

so constituted is not properly capable of performing functions which essentially appertain to the Church in her character of 'witness and keeper of Holy Writ,' and are capable of being satisfactorily discharged by her alone. I mean satisfactorily discharged on the principles which a member of the Church is bound to recognize; because the indifference to positive doctrine, and the unlimited license of private judgment, both in points of faith and discipline, which it is the effect of the system of the Society to foster, are as much at variance with the spirit of the Church as they are agreeable to the views of some of the bodies that are separated from her. And this is the third ground which I mentioned as having influenced my judgment in coming to the decision I have done.

"I have now stated the reasons which have brought me to the conclusion that the British and Foreign Bible Society is not so constituted as to enable it to discharge, in the best and most satisfactory manner, the great office it has undertaken; and that, sensible as I am of the importance of the object proposed, and anxious to promote it, I cannot properly co-operate with this Society in doing so, or continue a member of it, consistently with my duty in other respects.

"I have, &c., &c.,

*March 2, 1842.*

"E. SARUM."

Now, without meaning to adopt and apply these remarks in every point and particular, I may be allowed, as before, to state two conclusions or corollaries, which appear to me obvious, necessary, and of great importance.

1st. That if a Bishop of the Church, of great wisdom, piety and experience, is constrained to withdraw from the Society, knowing its nature and practical working, a younger Bishop may well be excused if he hesitates to join or support it.