

ritualistic innovations in the celebration of divine service. They did not suggest a remedy, but prayed his Grace to devise such measures as would secure uniformity.

The Archbishop replied that he was fully impressed with the gravity and importance of the subject and expressed his opinion that the first step to be taken should be to ascertain distinctly what the law allows and what it does not allow.

A memorial which issued from the English Church Union, signed by 40,000 communicants, was presented to the Archbishop on the 3rd Febry, "respectfully objecting to any alteration being made in the Book of Common Prayer." The subject of the memorial was supported by Lord Carnarvon, Archdeacon Denison and other speakers.

In answer the Archbishop said, that ~~was~~ he to encourage any attempt at a revision of the Prayer Book, he was confident he would be acting in opposition to the wishes of a large majority of the clergy as well as the lay communicants. He repeated his determination never to consent to any alteration in any part of the Book of Common Prayer without the full concurrence of convocation. At the same time he expressed his regret at the practices of those whose extreme ritualism had led to the present uneasiness on the subject.

The Church of England has cause for much thankfulness that she has in the present crisis a Primate of such firmness and moderation.

A majority of the English Bishops with several from Ireland and the Colonies met at Lambeth on the 5th February, for the discussion of the Subdiconate, of the Ritual question, and of the expediency of addressing the Western Church on the subject of Mariolatry. Their meeting was strictly private.

Dr. Colenso has written a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, remonstrating with him for having written a letter to the Dean of Maritzburg and the clergy of the diocese of Natal, in which the Archbishop had prejudged his case. To this letter of remonstrance the Archbishop has just made the following reply:—

"Lambeth Palace, February 10.

"My Lord,—I have duly received your letter of the 30th of November, containing a complaint of a wrong which you imagine I have done you by a letter that I wrote to the Dean of Maritzburg. In answer to this charge, I have no hesitation in avowing that, according to my belief, you have been duly and canonically deposed from your spiritual office, according to the common law of the Church of Christ, as set forth in the concluding paragraph of the 26th Article of the Church of England; and I must decline to hold myself responsible to you for entertaining such a belief. I have never obtruded this opinion upon others in my capacity as Primate of the United Church of England and Ireland, but I have not hesitated to avow my private opinion when it has been sought for; nor when my counsel was asked by those who were in doubt and difficulty did I shrink from imparting it. I never expected that my letter would have been given to the public, nor am I responsible for the fact; but as those to whom I addressed it have thought fit to publish a portion of it, I do not disavow the sentiment therein expressed. At any rate, I could not have objected to the course they thus took from any apprehensions that I might one day be called to sit as a judge in your case, because I have high legal author-