

that the Church shall hold and teach, just those errors which, contrary as they are to the world of God, and to the Thirty-nine Articles of faith in the Prayer-book, and to the real doctrines of the Church, find their countenance and their only countenance in those few expressions in the Prayer-book. The movement which has already carried Bishop Cummins and others out of the Church, is, therefore, under God, as sure to go onward in some form, as waters to flow downward.

THREE QUESTIONS THAT PRESENT THEMSELVES IN THIS CRISIS.

And the great and solemn questions before the Church in the Diocese of Virginia, as to-day, in the Providence of God, occupying so favored and so responsible a position, are these three:---

Will it remain in the Protestant Episcopal Church, with the almost certain prospect of the final overthrow and surrender of its principles?

Or will it withdraw in a body, as a Church complete in itself, and thereby secure at once a Reformed Episcopal Church?

Or will it leave many of its members to withdraw one by one, "as people, being ashamed, steal away when they flee in battle?"

I know it will be said that in taking the step I have taken I have pursued this last course, and already fled away in day of battle. But if so, it has surely not been from any fear of man, or man's reproach. It has been simply on the principle that a *man's actions* will speak louder than *his words*, and simply that I might bear, in the most honest, and distinct, and emphatic way possible, my feeble testimony to the necessity for a Reformed Episcopal Church. Had I seen any other way of doing this half so effectually, I would gladly have chosen it, and God helping me, fearlessly have pursued it. And surely the struggle the step has cost me, could my brethren in the ministry and other friends only know it, and the sacrifices it involves, ought to satisfy them of the strength of my convictions and the sincerity of my motives.

And now, in concluding this letter, permit me, my dear Bishop, to add, that if anything in it shall appear to be wanting in respect to you or your office, I beg you to believe it has not, for a moment, been intended. My respect and admiration for you as the most faithful preacher of the pure gospel I have ever heard in any branch of the Church of Christ, my personal