

1.—GOD'S RULE IS DIVERSITY, NOT UNIFORMITY.

“That there should be divergences of opinion on points of doctrine and practice among those who are yet sincere sons of the Church of England, we must concede to be inevitable and allowable—inevitable, since it has pleased God to endow the human mind with so wide a diversity in its views of truth and its processes of thought; and allowable, because the authoritative standards of our Church have been wisely framed with a sufficient comprehensiveness of range as to their construction to embrace such diversity.

“Unity is, without doubt, a necessary mark of the true Church of Christ—may we strive with all our hearts to attain to it!—but I do not believe that to realize that unity for which He prayed and taught us to pray, it is necessary that we should wait until our own visionary dream of uniformity is fulfilled. Indeed, a study of all God's works in nature goes to demonstrate that not uniformity, but diversity, is His rule—in the works of man it is the latter feature that is recognized as pleasing; the former is, by common consent, avoided as offensive to instinctive taste; and we feel that the truest, most complete unity is that which is attained by the harmonizing of diversities into a consistent, agreeing whole.”

2.—THERE ARE PARTIES, AND EACH HAS THE RIGHT TO EXIST.

“It is fruitless for us to deny, brethren, it would be unworthy for us to apologize, that there are parties in the Church. I trust we have learned enough wisdom from the past frankly to accept the position; and that each party is willing honourably to concede to the other the right to exist and to claim a just recognition—so long, of course, as its doctrines and usages are within the legitimate limits of a fair and honest interpretation of the formularies acknowledged by both. Constituted thus, as our Church is, he could never be a true Bishop of the Church who allowed himself to be the Bishop of a party.”

3.—NO COMPROMISE—BUT TOLERANCE.

“I am compelled, of necessity, to tread upon dangerous ground; and feel the greater need that therefore is for pre-