

hopeful children, dear to them as ours are to us ; and say ' you must dissolve this bond that has united you, and break up this happy home, or you and your house must remain permanently cast out of the pale of the Church of God?' Can we do this, when all our warrant for saying so is a clause in a Confession, framed by fallible men ; which clause is not established by the Scripture passages adduced, and cannot be established by any other word of God's? Give us relief, we implore, from this crushing doom of Excommunication and from the guilt of pronouncing it, if it is not in accordance with the will of Christ. How to mark disapprobation of these marriages and to discourage them by a proper discipline, it may be difficult to determine. Still, the Church should calmly look the matter in the face, and above all things eschew the guilt of casting out any one whom Christ has received, and against whom no moral delinquency can be established.