## CONTENTS

## CHAPTER I

THE EARLY CENTURIES ....

PAGE ... I-33

J EWISH prayer for the Dead—early Christian inscriptions—the "Acts of Paul and Thecla" and other apocryphal writings the offertory chant in Requiem Masses—the "Testament of Abraham"—the legend of an annual mitigation of the pains of the lost—Tertullian and St. Cyprian—the efficacy of almsdeeds as well as of prayer—the problem of the Agape—the sacrifice of the Mass—St. Augustine—the holy oblation—his chief comfort on the death of St. Monica—the Testament of St. Ephraem.

## CHAPTER II

THE DIPTYCHS AND THEIR DEVELOPMENTS

THE Memento for the Dead in the Roman Mass—the Great Intercession in the Greek Liturgy—sacrifice offered for the dead—Bishop Serapion's prayer book—the primitive Diptychs—the problem createu by their expansion—the Necrology of Remiremont —the Durham "Book of Life"—the monastic confederations for mutual prayer—influence of St. Boniface—the compact between St. Gall and Reichenau—private Masses and their multiplication—seven Masses in one day—the Winchester compact of A.D. 1020.

## CHAPTER III

A MEDIÆVAL MORTUARY CARD ...

67-100

. . .

34-66

A billet de faire part in modern Franceits counterpart in mediæval monasticism-the mortuary roll of Abbess Matilda of Caen-the "briefs" and their