# AN ESSAY ON THE ABSOLVING POWER OF THE CHURCH: WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE OFFICES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOR THE ORDERING OF PRIESTS AND THE VISITATION OF THE SICK

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An essay on the absolving power of the Church: With Especial Reference to The Offices Of The Church Of England For The Ordering Of Priests and the visitation of the sick by T. H. Lowe

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T. H. LOWE

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#### **ORDERING OF PRIESTS**

AND THE

VISITATION OF THE SICK.

WITH COPIOUS ILLUSTRATIONS AND NOTES.

### BY THE REV. T. H. LOWE, M.A.

VICAR OF GRIMLEY IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTEE, AND CHAPLAIN TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE VISCOUNT GAGE.

"Let us endeavour to find out what was the meaning of the words at the "time they were spoken, not what they may now imply." DEAN TUCKER.

#### OXFORD,

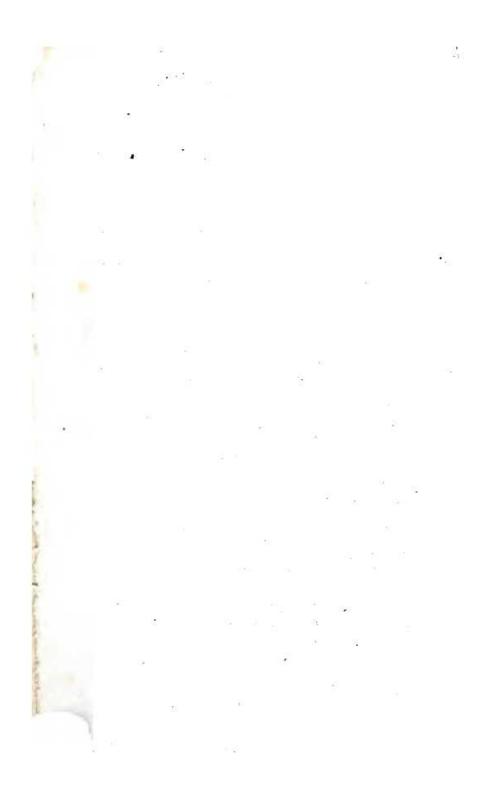
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#### TO

## THE RIGHT REVEREND

# FOLLIOT H. W. CORNEWALL, D. D.

### LORD BISHOP OF WORCESTER,

THE

### FOLLOWING ESSAY

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

AS

A SMALL TOKEN

OF THE AUTHOR'S GRATITUDE

FOR MANY FAVOURS.

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THE following Essay comprises, with some additional matter, and a large appendage of notes, the substance of a discourse preached June 30th. 1824, in the cathedral church of Worcester, at the triennial visitation of the Lord Bishop of the diocese; and is now published at his Lordship's suggestion. Though many treatises have been written on the same subject, the difficulties with which it is attended have, generally, been rather evaded than answered. In the following pages these difficulties have been fairly stated; whether they have been fairly mastered is a point for others to decide. The younger student in theology, for whose use this little tract is principally designed, will, however, find some valuable matter collected in the notes, with the most scrupulous fidelity, from works of higher price,

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