

some men why they are Churchmen—why, in preference to all the sects by which we are surrounded and assailed, they follow the rule of faith and worship, and they will tell you that they like it best—because they were baptized in the Church, and brought up in her communion—because they approve of her system, or admire her Liturgy. But any one or all of these are inadequate reasons for giving ourselves first to the Lord and then to the Church; and there is not one but may be over-matched by the adversary—not one that is proof against the ingenious devices of heresy and the proselyting zeal of schism.

If we are to have the manly piety of our ancestors—if we are to retain the inflexible integrity of our martyrs, we must be Churchmen with better reasons and upon sounder principles. We must be Churchmen because we believe in the divine origin of the Church; the sacred depository of divine truth, the privileged possessor of a divine ministry. We must be Churchmen because the Word, the promise and the presence of Christ are identified with her confession of faith and the exercise of her ministry; that when “He breathed upon his disciples” he entailed upon them and their successors an indefeasible authority, and that He pledged Himself to its vindication when He said “Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world.” In one word, because there is everything in her constitution and character to mark her as “*The Church of the living God, the pillar and the ground of Truth.*”

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S BLESSING IN BUILDING A CHURCH.

O Eternal God, Who dwellest not in temples made with hands, and yet hast been graciously pleased to promise Thine especial presence in whatever place even two or three of Thy faithful servants are met together in Thy Name, look mercifully upon us, and be pleased to accept our intentions and endeavours for the building of a House for Thy worship and service: O Lord, in Whose hand are all hearts, to turn and dispose them as Thou wilt, give us grace to subdue all selfish and proud thoughts, and purely and zealously to intend Thy glory and the good of souls. Sanctify our thoughts and intentions, our words and our actions, that whatsoever in this holy work we think, or speak, or do, may be well pleasing and acceptable to Thee. Prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us, for Thy dear Son's sake, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Bless, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the means used in this Parish to promote the true worship of Thee within the walls of Thy House, and grant that whatever is designed and done may be entirely for Thy glory, and for the good of Thy Church and people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this House lie waste? *Haggai i. 4.*

Surely, I will not come into the tabernacles of my house, nor go up into my bed; I will not give sleep to mine eyes or slumber to my eyelids, until I find out a place for the Lord, an habitation for the mighty GOD of Jacob. *Psalms cxxxii. 3, 4, 5.*

PATIENCE and CHARITY.—Virtues which some people think every one wants but themselves.