

"If the words of the English Church in the English Prayer Book are not to be understood in their plain, simple, literal English sense; if, when she says, 'seeing, dearly beloved, this child is *now* regenerate,' she is *not* to be understood to mean that the child *is* regenerate, then doubt, suspicion and scepticism will lurk beneath her altars, and steal into the most solemn mysteries of religion. Then, *faith in subscriptions to Articles will be no more*; and all confidence in her teaching and in that of her ministers will be destroyed; and so a grievous penalty will be inflicted on her and them; a heavy injury will be sustained by her people; and *the English name and nation will sink low in the scale of honesty, sincerity, and truth.*"

Once more, at a meeting of Bishops held in Sydney, New South Wales, in 1850, the following declaration was adopted: "We believe that *it is the doctrine of our Church that all infants do, by baptism, receive this grace of regeneration*"—that is, as just defined by themselves, a "work of God," by which those who are its subjects "die unto sin, and rise again unto righteousness, and are made members of Christ, children of God, and inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven." Returning now to Canada, we find the Bishop of Toronto, in his Charge of 1847,* using this extract from the Sermons of Rev. Henry Melvill:† "That the Church of England does hold, and does teach, Baptismal Regeneration, would never, we must venture to think, have been disputed, had not men been anxious to remain in her Communion and yet to make her formularies square with their private notions. We really think that no fair, no straightforward dealing, can get rid of the conclusion, that the Church holds what is called Baptismal Regeneration. You may dislike the doctrine, you may wish it expunged from the Prayer Book; but so long as I *subscribe to that Prayer Book*, and so long as I *officiate according to the forms of that Prayer Book*, I do not see

*Page 55.

†Vol. II., Sermon 8.