

Or we may compare our reformed Church to a Person recovered from a dangerous illness. He is precisely the same man that he was before; but a new strength has been given him, and he is now in a happier and healthier condition.

We have reason to be thankful that at the time of the Reformation our Church steered a very wise course. God seems graciously to have kept her in a middle track, whilst others wandered to the right and left. Because the Bishops had become unfaithful to their holy calling, many Christian Bodies rejected their government altogether, and gave up Episcopacy. Because written prayers were offered in a cold and formal manner, they abolished the use of a Liturgy. But the Church of England refused to part with these things, because they were in themselves right. Whilst she cast aside all that was clearly wrong, she retained all that was sound and good. The moss that had gathered round her stem was peeled off; but every branch, and