

whatever may be said as to the "wonder and admiration," it is not at all surprising but quite consistent with Scriptural knowledge and sound intelligence, that men should view those ages of faith in traditional oral teachings and observances with *blank despair*.

The further errors in that first lecture, to be next brought under examination, are contained in the following passages :—

"This guide had been provided in the church, which was sent to *Teach all nations*, which had the promise of God to be with it, until the consummation of the world. If the church was to *teach* all nations, all nations were to listen and *hear* the church. Who were the church? Not the people, not the faithful all over the world,—for if they were to teach, who were to listen?—but the Bishops, the Pastors of the church, the successors of the Apostles ; to one of whom Paul was sent to know what he should do."

The like announcements appear in the succeeding lecture.

Here are truly marvellous and alarming utterances, which probably may astonish even some of the *lay* members of the Archbishop's communion. Its *laity* have ever been remarkably distinguished, for liberal pecuniary and other support to their church ; and it does seem rather hard that they should be considered as forming no part of it. But they have been plainly told it, by the very highest authority. Whatever this laity may think of it, all other lay members of churches will not merely demur to the *dictum*, but utterly disbelieve and condemn it.

Now let us intelligently view and examine this absurd and humiliating announcement. First, as to the origin and true meaning of the word *church* ; and next, how it is to be understood in the light of Scripture, and primitive christianity. The original word, in Greek, from which our English word *church* is derived, simply means an assembly or congregation, the nature of which is to be understood, from connecting circumstances. A very learned commentator on the Scriptures, has described the word, with reference to the church of Christ, as meaning,—“the whole company of Christians, wherever found ; because by the preaching of the Gospel they are called out of the Spirit and maxims of the world, to live according to the precepts of the christian reli