

important practical duties of the Ministry; and thus God was pleased to leave me for a time to the consequences of my own presumptuous researches, so that I was deceived with the abstract idea of perfect unity, while I was searching for the living reality of an Infallible Church. There can be no doubt that all this was permitted, in some way, for the trial of my faith, "to humble me and to prove me." But while we cannot fully comprehend the mysteries of the divine dealings, still "we know that all things work together for good to them that love God;" and with the sweet assurance that "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost," producing a responsive feeling of love to Him who first loved us, we may rest satisfied with all the inexplicable difficulties of the divine dispensation in providence and in grace, and leave the final solution with Him who has said, "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

In conclusion, then, I desire humbly to commit this little work to the blessing of Almighty God, beseeching Him, for Christ's sake, to pardon whatever I may have written in it, or in any other pamphlet, through ignorance or error, which is not in perfect accordance with His holy Word; and praying that He would graciously be pleased to make it an instrument for the edification of His Church, and the diffusion of true religion among us, "that God in all things may be glorified, through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

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