

**THE TRUE CHARACTER OF THE  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND, AS  
EXHIBITED IN HER ANTIQUITY,  
ORDERS AND LITURGY**

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The True Character of the Church of England, as Exhibited in Her Antiquity, Orders and Liturgy  
by George Ingram

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AS EXHIBITED IN HER  
ANTIQUITY, ORDERS, AND LITURGY.

BY THE REV. GEORGE INGRAM,  
CURE OF CHEDEBURY, SUFFOLK.

"Id verius quod prius, id prius quod et ab initio, id ab initio,  
quod ab Apostolis."—TERTULLIAN, ADVERBVS MARCIONEM,  
1.18, IV. c. 5.



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TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE AND REVEREND

LORD ARTHUR HERVEY,

RECTOR

OF

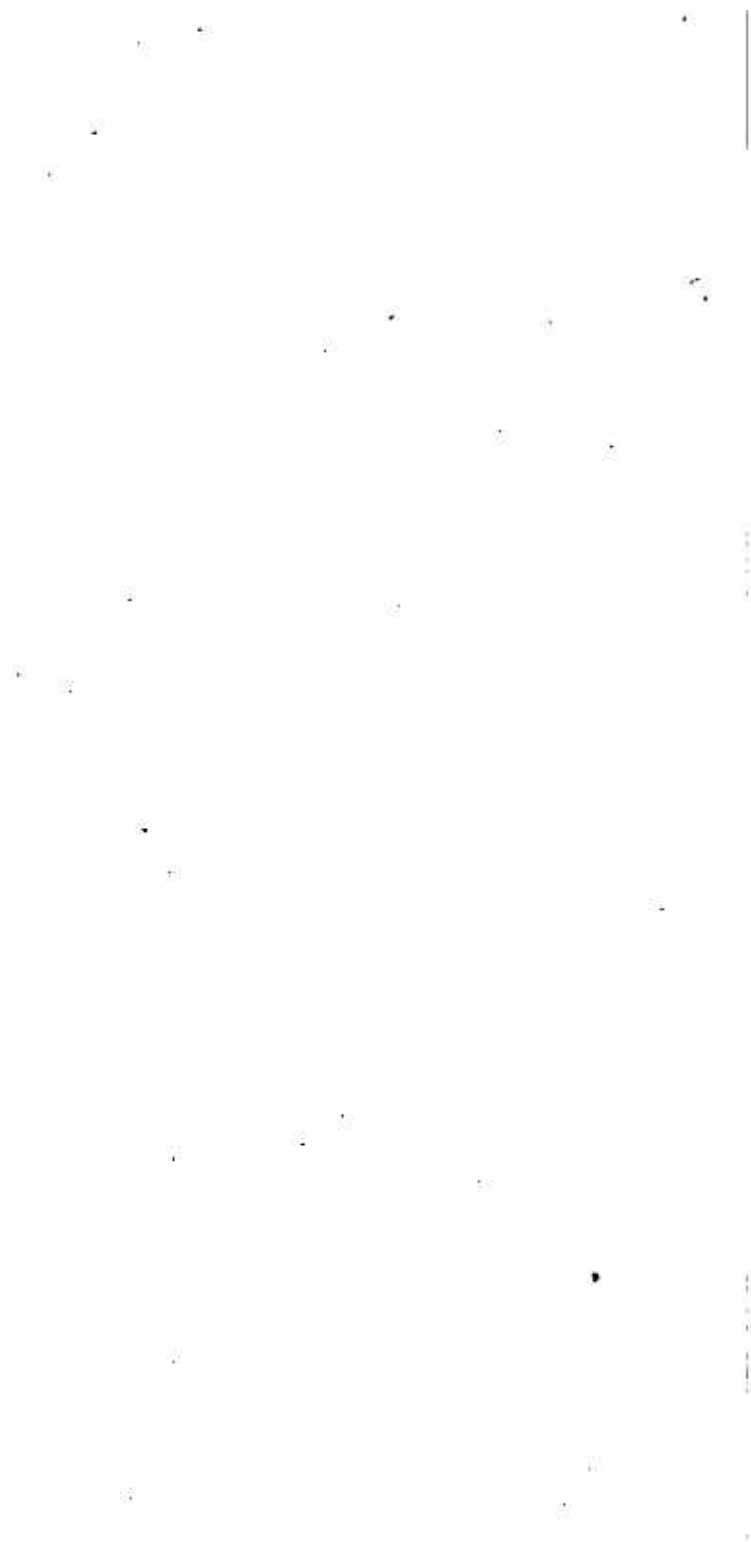
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THE FOLLOWING PAGES

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BY

THE AUTHOR.





## PREFACE.

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THE object of the writer, in the following pages, is to counteract some very prevailing errors. The information necessary for the correction of those errors being contained in expensive and voluminous works, and such as do not commonly fall in the way of general readers, he has extracted from them, and exhibited in a connected form such matter as appeared to him sufficient for the object in view.

The Historical information conveyed in this work the reader may rely upon, being gathered with great care from writers of

undisputed authority ; extracts from writers of doubtful, or questioned, character, such as Simeon Metaphrastes,<sup>1</sup> have been carefully excluded.

At the present time, when the Infidel, Papist,<sup>2</sup> and Sectarian are banded together in one unholy alliance for the destruction of that "holy and beautiful house in which our fathers worshipped," the most humble of her defenders, who attempts to stand in the breach, cannot hope to escape the weapon of the assailant. The Author is therefore prepared to meet with opposition to his statements from uninformed and prejudiced

I am aware of Dr. Christians. See, however, Cave's favourable opinion the *British Magazine* for Nov. 1837. p. 485.

the lives of the *early* <sup>2</sup> See Appendix I.

Dissenters, and from bigotted and intolerant Papists ; but taking his stand on the strong ground of scripture, history, and primitive usage, he can take up the language of the psalmist, and say, "Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear ;" and thankful that he has been led to see the truth and beauty of that Church, in the communion of which the mercy of his God has placed him, he would add, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after ; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to enquire in his temple." And in the spirit of the disciple of Bethsaida, he would say to all around him, "Come and see."