

*contention; the wrong was in their quarreling; and not in their separating.* And so in the Episcopal Church to-day, *the wrong* is in there being two contending parties in the Church; *the wrong* is in one party's teaching the doctrine of justification by the sacraments, the other that of justification by faith; *the wrong* is in one party's insisting on having priests, and altars, and sacrifices in the Church, the other on having no priests, no altar, and no sacrifice but Christ; and as each party claims the Prayer-book, and the Prayer-book cannot be altered; and as separation is better than discord, *the only remedy is separation.*

#### REASONS FOR TAKING THIS STEP SOLITARY AND ALONE.

Another difficulty which for days kept me undecided, was the feeling that, in such a matter, there ought to be concert of action on the part of the Low-Church party. But the question was, how was this to be brought about? I have never entered into any secret organization, have never taken part in any secret caucus, and especially in this matter have felt that whatever was done ought to be done openly before the Church, and in the broad light of day. For this reason, a secret meeting to secure concert of action was out of the question. On the other hand, a public meeting was, for obvious reasons, impracticable. If the meeting were called for the avowed purpose of *considering the question* of leaving the Church, those whose minds were made up to take the step could not honestly take part in such a meeting. And if it were called for the avowed purpose of *effecting a separation*, those whose minds were not made up to that step would hopelessly compromise their position in the Church by attending such a meeting. And for still more obvious reasons, no Convention or Council of any Diocese could be expected to take action in the matter, until it had come to be more discussed, more considered, and better understood. Therefore, as soon as my mind was positively made up, I felt that the only course for me to pursue was to lay down at once my office in the Church, take my position distinctly outside of the Church, and from that position say whatever I had to say in justification or explanation of the step.

Under these circumstances and for these principal reasons, I have felt it my duty to withdraw from the Protestant Episcopal Church. In taking the step, I may truly say I do it by faith; for I go out, almost literally not knowing whither I go, or who, if any, of my friends will go with me. The Re-