

# **A MUCH- ABUSED LETTER**

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A Much-Abused Letter by George Tyrrell

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**GEORGE TYRRELL**

**A MUCH-  
ABUSED LETTER**



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# A MUCH-ABUSED LETTER

BY  
GEORGE TYRRELL  
AUTHOR OF "LEX CREDENDI," ETC.

Ay me! what act  
That roars so loud and thunders in the index?  
*Hamlet*

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1906

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## A MUCH-ABUSED LETTER

### INTRODUCTION

**I**T is necessary to justify the present publication of a letter whose privacy was originally its chief justification. To do so I need only retrace briefly the steps by which I have arrived at a decision counter to my first intention.

On 7 January, 1906, I received a letter from the late Father Martin, General of the Jesuits, in which he says: "My only motive in writing is to learn from your Reverence whether or not you are the author of the expressions quoted in the Milanese 'Corriere della Sera' of 1 January, of which I send you a copy herewith. The Archbishop of Milan asks me whether it is true that any Father of the Society has written such things, and I want an answer from you which I can transmit to the Archbishop."