

formed Episcopal Church, as organized by Bishop Cummins and others, meets entirely my views of a Scriptural Church:

1. It plants itself firmly on the Word of God, as the sole rule of faith and practice.

2. It adopts a Scriptural Liturgy, in which no countenance is given to the Romish doctrines in regard to Baptism, and the Lord's Supper and the Ministry, and it allows Christian liberty in the use of that Liturgy.

3. It retains Episcopacy, not as of divine right, but as a very ancient and desirable form of Church government.

4. It recognizes as Christian brethren all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and as sister Churches all the Protestant Churches that hold the faith once delivered to the Saints.

#### WHAT WILL WEST VIRGINIA DO?

But though this Church commends itself entirely to my judgment and my affections, I shall wait to connect myself formally with it until I see what my brethren in the Church of Virginia and West Virginia will do in the matter. I know that there are many of them who have long been distressed and burdened on account of those Romish innovations in doctrine and usage which are fast undermining the Protestant character of the Church, who have longed to see those expressions in the Prayer-book which give countenance to such things stricken out or altered, and who, almost despairing of any reformation in the Church, must now be anxiously considering their duty in regard to this movement for a reformed Church. And I cannot help remembering, and dwelling upon the thought, that the Church in the Diocese of Virginia occupies to-day, in the providence of God, not only a peculiar position, but one of peculiar responsibility. *As yet*, by God's grace, and happily for her, she has been able to keep back from her own borders the rising tide of Romish error, and to maintain her Protestant and Scriptural faith, as no other Diocese in the land has begun to do. And now, with three godly Bishops (yourself, and Bishop Whittle, and Bishop Payne) within her limits, and a band of true men in the ranks of her clergy and her laity, she is a Church complete in herself, and can enter on this needed work of reform as no other part of the Church in England or this country can. Let her undertake it, and none dare question her right to do so; let her consummate it, and none dare impung