

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion  
Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

THE SUFFICIENCY AND DEFECTS  
OF THE  
ENGLISH COMMUNION OFFICE

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion  
Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion  
Office  
A. G. Walpole Sayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

THE SUFFICIENCY AND DEFECTS  
OF THE  
ENGLISH COMMUNION OFFICE

by

A. G. WALPOLE SAYER, B.D.

Vicar of Henlow and former Exhibitioner of  
Pembroke College, Cambridge

Cambridge  
at the University Press

1911

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion  
Office  
A. G. Walpole Sayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,  
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press  
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107646254](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107646254)

© Cambridge University Press 1911

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written  
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1911  
First paperback edition 2013

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN 978-1-107-64625-4 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or  
accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in  
this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is,  
or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

## PREFACE

THE object which led to the enterprise of this subject was essentially practical. Considerable outcry had been raised against the interpolation into the service by the Celebrant of parts of the Unreformed Office. The outcry interpreted this action as throwing doubt or discredit on the Office of our Church. And this interpretation is justified by the open avowals of many who are addicted to this practice. They allege defect or deficiency in our Office. Others, indeed, without such allegation or conscious admission, defend their interpolations as conducing to greater fulness or richness.

The object of this work in part is to attempt to disprove the charges of insufficiency and to show the redundancy of such interpolations. The nature of the interpolations in view has been already defined. There is no reference to any private<sup>1</sup> intercessions or devotions of the Celebrant, but to the direct interpolation of portions of other Offices.

On the other hand, in contrast with this depreciation of our Office, intentional or not, there is present

<sup>1</sup> Which indeed were recognised in a Rubric of the Armenian Rite, just before the Priest's Communion. Brightman, *Liturgies Eastern and Western*, Vol. I. p. 451.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

amongst us an opposite tendency. This is to declaim on our “incomparable Liturgy,” to deprecate any need or possibility of improvement and to discover various fanciful interpretations of its present structure.

With this in mind, the writer’s object is to indicate defects and needs of amendment in our Office, while defending it from charges of insufficiency.

Attention will be confined to the Canon as the essential part of the Office.

The method pursued will be, to examine first the Scripture narratives and the older Liturgies, in order to gain an idea of the requisite structure and composition of the Office. Having done this, we shall review the English Office of 1549 and go on to the comparison of our Office with the idea so gained. And after this, subsequent chapters will deal with the various points, which such a comparison shows requiring consideration.

The writer is under a general obligation to very many works bearing directly and indirectly on the subject.

In particular he is indebted to Mr Brightman’s *Liturgies Eastern and Western*, Vol. I.; Mgr. Duchesne’s *Christian Worship* in the S.P.C.K. translation; Bishop Dowden’s *Annotated Scottish Communion Office* and the article on “Alms and Oblations” in *Further Studies in the Prayer Book* by the same writer; Mr Darwell Stone’s *History of the Doctrine of the Eucharist*; Bishop Drury on “Elevation”; and Mr Bishop’s Appendix to Dom Connolly’s edition of the *Homilies of Narsai*.

The passage on “Anamnesis” was, however, all done

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

vii

before reading Mr Stone's book, likewise Appendix C, before the writer saw Messrs Gasquet and Bishop's book on *Edward VI and the Book of Common Prayer*; and the view of the meaning of the phrase "Holy Spirit and Word" in the 1549 book and of the reason for its omission was taken without any conscious reference to Bishop Dowden's *Workmanship of the Prayer Book*.

In conclusion it is but due to gratefully acknowledge several kind suggestions and criticisms of the Divinity Professors of the University of Cambridge, the courtesy and care of the staff of the University Press, and the kind help of a young friend in the preparation of the Index.

A. G. W. S.

*October, 1911*

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-64625-4 - The Sufficiency and Defects of the English Communion Office

A. G. Walpole Sayer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS

| CHAP. |   | PAGE |
|-------|---|------|
|       | Preface . . . . .   | v    |
| I     | The Scripture Narratives . . . . .  | 1    |
| II    | Early References and Accounts . . . . .   | 11   |
| III   | The Eastern Liturgies . . . . .   | 26   |
| IV    | The Western Liturgies . . . . .   | 30   |
| V     | The First Prayer Book of Edward VI . . . . .  | 37   |
| VI    | Our Present Office . . . . .  | 40   |
| VII   | The Separation of the Intercession from the<br>Consecration . . . . .   | 44   |
| VIII  | Absence of Explicit Invocation . . . . .  | 51   |
| IX    | The Separation of the Eucharistic Act from the<br>Commemoration of the Institution, and the<br>Absence of Thanksgiving for Redemption . . . . . | 69   |
| X     | The Omission, or Transference of the Great Obla-<br>tion, and its Form . . . . .  | 77   |
| XI    | The Position of the Communicants' Preparation . . . . .   | 93   |
| XII   | Absence of Explicit Prayer for the Departed in<br>the Intercession . . . . .  | 98   |
| XIII  | Verbal Oblation of the Elements . . . . .   | 108  |
| XIV   | General Conclusions . . . . .   | 113  |
|       | Appendix A . . . . .  | 129  |
|       | Appendix B . . . . .  | 140  |
|       | Appendix C . . . . .  | 142  |
|       | Index . . . . .   | 152  |