

It remains, I suppose, that I should give my reasons for departing from the usual roundabout ways of referring by title to the Church of England and her descendant branches in the Colonies. It seems desirable that a short and expressive term should be used to designate the whole Anglican Communion of every age and country, in a manner to distinguish it from all other Communions within the bounds of the British Empire. There is, perhaps, no characteristic of the Church distinguishing her from the various Protestant sects, so remarkable as her persistent claim throughout her formularies to be regarded as an integral portion of the Holy Church Catholic. It was in the nature of things that different portions of the Catholic Church should be distinguished by the names of the nations within whose bounds they existed, or by the use of adjectives cognate to those names, thus :—“The Catholic Church of Judea, or the Jewish Catholic Church ;” “the Catholic Church of Greece, or the Greek Catholic Church,” the Catholic Church of Rome, or the Roman Catholic Church,” and so on. How shall we follow this analogy, and defer to popular custom in the naming of our portion of the Church ? It has been called Anglo-Catholic, Reformed Catholic, Protestant Episcopal ; but the first is only partially national, the second has no national reference at all, and the third is not really descriptive of the main characteristic of the Church—its national catholicity. The nation to which we belong is composed of various materials, as Norman, Danish, Anglican, Saxon and British or Celtic ingredients ; but there is at the *basis* of the whole the British element, whether in England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland. Without definite or deliberate intention, we naturally and instinctively speak of

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