AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL AND FULL HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE PERSECUTION OF HAMLET NICHOLSON IN HIS OPPOSITION TO RITUALISM AT THE ROCHDALE PARISH CHURCH; ALSO AN ACCOUNT OF HIS WORK IN THE CONSERVATIVE INTEREST FORM 1832 TO 1892 Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

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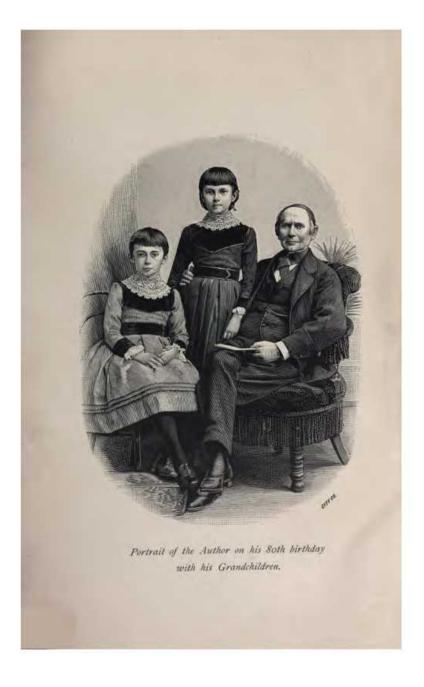
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# HAMLET NICHOLSON

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### HAMLET NICHOLSON

In his opposition to Ritualism at the Rochdale Parish Church.

ALSO

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS WORK IN THE

CONSERVATIVE INTEREST FROM 1832 TO 1892.

together with

OTHER PERSONAL NARRATIVES.

ROCHDALE, 1892.

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## DEDICATION.

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TO MY TWO GRAND-DAUGHTERS WHO ARE REPRESENTED ON THE FRONTISPIECE, WHOSE PRATTLING VOICES OFT HAVE TURNED MY THOUGHTS FROM PERSONAL CARES, WHOSE GUILELESS SMILES AND CHILDISH INNOCENCE HAVE CHEERED ME IN MANY A THOUGHTFUL HOUR, THESE PAGES ARE AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED. Symbolic designs are the crafts of the Jesuits in our Protestant Churches to lead away the innocent from the pure worship of One God through One Mediator Only.

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### PREFACE.

For many years it has been my intention to compile an account of some of those incidents of my life that have here and there, on the way, had such public prominence that they might possibly interest those into whose hands such a history might fall; but, beyond any mere personal reasons, several old friends have expressed the wish that I would not depart from this sphere of action leaving such a work undone. Besides these considerations, there are at the same time, motives of my own which have prompted me to take this course; and it is due to myself, and only consistent with my own individuality to say, those motives are the natural associates of a desire to arrest the slanderer's tongue when I can no longer be there to repel it.

The secrets of the heart are only known to its possessor; and however much we may desire to be rightly understood when dealing with our fellows, it is always possible that we may be viewed through the eyes of prejudice, and instead of our conduct being estimated according to a right use of the reason, and charity, we may get credit for the worst motives and become the victims of injustice.

I might have passed in silence to the grave and been forgotten, but I conceived it my duty to be heard.

The time of turmoil is gone; some actors in past scenes have "shuffled off this mortal coil," and those that still remain may react their parts in memory, and in the light of wider experience discern their misconceptions and wrong judgments.

#### PREFACE.

My story is a true one, and told as the incidents bear their impress on my mind; it is for my reader, therefore, to estimate my character and conduct according to the evidence presented : let him emulate or disregard it, as befits his judgments.

In the narrative itself something historical is sure to befound; indeed 'tis but a history I write; but, as will be seen, it is full of the vicissitudes of an eventful and long life, wherein will be read that which may encourage the weak to battle against the strong: and though defeated, he may rise, under the help of Divine Providence, renewed with strength to fight and fight again, and to have the assurance of a good conscience, in the end he has not fought in vain.

Thus I launch my little book upon the sea of time, and take upon myself the everlasting consequence.

#### HAMLET NICHOLSON.

Kilner Deyne Terrace, Rochdale,

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