

LEX ORANDI: OR, PRAYER AND CREED

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Lex Orandi: Or, Prayer and Creed by George Tyrrell

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GEORGE TYRRELL

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OR

PRAYER AND CREED

BY

GEORGE TYRRELL,

AUTHOR OF "HARD SAYINGS," "NOVA ET VETERA" ETC.

Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs
of thistles? A good tree cannot bring
forth evil fruit, neither can an evil tree
bring forth good fruit.

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RELIGION's all or nothing; it's no mere smile
O' contentment, sigh of aspiration, sir—
No quality o' the finelier tempered clay
Like its whiteness or its lightness; rather, stuff
O' the very stuff; life of life, and self of self.
I tell you, men wont notice. When they do,
They'll understand.

ROBERT BROWNING.

INTRODUCTION.

TRUTH can and ought to be approached from many sides ; it is not different because these aspects and approaches are different. The same city will offer as many distinct views to the sketcher as there are points in the surrounding horizon ; but by no summing together of these sketches can we bring the whole within the compass of a single inward gaze. Religion too can be set before us under different presentments, all true in their way, but none, nor all together, exhaustive of the reality. We can recognise under various descriptions a face that we have once seen ; but if we have never seen it, no description can bring its full individuality home to us. Yet it will aid us greatly in our search for it ; and