

**THE CHURCH AND LIBERTIES OF
ENGLAND: THE TRUE CHARACTER AND
PUBLIC DANGER OF THE
PRESENT EXTREME MOVEMENT IN THE
NATIONAL CHURCH; WITH DEDICATION
AND APPENDICES**

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The Church and Liberties of England: The True Character and Public Danger of the Present Extreme Movement in the National Church; with Dedication and Appendices by Nevison Loraine

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NEVISON LORAINÉ

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BY
NEVISON LORAINÉ,
VICAR OF GROVE PARK WEST, LONDON; AUTHOR OF "THE VOICE OF THE
PRAYER BOOK," ETC.

INTRODUCTION
BY THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF CHESTER.



"Γρηγορίῳ εὐχόμεν ἐν τῇ κίβητι."

"Id esse verum quodcumque primum: id esse adulterum quodcumque
tertium."

"Be calm in arguing: for fierceness makes error a fault, and truth dis-
courteous."

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DEDICATION.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF HARROWBY, K.G., D.C.L.

MY LORD,—

I have sincere gratification in being permitted to dedicate to you the following Lecture on "The Church and Liberties of England," etc. It has been delivered, and is now published with the intention of making more widely and determinately known the distinctive doctrines and practices of a remarkable school that has arisen in the National Church of England, within the last half century. I am unwilling to designate this school by any epithet upon which an offensive construction could be placed; but I am guilty neither of injustice nor discourtesy in saying that it is eagerly endeavouring to disturb the foundations of the national faith, to

re-introduce principles and practices unknown to the primitive ages of the Church, and to undo that great work which was achieved, in the interests alike of the religious and civil life of the nation, by the heroic conflict of the English Reformation. This "distinctly counter-Reformation movement" * is now diligently at work within the National Church; and it is my solemn conviction that, in respect of its character and operations, English Churchmen and the English people generally should be put in possession of definite and trustworthy information. High interests are involved both for Church and State. Let that sacerdotal supremacy be re-established, which is involved in the doctrines of auricular confession, judicial absolution, and the transubstantiation of the elements in the Holy Communion, and a revolution will be accomplished in the entire system of the religious thought and life of this realm. But the indisputable aim of the ultra-Ritualist party is to re-leaven the English Church with these and kindred distinctively Romish principles; † and, unhappily, too generally there is extended to the action of this bold and zealous party the immunity granted to apparently Quixotic enterprises. But history abounds with examples of the achievement of the impossible. Vast

* Bishop Ellicott. *Vide* Appendices A. B. and C.

† *Vide* Lord Coleridge's opinion, Appendix C.

results may be often traced to seemingly insignificant causes.

True it may lie beyond the immediate range of party-power to pervert a nation, yet it may come within the scope of party activity to overthrow a church. Let a conviction possess the English people that the National Communion is betraying the sacred trust of the Reformed faith, and her days, as the Established Church of the nation, are numbered. But the disestablishment of the English Church would introduce an era in the national life, charged with momentous issues.

The severance of that time-honoured alliance would shake the pillars of the State, and imperil privileges of the national life dearly bought and highly prized. Nor do I agree with those who imagine that in such a catastrophe the State would be the sole sufferer. I foresee and acknowledge that the Church would also feel the grievous effects of that disaster. Bonds of ancient union would be broken. Parties would become sects, rents would increase in the seamless robe, further schisms in the body of Christ. And Papal Rome remembers well the famous motto of Pagan Rome, *Divide et impera*. Following in the steps of his far-sighted predecessor, Cardinal Manning urges, and it is his unhappy fortune that, in respect of this question, his memory encourages