## THE CHRISTIAN MONITORS

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## THE CHRISTIAN MONITORS

The Church of England and the Age of Benevolence, 1680–1730

Brent S. Sirota

Yale university press

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## To Alexandra Armitage, still sacred

As a matter of fact, in England, at least, it is these smaller associations which have always counted for most in the life of the individual. His school or college, his parish or country, his union or regiment, his wife or family is the most vitally important part in the life of most men; and in so far as England has anything worthy in civic life to show to the world, it is the spectacle of individuals bred up or living within the small associations which mold the life of men more immediately than does the great collectivity we call the State

—JOHN NEVILLE FIGGIS, *Churches in the Modern State* (1914)

The Anglo-Saxons display a capacity for diluting their religion, probably in excess of that of any other race.

—т. s. eliot, "The Idea of a Christian Society" (1939)