

battlements and confronts the foe? I must repeat it, it is not I who began the conflict, I but oppose the besiegers.

Let me return to "Church Furniture." I spoke particularly of the Communion Table. Now, in the same letter signed "one who was present," if your Lordship does not, I certainly do see some one "pining after Church furniture," &c. I cannot help thinking that the author of that letter most deeply regrets the absence of altar, super-altar, and steps—if he does not he has been most sadly misunderstood by an enormous number of people. But am I wrong in supposing that your Lordship wishes to have the Communion Table raised to at least a certain height? I am not now speaking of any reason which might be assigned for it, but simply of the fact. That some one exists in the Diocese who would wish for the three steps is to be clearly seen in the letter in the *Church Chronicle*. And with regard to cloths of handsome and rich embroidery, I have heard the costly and beautiful cloths on the table at the Cathedral admired very much by people of excellent taste in matters of art; and indeed have been told that the "fair white linen cloth" on a late occasion was so scant that it scarcely if at all concealed from view the exquisite workmanship. In speaking of approaching the table with awe I certainly am at liberty to use my own eyes and gather from men's conduct and gestures whether they esteem one place more sacred than another, and as I have seen men turn round to the Communion Table, it is certainly a natural conclusion that they esteem it more than ordinarily sacred.

As regards the alterations at St. Paul's, in which I was deeply interested, and about which I spent a considerable amount of time, the answer is very simple. The greatest part of the alteration was purely utilitarian,—whatever ornament was added, such as a better reading desk, had no symbolism in it, and could not possibly be construed into having any such meaning.

There are only two or three other points to be treated of before I reach your observations on my summary. First, concerning your Charge in reference to the Greek Church. As it so happened that I do know something of that Church, its tenets and its rites, I was grieved and pained to the last degree to hear that measure publicly advocated. It is true the bodies referred to by you, in