

is now possible, as Dr. Barry has ventured to suggest,¹ for them to make this "well of English undefiled" their own, at this late day, it is, as he says, for the constituted authorities to decide. I would only presume to suggest, for my part, that, since it is the aim of the secret foes of Christianity to make void the authenticity and Divine authority of the Bible, and since it is to our interest, no less than to that of orthodox Protestants—much more, if anything,—to maintain that authenticity and authority, a common Bible, a common Scriptural phraseology would unquestionably be a source of strength to them and to us.

The alliance, therefore, between the Church and those of her separated children who still cling to the Person and Divinity of her Incarnate Lord and theirs, in the face of His enemies; who still hold, in spite of all the insidious assaults of modernism and of the self styled higher critics, to the authenticity and Divine authority of His written Word; must, evidently, if it is to exist at all, rest on these two essentials of all true Christianity. It will be our duty, in that case, to make the most of what is common to them and to us, the oneness, namely, of the Christ-life in all who are His; theirs, to put out of sight, as far as possible, the doctrines and practices wherein we differ from them.

It is in this respect, as I honestly believe, that a common Bible would be of untold service in promoting a better understanding. And, in urging on English-speaking Catholics a closer study and more reverent familiarity with the Sacred Text, I am only urging a return to the spirit and practice of the Saints, the Doctors, and devout laity of the Church, prior to that loss of so many of her children which she has never ceased to deplore and to suffer from. Moreover, since it is only by increased devotion to the Saints that we can hope to attain, in any measure, to their likeness to Our Blessed Lord, it is, surely, only our wisdom to follow the path they have marked out for us. It is the Bible which,

¹ "Literary Aspects of Old Testament." *Dublin Review*, July, 1909.