

Paul says, "labourers together with God," and to have received their authority to this responsible office from the hands of those who desired not "to run before they were sent," but who were "called of God as was Aaron;" and claim to have received, in an unbroken line, from the hands of the Apostles, their commission to send forth labourers into the vineyard of the Lord;—from the hands, indeed, of those very Apostles who, in the Chapter from which our text is taken, were sent by the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer; and who afterwards by Him were authorized and commanded to send forth others! "As the Father hath sent me," said the Blessed Jesus, "even so send I you." "Go ye, therefore, into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature, and lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world!" A Church, whose Liturgy—in its language—its sentiments—its doctrines—its adaptation to social worship, and its suitableness to inspire and to express rational and fervent devotion, is, to say the least, as near perfection as human effort has ever yet arrived. And while we "hold fast this form of sound words," and depart not from the standards of such a Church, we shall rest firm and secure in the "faith once delivered to the Saints,"—since, I believe, that upon a diligent and candid comparison, it will be found that whatever the Church teaches her members to receive, has the sanction of the Word of God; and that, therefore, when we contend earnestly for the *one*, we shall, of necessity, be engaged in defence of the *other* also. The time allowed to such exercises as the present, will not admit of my now dwelling longer upon the excellencies of the Church, which has, through the liberality of others, hitherto been continued amongst us; suffice it, however, to say, that the members of the Church of our affections need never be afraid to examine the evidences by which the peculiarities of their system are supported, for they rest upon a basis which has withstood the storms and revolutions of ages; and the more they are made the subject of inquiry, the stronger will be our conviction of the truths which they establish. Having, then, freely received such a Church, it is but an act of justice and of gratitude—it is our bounden duty, not only to defend her sacred formularies, but to do our part freely to give them to others, and to transmit them, unimpaired, to the latest generation!