

and practical holiness. Whenever this momentous portion of a clergyman's duty slips or is wrenched out of his hands, there is a guilt for which he alone must answer. He can not delegate his trust to the wisest and best persons in his parish, much less to persons, however well-meaning, who are without indoctrination, experience, or dignity, or discrimination, or the faculty of instructing.

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*LIFE.*

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THE life will pass into every thing. The soul's life will guide and fill and fashion all the body's life. In other words, the Holy Spirit will bear its blessed fruit in our daily, hourly, life and actings. Meekness, gentleness, a forbearing and forgiving temper, self-denial, a great desire to do good to others, a ready sacrifice of this world's goods for that end, purity in thought, word and deed, utter truthfulness and honesty,—these and such like are fruits of the Spirit, and so are signs of life. Ah! there is not much real difficulty in telling whether we have any spiritual life within us or no. Would to GOD we had more of it. Would to GOD we were less dead, and cold and stagnant in our spiritual life! Would to GOD those who have that blessed life had it more abundantly! O GOD, send Thy Holy Spirit, and fill us with life, for the sake of Him Who is alive for evermore, that as He liveth, so we may live also. Amen

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*SECTARIANISM.*

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A CONFESSION of the evil of sectarianism is frequently made by the appointment of conventions

for the purpose of finding a basis of unity. Such a meeting is to be held during the present season at Springfield, Mass. It is not to be imagined that it will accomplish anything, and if it did there would be only a temporary suspension of hostilities. The sects are founded on opinions, and to harmonize opinions is impossible. If all would agree to disagree in matters of opinion, within a limit compatible with established facts, the union might be accomplished. The essential facts are set forth in the Apostle's Creed, and the body by which the record of these facts has been handed down, is the historic Church. In England and in this country the "Episcopal" Church is the historic Church. Unless this Church can be proven to be apostate, there is no reason why the sects should not return to the Communion which they left.

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*FAITHFULNESS.*

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OUR faithfulness at any given time is to be determined by the use we are making of the grace then vouchsafed to us, and the opportunities within our reach, as well as the tension of our purpose to persevere. God in his mercy regards us as we are at each particular moment, and accepts us not even then as we are in ourselves, or because of anything in ourselves, but because of Him Whose glorious presence he sees in us, and whose mind His eye descries, however imperfectly, forming in us, On the response of the soul to His call, at any period of its course, depends the measure of its faithfulness. In true hearts to doubt the future is to distrust God. We