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this subject the an of the Eng- John Scott, son of thor of the com- sage occurs in a his father's tru- rately an error," that is employ- nt day than this: ans all agree in consequence to t is, if any thing f no importance, at all. If a man wanting a leg, or ment."\*

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is conducted among dissenters, were apt to suppose that the preacher very frequently dwells on some of the peculiarities of his sect. You, however, know that the very reverse of this is the truth, and that it is seldom indeed that any observation occurs from which it could be discovered to what particular denomination he belongs. But as every Christian should be ready to give a reason not only of the hope that is in him, but of every part of his conduct as a disciple of Christ, it is proper that every member of a dissenting church should distinctly understand the grounds of dissent, and the principles on which, if he act consistently with these, he could not be a member of any National Establishment. To remind the more advanced members of the society of these principles, and especially to make younger ones, acquainted with them is the design of this Pastoral Address.

In my following observations, I shall first state the general ground on which I think we are justified in separating from any National church. I do this the more readily, as some popular works on this subject have almost an exclusive reference to the Establishment of a particular country, without placing the argument for separation from all such institutions upon what appears to me a sufficiently broad basis. Nay, one writer, whose publication has long been considered quite a standard book on this point, so far from stating the argument in that general form in which it is equally applicable to every Establishment of Christianity plainly intimates that if some of the evils of the English Hierarchy were done away, there would be, in his opinion, no serious objection to Dissenters conforming to it.

Thus, Mr. Towgood, in his *Letters on Dissent*, speaking of the period when so many excellent