

**ONE DAY
AND ANOTHER**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649149575

One day and another by E. V. Lucas

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E. V. LUCAS

"THE BOOK OF LIFE HAS WIDE MARGINS.
LEND ME A PENCIL."—*Susanna's Haul*

THIRD EDITION

NEW YORK
THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
1909

PR
6023
L960d
1909

PREFATORY NOTE

FIVE of these Essays appear for the first time. The others have been printed, although for the most part not quite as they now are, in various periodicals.

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ONE DAY AND ANOTHER

The Prosecutor ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊

IT is a hard thing to spend a large portion of one's life protesting that one will never figure in the rôle of a prosecutor, and then one morning find one's self in the witness-box kissing a grubby Testament and sending a boy to prison. . . .

I am not proud of it at all . . .

But what is one to do when one is caught in the machinery of society? And if a youth is a chronic pilferer at eighteen, must he not be brought to his senses? Is it not possible that what the magistrate calls a sharp lesson may be the means of pulling him round? Let us think so, at any rate.

One thing is certain, and that is that a house in which some one is suspected of theft is very uncomfortable to live in. The air must be cleared. . . .

At the police-station I was introduced to the resident detective. I had always thought of