

blot out, or to blur, the boundaries which God has set to it. To do this is not liberality, but treason. Nor, on the other hand, is strict obedience and humble adjustment of ourselves to His plan—in the minutest revealed particulars—narrowness, but only loyalty. The contrary to this is neither breadth nor magnanimity, but disobedience, disloyalty. It is inconsistent with any true Humility or Obedience, and therefore, with any perfect Godliness.

There are those who speak and write as if in this respect we were to some extent masters of the situation—almost as if Man were the master and God the servant. As if God's plans might be modified to suit man's departures. Some indeed speak as if God existed only to take care of man. As if all past eternity, before our creation, were of no importance in the history of the universe—as if the real importance of things came in when, five or six thousand years ago, this petty earth of ours—one of the smallest even in this our small solar system—was made and peopled, going so far sometimes as to pronounce a perfect man the noblest being next to God in the universe.

What indescribable nonsense! What ineffable vanity! Man who, being created perfect, has not had the grace to stay as a merciful God made him! Man, the helpless being in himself that he is, breathing, existing, only by the present and upholding strength of God; man, the thankless sinner that he is; man, who, the world over, neglects, forgets, disobeys his infinitely wise and good Ruler; man, who, made in the image of his Maker, has stupidly lost it—that such a being should put on airs of spiritual nobility, and think and speak as if God and the universe existed, or were made, to do him service! And then, that this sinful, weak and foolish being, having been graciously relieved from the disgrace and punishment he had brought upon himself, and placed in a divinely organized school of instruction for his own betterment, and in order that he might become fit to be allowed to enter Heaven; placed, I say, out of sheer pity, in a school of Divine instruction, brought out of the unbounded evil influences of a wicked world into a fold of safety, and under the direction of a most wise and merciful covenant, that he should be so foolish, as to think that he can tamper with the strict conditions of that covenant of Mercy, and interpret away its declarations, and throw down its barriers, and eviscerate its decrees, and then imagine that the Most High, the dreadful God, will tolerate his folly and impiety.

God, my friends, has in the person of His Son, set up his government in our midst, and commissioned His own officers to administer

its affairs, and has established within it, His ordinances. He has given us His Holy Catholic Church to govern, not advise us, and that it may be able to do this has given to it His Holy Spirit, and has promised to be with it to the end of the world. Among other things he has declared the terms upon which he will admit us to His Kingdom and Covenant, and pardon us, and vouchsafe us the privileges of this Covenant. And he expects us humbly and thankfully and without questioning, to submit. If we submit He will make His yoke easy and happy. But we must unreservedly submit, we must be willing to take the yoke. No ideas of human dignity or of human independence can be allowed to come in and modify the terms of submission. We are not independent nobles by creation or nature, or even independent individuals; we are helpless and dependent, and we have made ourselves miserable sinners, and, in sheer good sense, should feel and admit our sinfulness and insignificance.

God help us, my brethren, we need His help.
—*From the Council Address of the Bishop of East Carolina.*

BISHOP BOMPAS.

The *Awake* says: Bishop Bompas of Selkirk, that is, of the Klondyke country, in the cold North-West of Canada, was very ill for three months during the winter, from over-work and want of food. Green food was sent to him just in time to save his life. He now writes cheerfully. He tells us that the miners are getting disgusted and are leaving the country, so that not more than 20,000 are likely to be left for next winter. Last winter several Indians died of starvation.

CHRISTIANS AT HEART.

The Rev. J. M. Paterson, of Agra, North India, writes:

"The work in St. John's College, Agra, amongst the heathen students is also full of interest, and gives us great cause for thankfulness. This year a Hindu student in the B.A. Class came very near winning the Scripture prize from the Christians. Last year a Hindu actually did win it, and our Christian boys were very much ashamed. This Hindu I firmly believe is a Christian at heart. In the College Debating Society he has often spoken up boldly for Christianity, and his life and character are full of gentleness and love. I said to him, after I had looked over his Scripture paper, 'I believe you are a Christian at heart.' He smiled and looked pleased. I then said, 'But Christ said, "He that denieth Me before men, him will I deny before My Father, and the angels in Heaven!" The poor lad hung his head ashamed, and looked much troubled. Dear friends, please pray for this boy: so near to the Kingdom, and yet outside. It is my firm belief that there are many such.'"