

While studying the history of the Church of England during the period we have been considering, we have found that many Romish errors which were subsequently developed had then no existence. Truth compels me also to say some Protestant novelties were equally conspicuous by their absence. In those days if you had searched England, Scotland and Ireland, you would have failed to find any such Christians as Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists, or Plymouth Brethren, and if you had told those old British Bishops, about whom we have been talking, that Episcopacy was all a mistake, that no ministry at all was necessary, or that priests had the power of ordination; that it was improper to baptize infants; and that each congregation of Christians was independent of every other congregation--you would have made them open their eyes with astonishment. How could they be expected to know these things, seeing that these notions were not invented until 1000 years and more after they had died?

While it is no part of our duty to judge our neighbours who adopt these novelties and make them a ground of separation from us, we may nevertheless deplore the fact that they are separated from us on these, or any other grounds. The Church of England is perhaps the only