

his word, they neglect his sanctuary, they condemn his ordinances. Then he gives them up to blindness of mind, and hardness of heart, and strong delusion, on account of their abuse of their precious privileges. Brethren, I ask is not this too much our own case? We have enjoyed the means of grace from our very infancy. We have been favored with God's Word and ordinances. But we have not duly prized his Word, we have not suitably improved his ordinances. And now do we see among ourselves an awful indifference about the salvation of our souls, a woful neglect of the ordinances of religion, the sanctuary slighted on trifling pretence, and few of the young recognizing their baptismal dedication, by joining in the communion of the Church? Ought it not to be an inquiry with us, how far these things are to be attributed to the judgments of heaven, for the abuse of our privileges? "From him that hath not, shall be taken away, even that which he seemeth to have."

We apprehend that we may see the judgments of God, in that infatuation which has seized upon the minds of many in regard to popery. There are not a few who imagine that,—it has become better than it once was, that it has lost its former virulent qualities, that it has been denuded of its persecuting nature. And they take credit to themselves on this account, they think it a mark of Christian charity. But such persons are fearfully mistaken. Is it not the boast of Romanists that, their Church is infallible? What do the Scriptures say of popery. Do they not call it antichristianism? Is it not opposition to christianity? Can it be right for us to call it good? Can we do so without sin? "Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter." And has popery been divested of her persecuting spirit? Let her treatment of the exiles from Madeira, who have lately been obliged to leave their native land for their religion, answer this question. Let the body of one of her sons, cast into the sea, because popery refused him a grave within her territories, answer this question. Rome is mustering her forces and preparing for the onset; and the despots of the earth are lending her their aid. Austria, by her concordat, has sold herself to Rome. Naples has done the same. France by her soldiers maintains the Pope upon his throne. In Spain, civil and religious liberty has been prostrated. Snares have been laid for Sardinia, to bring her back to her allegiance to Rome. In Holland the Bible has been excluded from the public schools. Strange as it might seem, and melancholy as the fact is, Britain is pandering to popery. The money of the nation is given to train up priests to teach the people disloyalty, of which we have abundant proof, in the disgraceful scenes which occurred at the elections lately in Ireland. Let popery only have the opportunity and she will be as ready as ever to persecute. What were the feelings of Romanists during the Russian War. Did they not glory in Britain's disaster. And now they are gloating over the Indian massacre. Let popery only have an opportunity, and she will soon show her persecuting spirit. And we fear that this may soon be the case. Protestants, with strange infatuation, are constantly putting power into the hands of Romanists—as if there were no danger to be feared. Does not this delusion, under which we are, look like a judgment from God, for our abuse of our privileges, purchased by our fathers at so dear a rate. When the light of truth seemed almost wholly extinguished—when there seemed to be only a few feeble sparks here and there remaining—God raised up a set of reformers, who nobly contended for the pure gospel, who loved not their lives unto the death, who shrank not from martyrdom in the cause of Christ. By these the Bible was drawn forth from its concealment, translated into the vernacular tongue, and men