

## WHO ARE THE ORTHODOX ?

"ORTHODOXY" has long since got to be a term of very loose usage in the religious world. Almost every party claims it, and almost every party has it conceded to them. Its use has become so indiscriminate that some do not care for seeking it. As a party term, it is frequently used as antagonistic to Unitarianism. When speaking of our Trinitarian fellow Christians, we feel no hesitation in giving it to them as such. We are not of those who quarrel about mere terms. In designating parties, we are generally disposed to use those names which are least offensive to the parties themselves.

Yet, when we come to seek the precise meaning of this term, we may discover that it does not lie so near the surface as many suppose. Who are the orthodox? Let an accomplished Trinitarian Professor answer the question; we mean Dr. Campbell, Professor of Divinity and Principal of Marischal College, Aberdeen. "As to orthodox," says Dr. C., "I should be glad to know the meaning of the epithet. Nothing, you say, can be plainer. The orthodox are those who in religious matters entertain right opinions. Be it so. How then is it possible I should know who they are that entertain right opinions, before I know what opinions are right? I must, therefore, unquestionably know orthodoxy, before I can know or judge who are orthodox. Now, to know the truths of religion, which you call orthodox, is the very end of my enquiries; and am I to begin these inquiries on the presumption, that without any enquiry I know it already? \* \* \*

There is nothing about which men have been, and still are, more divided. It has been accounted orthodox divi-