

duct, it greatly tends to promote that self-deception, which is fatal to the souls of men."

The whole of this ceremony appears to me to be directly opposed to that spiritual devotion which God seeketh, and which Christ enjoined, when he said, "God is a Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." It is true that there are the solemn forms—that there are the attitudes of devotion—that there is the affecting language of supplication and thanksgiving; but, for the most part, I fear there is a destitution of corresponding spiritual emotions in the heart. Such worship is forcibly described by the mouth of the prophet Isaiah, 29, 13—"Wherefore the Lord said, this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me; but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men."—Such worship, saith God, "my soul hateth."

Now, sir, I conclude:—I hope that in this examination of Episcopal confirmation, by the word of God, I have not said any thing, or made use of any term, that can be justly offensive—that is in the least derogatory to a Christian minister, or contrary to the word of God. I have pursued the examination freely, and spoken plainly; but the plainest expressions are extracted from the word of God; to which we both profess unqualified subjection;—and "whether the continuance of this ceremony, in its present form of administration, be either for the honor of the administrator, or the benefit of the church, I, with all humility, leave to the consideration of those, whom, I thank God, it more immediately concerns than myself;" but who, with the writer, are to be faithful in the house of God—to watch for souls as those who must give an account to the Great Shepherd, who will shortly come; before whom it will be an awful thing to have immortal souls required at our hands.

I am, Reverend Sir,

Most respectfully,

And obediently your's,

DAVID DYER.