

We have made it possible, for any man, woman or child, to tell the sinner that God will absolve him if he repent, but you know that in the Church of England none but a Priest can read the Absolution, and why? Because at his ordination the Bishop (whom we now address as Right Rev. Brother in Christ instead of Right Rev. Father in God), says *to him* what *he does not say to the Deacon*, and gives him, or rather claims he does, special power, as a Priest, to forgive sins. We do not believe a Bishop has this power to bestow, because the Bible does not give it to him: it is *usurped*, and dishonoring to God. Hence we have in this kept to the old paths and expunged those words in use in the Church of England ordination service reading, "Receive the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of a Priest in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands. Whose sins thou dost forgive, they are forgiven; whose sins thou dost retain, they are retained," and replaced them by these which are in accord with Scripture, "Take thou authority to execute the Office and Work of a Presbyter in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands."—*Ordination of Presbyters.*

Our 33rd article reads as follows: "Private confession of sins to a Priest, commonly known as Auricular Confession, has no foundation in the Word of God, and is a human invention. Priestly absolution is a blasphemous usurpation of the sole prerogative of God. None can forgive sins as against God, but God alone."—*Article xxxiii. (R. E. C. or) Reformed Church of England.*

From the so-called Apostles' Creed we have expunged the words, "He descended into Hell," as unscriptural and misleading, and substituted the word universal for catholic, in order that we may say what we mean and shut the door in the face of the words, "Holy Roman Catholic Church," which might yet in the Anglican Church be thrust in there, by the victorious Anglo-Catholic party when the day of union with the Church of Rome comes round. Therefore we wish to make the distinction in advance.

That this is the design, the following from the *Union Review* will show:—

"The work going on in England is an earnest and carefully