

which we are not, I believe, at present discharging. Men are seeking help in Hypnotism, Mental Suggestion, Faith Cure, Christian Science. They should seek it in the Church, for she can give it to them and give it in the highest way. Quite a number of people are asking that the Church fulfil St. James' injunction. I have myself been asked to administer Unction, and that by one who belonged to the Irvingite body. I did not think I was justified however in complying, as I thought the Church ought first to give some such consideration to the subject as I am asking her to give now. I commend the matter therefore to your earnest consideration.

There is nothing superstitious in the prayerful use of Unction as a sign and symbol of the conferring of God's help. When the whole British world celebrated the solemn consecration of its King and Emperor, by the central act of anointing, there was no one who said: "This anointing is a vain, a superstitious ceremony." Rather we felt that there was about the rite the halo of something that was more than a mere edifying tradition, a power that was something more than a mere legalizing of the exercise of the sovereign office. I am confident that, unless we read the Bible wrong, unless the primitive Church read it wrong, unless we read our Church's Commission wrong, there is a power resident in our branch of the Church Catholic, through the might of Jesus, part of whose Mystical Body she is, which we do not exercise, but which the world needs now as it needed it in primitive days, and which it will need till the end of time. I ask this Synod then, after quiet, calm deliberation, to take the first step in a movement which may once more send the presbyters of the Church, to hear to the bed-side of the sick who desire it the scriptural, primitive and authoritative means and symbol of God's healing and strengthening power.