

but also that he assents to them, and believes them to be agreeable to the word of God. If a man's principles are so lax that he will use a Liturgy which he does not believe to be in accordance with the word of God, it is useless to attempt to keep him out by any declaration; whereas a thoroughly conscientious man may feel scruples about the more stringent form, if there is a single sentence with which he is not altogether satisfied.

There is room for difference of opinion as to the merits of these alterations; but I am persuaded that our wisest course is to continue in strict conformity with the Mother Church, so long as we can do so without any serious loss or inconvenience therefrom. It has been indeed determined that we are free from all legal obligation in this respect, so that we may continue in the old course, or adopt the modifications introduced there, at our discretion; but we must not close our eyes to the danger that the several dioceses, being isolated, may in time differ both in doctrine and practice from the parent, and from each other, unless we thus follow the guidance of those from whom we fear that we are to be partially severed. I believe that ultimately the universal adoption of the Provincial system will be accepted as the only security against such variations; and it may be that the political union of these Lower Provinces with Canada will render it expedient for us to accept the offer, formerly rejected, to be included in the Province of Montreal. The Synod of that Province has addressed the Archbishop, and also the Convocation, of Canterbury, praying that a general council of the members of the Anglican communion may be held, in order to devise measures for the preservation of our connection with the Church in England. To one of these addresses a favorable reply has been received from his Grace; the other having been discussed in the Lower House of Convocation, led to a unanimous resolution, "that his Grace the President be respectfully requested to direct the appointment of a committee of this House to consider and report upon the petition of the Canadian Branch of the Anglican Church."

Some persons may be so selfish and narrow-minded as to care little about anything which does not immediately affect themselves; but they who understand anything of the Communion of Saints, or who coincide with the noble sentiment of the heathen poet,* cannot but feel deeply interested in the trials of their brethren

* *Homo sum; humani nihil a me alienum puto.*