

**THE FINER SPIRIT,
AND OTHER POEMS**

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The finer spirit, and other poems by T. W. H. Crosland

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The Finer Spirit

And Other Poems

By T. W. H. Crosland

Author of Literary Parables

Other People's Wings

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&c.

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At the Sign of the Unicorn

vii Cecil Court, London, W.C.

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To
WILLIAM CROSLAND

The Finer Spirit

I.

I SAW the painted worlds go by,
And wonder'd what great good could lie
Beneath that dreadful pageantry.

What lamp of excellent brimming light
Hath kept the immemorial night,
And watches on, in Time's despite?

What soul of saving sweetness lends
The affable touch to things, and blends
That which begins and that which ends?

II.

And one, whose look shone kindness, ran
And fetch'd his sheaf of charts—the plan
Mark'd out, he said, by God for Man.

'Look thou! Thus far, and thus, the clear
Seas sparkle ; thou may'st pray, and steer
Thy craft with knowledge here, and here ;

'But by the vasty margs loom
God's well-set darknesses ; the womb
Bears not the man that skills this gloom.'

III.

Another, wisely, ' We are sure
Of consciousness and some small store
Of facts, as "two and two make four."

' So nerved and lamp'd may Reason spell
The systems out, and learn to tell
The purport of the inmost cell ;

' But, ever as she goes, she sees
In new and old simplicities
The old, invincible mysteries.'