

in other parts of the world. Every true son of the Church should be anxious to have its status so clearly defined, and its organization so complete, that it may be prepared for all contingencies: we ought not to be satisfied with the assumption that no inconvenience will be experienced, and that no difficulties will occur, during our time, without regard to the future. Every one who has watched the course of events through several years past, must have perceived that a great change has been taking place, and that we are now in a transition state. The branches of the Church of England have been extending in every direction, some of them acquiring much strength and importance; and it has become evident that they could not continue in the anomalous state, with which they had previously been content. The Colonies have one after another been permitted to manage their own affairs, enjoying the privileges of self-government, and it has been felt that the Church could no longer be kept in an inferior position, deprived of the advantages and yet subject to the restrictions of an establishment. But we are slow to divest ourselves of old prejudices: we cling to old associations, and we have been afraid to walk alone. And we should have continued in the same unsatisfactory state, if our confidence had not been rudely shaken by the occurrence of events, which have proved that we were leaning on a broken reed, and that we have been in reality in a much worse position than any other body of Christians. Thus He who over-rules all things, to the furtherance of his own purposes, is educing good out of the evil, and doubtless the Church in the colonies will manifest more life and energy, and will make greater progress, when once these questions are determined, than in time past.

The contest, in which the Church in South Africa is engaged, is carried on for the benefit of the whole body, and we have reason to thank God that He has vouchsafed to our brethren there, extraordinary firmness, and we ought continually to offer prayer on their behalf, that they may be enabled to persevere. We should especially admire the noble metropolitan, who has been called to take his place in the forefront of the battle, and to bear the brunt of the conflict. Some of us may, perhaps, think that, in some of the details of his proceedings, he has not adopted the most judicious course, but we do not expect perfection in man, and we ought to