

destined to drift on yet further and yet faster in the same direction. It cannot be otherwise. It follows as a logical necessity from that division in the Church, and from those unscriptural views of the effects of baptism and of the nature of the Lord's Supper and of the office of the ministry, to which reference has already been made. Just in proportion as those views spread and prevail in the Church, will the Church become more exclusive in its character and more unchurching towards other bodies of Protestant Christians.

PATIENCE AND PASSIVENESS OF THE LOW-CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
UNDER THEIR TRIALS—CONTEST WITHIN THE CHURCH USELESS.

And I must say that when, in the last few weeks, I have gone over all these difficulties in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and looked them calmly in the face, the result being a feeling, not of *surprise* at the uneasiness and restlessness many in the Church have felt for years past, but of *amazement* that so many of us, from love to the dear old Church, and for the sake of her peace, and still hoping for better things, have borne them so long and so patiently. And when I have seen so clearly, as it seemed to me, that the whole tendency of things in the Protestant Episcopal Church, as it is to-day, was not for the better but for the worse, I have not wondered that Bishop Cummins has at last felt himself verily *called of God* to take the lead in organizing a Reformed Episcopal Church, and still less do I wonder that many, in different parts of the Church, are, in their secret hearts, anxiously considering the question whether they too are not called of God to join hands with him in the good work.

The main difficulty, I have no doubt, with many, as for days it was with me, is the question whether a reformation cannot in the end be effected in the Church, and therefore, whether it is not a matter of duty *to fight the battle in the Church*. A careful review of all the facts of the case has left me utterly without hope in that quarter. *In the Church the battle has been fought; and in the Church the battle has been lost*. Thirty-five years ago, when the Oxford "Tracts for the Times" began seriously to endanger the Protestant teaching and the Protestant character of the Church in this country, open war was declared, and from that day to this has raged all along the lines. And as the matter stands to-day *in the Church*, as the result of a thirty-five years' struggle, the one party has gained complete ascend-