

he is a useful and honored member of the synod of which he has been nearly twenty years a member.

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WISE AND WEIGHTY WORDS.

The following memorial signed by a large number of leading Churchmen, including Canons Gore, Scott Holland, Newbolt, Rhodes Bristow, Dean Luckock, Professor Sunday and others, has been presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury relative to his recent ruling on the incense question. With the general principle laid down in the memorial we are in hearty accord. New wine cannot be put into old bottles. A consistent and impartial enforcement of the Elizabethan Act of Uniformity, would rend the Church to pieces. Under its provisions the singing of hymns is illegal. Mutual toleration, within the widest possible limits is the only hope of the Church of England. When will people learn that their way in matters non-essential is not the only way?

"We, the undersigned, being members of the Church of England in holy orders, and keenly desirous that the lawful disciplines of the Church should be effectively asserted over its members and loyally obeyed, venture, for that very reason, to represent to your Grace that, however clearly it may seem to us to be the duty and the wisdom of those clergy whose ritual is touched by your Grace's recent ruling, to conform to its requirements so far as they are desired to do so by their Dioceses,

we are, nevertheless, compelled to regard with the gravest anxiety the rigid interpretation given in that ruling to the Act of Uniformity of 1559, as continued in 1662—an interpretation which would, we fear, go beyond the matter immediately under decision, and which does make even so minute an usage as the saying of 'Glory be to Thee, O Lord,' before the Gospel, in the strict sense' illegal.

"We humbly submit (1) That neither the Elizabethan, Jacobean, nor yet the Caroline Bishops, whether before or after 1662, considered themselves to be thus stringently confined.

"2. That there were many important details, some of which were afterwards specified by rubrics in 1662, which were continuously practiced, and, in some cases, enforced without any rubrical under direction the Elizabethan Act.

"3. That the common law and usage of a Church should be always considered in their place by the sides of the Statute Law. "And we most earnestly plead that, in view of the complete change of circumstances which has taken place since the passing of the Acts, and in justice to the Church, engaged in an immense and many-sided work which is bound to depend largely on enterprise and experiment, the interpretation given to the rubrics should be as wide and free as their language will reasonably permit; and that a stringent uniformity, however impartially enforced, is the last thing which the needs of the day require.

Commenting on the above the *Guardian* says, among other things :—