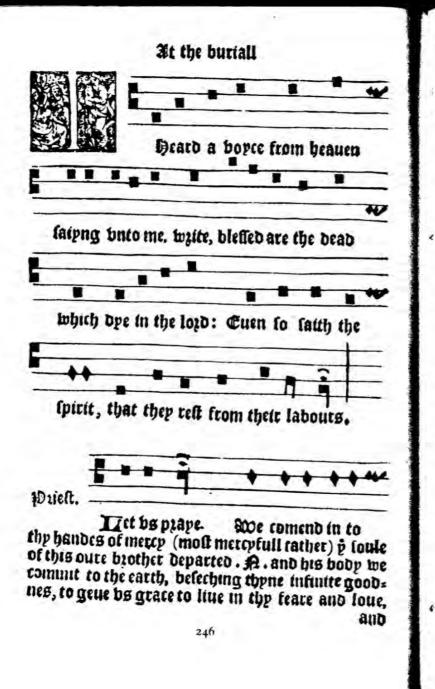
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of the dead.

and to dye in thy fauoure: that when the Judgement thall come which thou halt committed to thy welves loued fonne, both this our brother and we may be founde acceptable in thy fight, and receaue that bleffing, which thy welveloued fonne thall then pros nounce to all that lone and feare the, faipng: Come inv bleffed Children of my father: receaue the kyngs dome prepared for you before the begynnyng of the worde: Graunt this mercyfull father for the honour of Jelu Christe our onely fautour, mea

| ***** | - 1 | +++* |
|-------|-----|------|
| | | |

diatoz & aduocate. Junf. Amen. A lmightie God, we geuc the hertye thankes for thy feruaunt, whome thou halt deliucred from mileries of this wretched world, from the body of death & all temps tacion, & as we truth, halt brought his foule which he comitted in to thy holy handes in to fure confolacion and reft: Graunt we befeche the, that at the day of Judgemet his foule & all the foules of thy electe, des parted out of this life, may with bs & we with theim, fully recease thy promifes & be made perfecte all tos gether through & glorious refurrection of thy foune

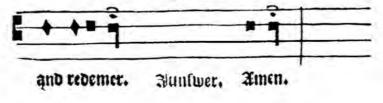






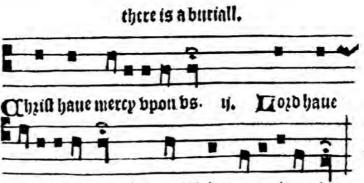
of the bcab.

with whome Do loue the fuirites of thein that be Dead : and in whome the foules of theim that be cleo tcb, after they be beliucred from the butthen of the flethe, be in tope and felteitie: Graunt bito this the feruaunt that the francs which be committeo in this world be not imputed bito bin, but that he elkas ping the gates of bell and pepnes of eternall barkes nes: may euer Dwell in the region of light, with Abraham Alaac and Jacob, in the place where is no wepping, forow, nor heupnes : Ind when that Dicadefull Day of the generall refurrection Chall come, make hun to rife alfo with the Juft & tigates ous, and receaue this body agaph to glozy, then made pute and incorruptible, fet him on the right band of the fonne Telus Chailt amonge the hole and electe, that then he may heare with theim thele molt fweete and confortable wordes : Come to me pe bleffcd of my father, poffeffe the kyngdome which hath bene prepared for you from the begynnyng of the world : Graunt this we beleche the @ met= cpfull father, through Iclus Chaift oute mediatout









The Collect.

mercy bpon bs. i. Togo haue mercy bpon bs. gob gfather of out lozd Jelu Chuft, who is the refurrett: on & thelife: In whome who: focuer beleueth fhall ipue , though he ope: Ind wholocuer lpueth, a beleucth in him, thatt

Sanctus

O Dercyfull not ope eternally: who allo taught bs (by his apolle Daule) not to be lozpe as me with out hope for theim g flepe in him: metely beleche § (D father) to vaile bs fro the Death of fpnne, bnto the life of rightes oufnes, that when we fall Departe this life, we map ficpe in him (as our hope is, this our brother doth) # at the generall refurrection in the laft Day, bothe we & this oute biother Depatted, teceauring agapn out bodyes, and tilying agayn in thy molt gracious fa= noute : may with all thyne electe fagutes obtague

eternall icy: Graunt this 0 lord god, by the meanes of our aduocate Jefus Chuilt, which with y holy ghoft lyneth and reigneth one Gob foz euer Jun, Inien. 安.1. 253





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1550

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