

FOREWORD

IN view of the efforts now being made to revive the use of the word "Mass" as a definition of the Holy Communion in the Church of England, and of the statements made that "the Mass simply stands for the service that is celebrated in the Church of England," and that "when the Bishop of London celebrates the Holy Communion in St. Paul's Cathedral and the Bishop of Rome says Mass in St. Peter's in Rome, they are both doing identically the same thing." It is well for English Churchmen to recall the teaching of our Church in the 15th Homily referred to in Article XXXV: "But, before any other things, this we must be sure of specially, that this Supper be in such wise done and ministered as our Lord and Saviour did, and commanded to be done, as His holy Apostles used it We must then take heed, lest, of the memory, it be made a Sacrifice. . . . What hath been the cause of this gross idolatry, but the ignorance hereof? What hath been the cause of this mummish massing, but the ignorance hereof? Let us, therefore, so travail to understand the Lord's Supper, that we be no cause of the decay of God's worship, of no idolatry, of no dumb massing." (*Homilies and Canons*, S.P.C.K., pp. 474-475.)

Some years ago a leading English writer penned a sentence worthy of being pondered by all thoughtful Churchmen to-day: "It is possible without forsaking Protestantism, to indulge in certain Romish practices which, whether they are wise or foolish as parts of that great religious institution *to which they properly belong*, are childish and grotesque when observed by the adherents of a spiritual system of an altogether different type and genius." (*Dale on Hebrews*, p. 279.)