

wanting indications that some expressions in our Prayer-book were purposely selected so as to admit of these differences of opinion within certain limits. And it may be a matter of question whether the existence of these two schools has not been beneficial in stimulating the life and energy of the Church. For three hundred years those two parties have existed side by side in the Church, and have found ample scope for their utmost exertions in battling against the vice and infidelity around them. In Canada likewise these two parties have always been found ; and although each has maintained its own opinions, firmly and conscientiously, there has hitherto been no open breach of christian charity and brotherly kindness. The venerable Bishop of Toronto has in this, as in other respects, set a noble example to his flock. His own convictions are doubtless strong and clear ; yet has he ever regarded himself as the Bishop of the whole Church, and not of any party, high or low. Not one of his clergy has ever been proscribed for his opinions, and among those whom he has advanced to the highest posts of trust and dignity, are those whose views diverge probably widest from his own. Happy had it been for our Church and country had his example always been followed ! Happy had it been for us, if in spite of differences of opinion we had been able to hold the great and fundamental articles of our faith, in unity of spirit, and in the bond of peace. But when we find a Presbyterian of the Church coming forward with such "Strictures" as these, when we find him calling for agitation, and endeavouring to create an unnecessary alarm, and to arouse the passions of our people by misrepresentation and virulent abuse, when we hear him stigmatising the opinions which were held by many of our most honoured divines, men of acknowledged learning and piety, human and fallible as they were, as "unscriptural and soul-enslaving doctrines," and adjuring the laity as well as the clergy to "do battle" against them,—what hope can we have, but that our divisions and jealousies will make us a by-word among the