

Reformed Church of England, our judgment was not the same. On a primary point it was so different that the difference issued in proceedings before courts of law. We were therefore—and I have no reason of any kind to think that his belief and judgment had at all changed in any manner or degree up to the time of his death, as I know, and others know, my own belief and judgment have not—we were quite apart upon things which go very deep indeed—none other, indeed, so deep—into a thoughtful man's mind and heart. But, all this notwithstanding, in the kindly, brotherly, loving intercourse of life we were not apart. What is the one true account of this? The one true account of it is that, with all our difference of judgment touching these great matters, we have believed of each other that the desire of our hearts and the purpose of our mind has been throughout that of entire faithfulness to the Reformed Church of England. This has been our mutual charity. To this have we been constrained by the love of Christ. If it had not been so with him, I should never have been asked to be here to-day. If it had not been so with me, I could not have come.”—*Record*.

THE MOST ANCIENT CHURCH OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

The following is a brief historical account of the Church of St. Michael, Queenhithe, which was read at the closing service in the early part of last month :— “This parish is probably, in its foundation, one of the oldest in the City of London. It was originally known as St. Michael's Cornhithe, but when King John bestowed the surrounding land upon his Queen Consort, and at the same time enacted that no vessel should be allowed to unload corn in the City of London except at the Queen's hithe or wharf, the church was re-named St. Michael's ad Ripam Regine. On the site of the original church a parish church was built in A.D. 1181, in which King Edward III. afterwards founded two chantries, and in 1419 Stephen Spilman, Chamberlain of London, did the same; and he and Sir Richard Marlow, who was Lord Mayor when the celebrated Corpus Christi play was performed in the City, were both buried under the high altar William Parker, and Richard Grey, Sheriff in 1515, were both great benefactors to this church. The former church was destroyed by the great fire of 1666; a piece of the north-west wall and the lower part of the tower are the only fragments of it now remaining. The present church was begun to be rebuilt, as the stone at the corner of Trinity-lane informs us, in the year 1676 and its demolition will probably be commenced in the year 1876, after an interval of just 200 years. The stone communion table is supposed to have been the ancient altar of the Church before the Reformation, and it is interesting to find from the minutes of the vestry in 1683 that the present handsome pulpit probably stands where its predecessor did before the great fire. By an Act of Parliament passed in the reign of Charles II., the Parish of Holy Trinity-the-Less was united to that of St. Michael, and its church was given by that monarch to the Lutherans, where Divine service was, until a few years ago, performed in the German language, the church site being taken by the Metropolitan District Railway. The registers of this parish, commencing in the first year of the reign of Edward VI., contain much interesting information. We find in them a record, in 1552, of the Lady Jane Sauer (so spelt) standing as sponsor at the baptism of the infant child of Lord Delaware. Of a marriage being performed on the day that King Philip of Spain came from beyond the seas and landed at Greenwich. The clerk of the parish at this period was John Wachyn, member of the Painter Stainers' Company, and author of the chronicle so well known to London antiquarians. There is a long list of rectors of both the parishes. Among the most remarkable were William Wright, who was rector when Stephen Spilman founded his charity; John Rogers, who was the first Martyr in the persecution of the Protestants during the reign of Queen Mary; Richard Hooper, Bishop of Gloucester, who suffered in the same persecution; Dr. Dee, who was rector of Holy Trinity in the reign of James I.; Gregory Huscard chaplain to Charles II., and Dean of Windsor; Dr. Thomas Nixon, rector for twenty-one years, and Canon of Canterbury, buried near the communion-table; the late Dr. Russell, Canon of Canterbury, and recently rector of Bishopsgate; and James Lupton, the late rector, also Minor Canon of St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey, and Vicar of Blackburton, in Oxfordshire, who died in December, 1873.