

his authoritative utterance. His language was quite sufficient to have given such a note of warning as should have led to the exclusion of these hymns if we do not desire to assist in the Anglo-Roman raid, and desire to make this Book of Common Praise an important element in carrying on this warfare.

Lord Selborne calls them "a group of remarkable compositions written by Dr. Thomas Aquinas for the first new Festival of Corpus Christi, of which he induced Pope Urban the Fourth to decree the observance." In these, he says, "the doctrine of Transubstantiation is set forth with a wonderful degree of scholastic precision, and has exercised probably a not unimportant influence upon the general reception of that dogma." No one ever doubted but that Lord Selborne was "a really earnest and conscientious Churchman."

THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

An equally important utterance is found in pages 42 and 43, sections 31 and 32 of the "Report of the Royal Commission on Ecclesiastical Discipline Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty, 1906":—

"It would be undesirable unduly to restrict the liberty accorded to the Clergy in the selection of hymns and anthems, but in view of the evidence brought before us as to the misuse of hymns, we think it well to point out that doctrine contrary or repugnant to the articles or formularies of the Church of England inculcated by the words of the hymn stand on the same footing as it would if it were uttered in a prayer; and it is desirable that some supervision should, as far as possible, be exercised by the Bishop over the use of hymns and anthems. We have therefore framed one of our recommendations in accordance with this view."