

self-organised temperance society or a working men's club. We could not then come to you as Christ's ambassadors and beseech you in Christ's stead if Christ had not commissioned us, but we came of our own accord. If the English Church were not a true and living part of the One, Divine Church which Christ hath purchased with His most precious blood, then we should have no right to call ourselves Catholic as we do in every public service; then we should be no churchmen at all; then we should only be the "episcopal" sect; then our clergy would be no clergy; and you, my brethren of the laity, would have as good a right and equal authority to preach the word of GOD, and administer the Holy Sacraments as any self-constituted clergyman of the Church of England Institution! But it is *not* so. GOD'S triune name be praised for ever! It is *not* so. The very Church of England to which we belong originated not in any human mind, but in the council-chamber of Heaven. The Church was founded by none other than the GOD-Man, our Holy Saviour, before Whom, I trust, we prostrate ourselves in lowly awe and adoration. By a succession of Godly bishops we trace our origin back to Christ and His Apostles. S. Linus was ordained to the Christian priesthood by S.S. Peter and Paul, and became the first bishop of Rome. Eusebius, the learned ecclesiastical historian of the Primitive Church in the 2nd century, traces the Apostolical succession from S. Linus onward to his own day. Then we have it continued from Eusebius to Gregory the Great, who sent S. Augustine to Christianize that part of England which had lapsed into Anglo-Saxon paganism, and he became Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 597; then the succession proceeded along through the medieval period down to the consecration of Archbishop Parker on Sunday, December 17th, 1559, in the archi-episcopal Palace, at Lambeth, London, when the Apostolic hands of Wm. Barlowe, Bishop of Bath; John Scorey, Bishop-elect of Hereford; Miles Coverdale, Bishop of Exeter; and John Hodgkin, Bishop-suffragan of Bedford, were reverently laid upon his bending head. The service of consecration began at 6 a. m. Prayers were chanted by Pearson. The sermon was preached by Scorey, Bishop-elect of Hereford, and on January the 1st, 1560, Archbishop Parker was enthroned. The succession then continues onward until it reaches our present Archbishop of Canterbury—the Right Rev. Edward White Benson, D. D., who was translated from the bishopric of Truro to that of Canterbury in the year 1883. And the ordin-