

THE PEOPLE AND THE PRIEST

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The people and the priest by R. E. Welsh

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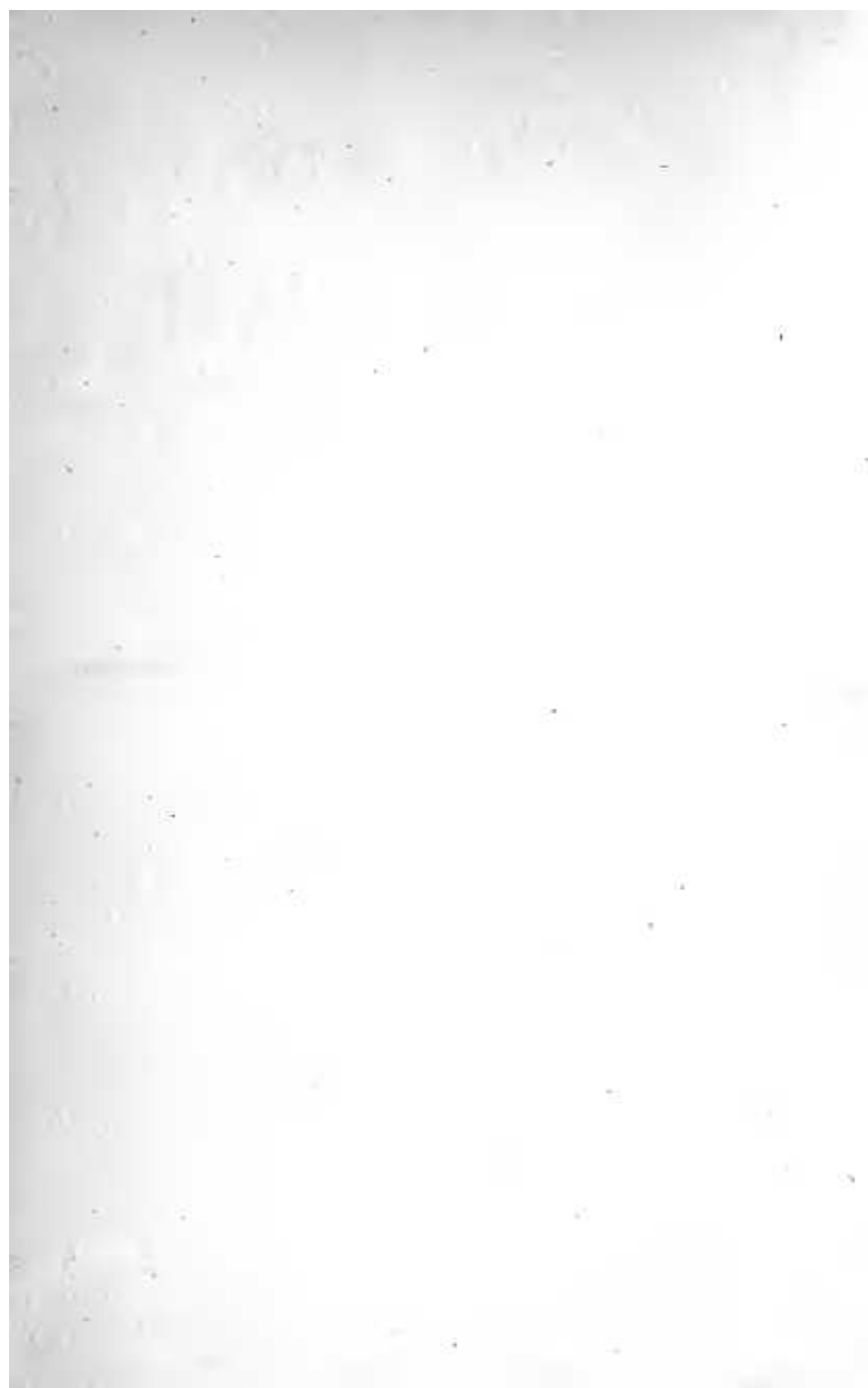
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R. E. WELSH

**THE PEOPLE
AND THE PRIEST**

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THE PEOPLE

AND



THE PRIEST

BY THE REV.

R. E. WELSH, M.A.

AUTHOR OF "IN RE-

LIEF OF DOUBT" 

LONDON JAMES BOWDEN
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Dedicated
TO
J R. MACDONALD
A
TRIBUTE
TO
THE CATHOLICITY OF HIS SPIRIT
AND
THE largeness OF HIS HEART



INTRODUCTORY

OLD questions over which ten generations have fought might be supposed to have passed beyond the stage of profitable discussion. But the triangular contest now proceeding between the Reformed, the Anglo-Catholic, and the Roman Catholic Churches, carrying with it momentous issues for this country, calls for the re-statement of the truths involved.

It will not be believed possible, and probably it is not possible, to discuss inter-Church controversies in an entirely impartial spirit, with greater regard for truth than for partisan victory. The "personal equation"—early training, mental temperament, and the course of one's life—cannot but affect the point of view. One must, none the less, make the best attempt possible to deal fairly with views from the form of which one differs. Macaulay said that he had lived so long in a country where the people worshipped cows that he thought little of the differences between Christians! Living in a Buddhist country brought me the delight of seeing elements of good even in Buddhism. In the present little volume a sympathetic endeavour is made to discriminate between encrusted truth