

This is only assertion, broad and bold assertion ; but the testimony is in good keeping, and will appear in its place. Nothing shall pass without proof. We shall look protestantism in the face, and exhibit its features ; we shall feel its pulse, and tell its spasms and hectic fits ; we shall hear its words, and report its systems of doctrine and best compound theories ; we shall examine and exhibit its aspects, tendencies, and operations, as good testimony shall justify, and give the evidence as we proceed. Reader, we ask you, for your own sake, and for the sake of others, to examine what we say.

The general features of protestantism—what are they? A single glance from two or three well chosen points of view, will answer our present purpose. Here we shall permit a sample of its prime members and robust advocates to stand forward and represent the system in its own color:—

“Every bishop and every clergyman of the Church of England has it in his power to trace up the succession of bishops through whom he received his authority, beginning with the bishop who laid his hands upon him, and going upwards from bishop to bishop, to the very hands of St. Peter and St. Paul.”

The above is the language of a doctor of divinity, while attending with other divine doctors to consecrate a new building, called a church, by imparting some papal unction through modern episcopacy, in the town of Dundas, not quite a hundred miles from the place where this pen now moves. The bishops of the English Church, it must be confessed, are a favoured race, if the preceding divinity be really divine. We take it for granted that no one even supposes that a bishop of the Roman Lady Church, past or present, could touch a chain more full of the grace of ministerial power. If this doctor of the episcopal order is not upon the same step with the ecclesiastics of Rome, he certainly stands upon something as high. If he sits not upon the same seat, undoubtedly he has a seat of the same order, and is fully as near the skies. The following, also, from its general tone, will be recognized as coming from a brother in full connexion:—

“If it were necessary, I could add a hundred instances from the bible, all going to show that it is *there* a prominent and oft-repeated doctrine, that *the act of God's authorized ministers is the act of God himself.*”

So speaks the editor of an Episcopal paper, called “The Church,” published in the city of Toronto. It must, however, mean the church of England, not the church of Christ. There is certainly a difference ;