

Rome, the Church of England set herself to remove the errors in doctrine and in practice, which had been developed in ages of ignorance, and which obscured the true faith. But her continuous historic existence has ever been maintained, by a due succession of bishops who have handed on their authority from age to age, and she is to-day the same ancient historic Catholic and Apostolic Church which has ever guided and controlled the spiritual life of the English people from the time they first embraced the Christian religion.

But while we have just ground for glorying in the antiquity and history of that beloved part of the One Catholic and Apostolic Church with which it is our happiness and privilege to be in communion, we must ever remember that the Church in every age is very much what the people of that age make it. The present age alone we can call our own. It is in vain for a man to boast of the deeds of his ancestors unless he shows by his own life that he emulates their example, so also it is vain for us to boast and glory in the past of the Church of England if we do not also, each in his station and calling do his utmost both by precept and example to make that part of the Church in which our lot is cast in this day a praise and glory in the earth.