

**HOW I BECAME A UNITARIAN:
EXPLAINED IN A SERIES OF
LETTERS TO A FRIEND A
CLERGYMAN OF THE PROTESTANT
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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How I Became a Unitarian: Explained in a Series of Letters to a Friend a Clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church by G. W. Hyer

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G. W. HYER

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A SERIES OF LETTERS TO A FRIEND.

BY

A CLERGYMAN

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

G. W. Ayer?

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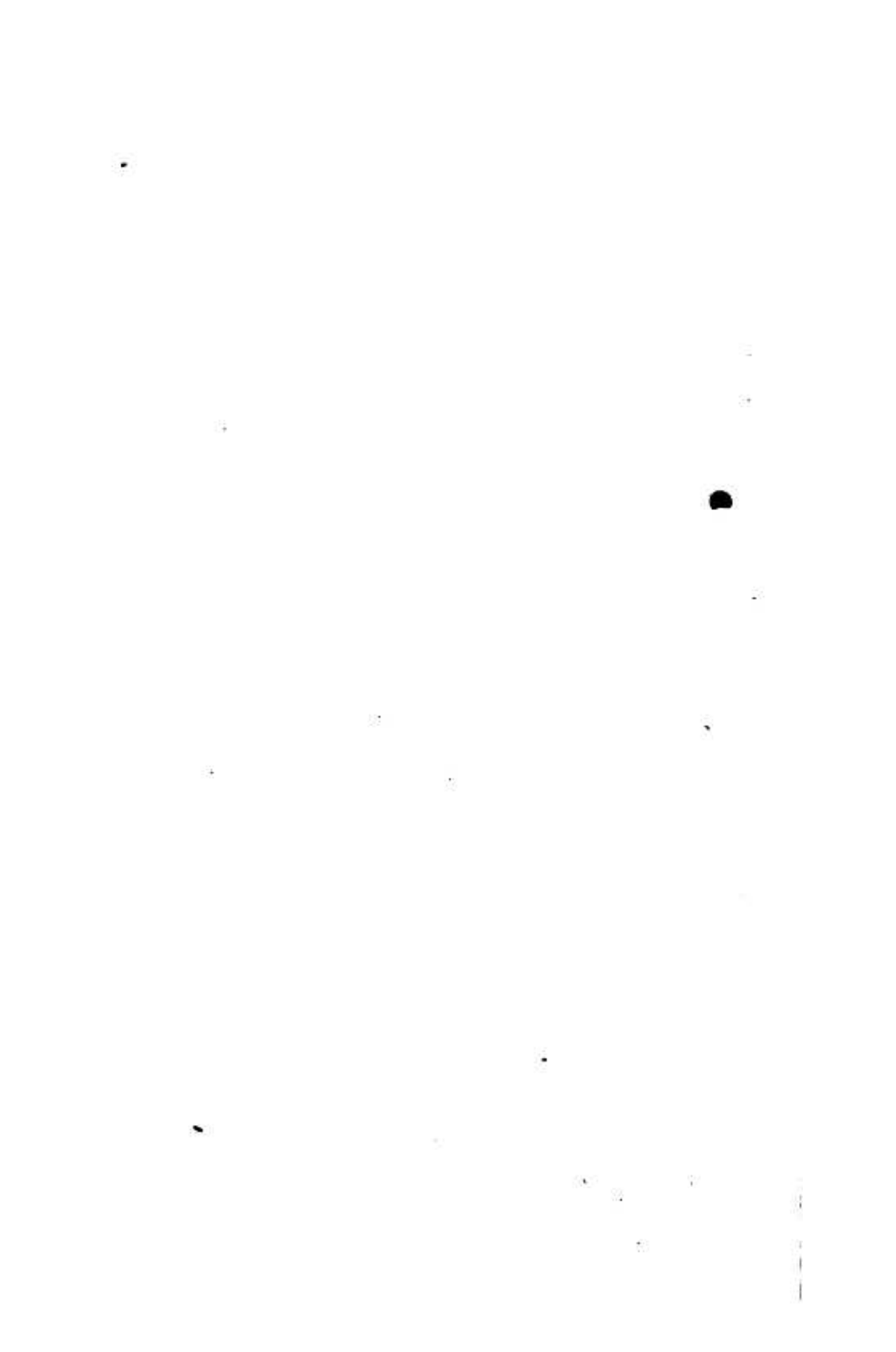
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PREFACE.

It is a common fault of mankind to condemn that most which they least understand. I have therefore given these Letters to the public, with a view to conciliate the opinions of those among my friends who are probably most surprised and offended by what they may be pleased to call my apostasy. If in their perusal of my reasons they do not find sufficient force of argument to change their convictions, they will, at least, meet with enough to soften the harshness of their judgment; they will see that there may be reasons, — and those not light ones, — why others should differ with them in the matter of their religious belief. I will beg of them, therefore, for the sake of that charity which hopeth all things, that they will condescend to give them a candid and dispassionate consideration.



LETTERS.

LETTER I.

New York, January, 1852.

MY DEAR FRIEND, —

You desire to know how I became a Unitarian. That is, by what course of reflection and of argument I was led to abandon the communion of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to embrace a system of doctrine and polity so far removed from the time-honored faith of my forefathers. I propose now, in a series of plain and unstudied epistles, to gratify that desire; and to the best of my humble ability to enlighten what you are pleased facetiously to term your darkness. You will not, therefore, expect from me a learned treatise on theology. That would be to attempt to instruct one in every respect my superior. I will but relate to you my own experience, and leave you to form your own conclusions.

You know that mine has never been a prose-