

Scripture. Remember, now that it was not from Roman books that I drew this conception, which has now grown into a firm and irrevocable belief. It was from strictly Episcopal works, and the idea was drawn from the rules of faith and the canon of Holy Scriptures. The rule of faith is the teaching of Scripture with regard to these points essential to salvation, and the doubt rose in my mind whether it was not that the Roman Catholic teaching was the right and the Episcopal the wrong one. With regard to the canon of Scripture, the doubt was whether the Roman Catholic Church was not alone empowered with authority to speak as to its interpretation and its divine derivation. These doubts began to assail me eight years ago. I bore up under them as best I could, but they were torturing. For five or six years I continued to discharge the duties of my sacred calling, and to believe implicitly what I taught, but I could not. The demon of doubt was upon me, and night after night I sat up and wrote out my thoughts, and year after year enlarged them as new ideas occurred to me. All this was done secretly, and I tried as much as possible to divert the attention of my congregation from myself, so that they would not discover what was passing in my mind. I think I was successful in this, and that they never knew, until I made it known, that I did not believe all I said. I never mentioned it to any one; not even my wife knew of it. I bore it as long as possible, and at last I could stand it no longer. I resigned my charge in Clinton the first of last January, and after I had got the papers upon which I held inscribed and elaborated my doubts and thoughts in good shape, I went to Bishop Lyman and stated the trouble. The Bishop argued with me and presented his convictions, the teachings of the Church, etc., but none of them could remove the difficulties, and I could think of nothing else to do but to come to Baltimore to confer with Archbishop Gibbons. The Archbishop coincided with me in the main, but corrected me on several points and advised me to do as I have done. His advice was in accordance with my desire and I came here last Monday week to obtain rest and quiet and to read. It is Mr. Gilliam's intention to receive conditional baptism in the Roman Catholic Church and to sever entirely his connection with the Protestant Episcopal. He stated that he would enter the Catholic priesthood, but that a bar to this existed in the fact that he is a married man with four children—all boys.