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"However deficient we may be thought by any in our arguments we come not behind the very chiefest in the confident assertion of our apostolicity, both in our ministerial and doctrinal succession."

"Our ministers are descended from the apostles whom Christ ordained to preach, and they were sent to all lands to convert men to the Christian faith, and they also ordained in every church, in every city or town, and after them they left others in their places to do it.—Tit. i. 5. And thus church officers were ordained by them to their calling, successively, ever since."

"The only question which excited any serious controversy then (during the commonwealth) was, not whether the ministerial succession of the Presbyterians had come down to them unbroken, but whether it had not become altogether polluted and destroyed by descending through the foul channels of prelacy."

"That there has been, therefore, a perpetual and uninterrupted succession in the Church of Christ—first, of faithful members, and secondly, of true and valid ministers, constituting in every age, however scattered, persecuted or obscured, a holy, Catholic and visible Church; this as Presbyterians, we constantly affirm."

"That in their official character the Apostles could not delegate their authority, or have any successors *in idem officium*, is generally admitted, and has been fully proved. But that in their general character, as the first of an endless multitude of heralds of the cross, they have had successors, is as firmly to be believed, unless we will altogether subvert the Church of Christ."

"That we have a ministerial succession from the Apostles cannot possibly be questioned. It is not denied by any that there ever has been, since that time, a Church on earth, in which our progenitors were found enrolled, and that in this Church there was a constant ministry."

We "claim a succession, not only in the ministry, but what is of infinitely more importance, in the doctrine of the Apostles."

"No doubt can attach to the claim of an uninterrupted succession of Presbyters, from the days of the Apostles to the present time."

"It is thus made absolutely certain, that the order of presbyters is a divinely instituted order of Christian Ministers, and that their succession from the Apostles' times to the present hour has never been interrupted, nor at any time entirely wanting, and also that these presbyters are competent to perpetuate their own order."

It will be seen that there is no dispute between the Church of England and the Presbyterians as to the "Apostolic Succession" itself, but only with regard to the channel through which it has come down to us.

W. LOGAN.

ON TO ROME.

SIR,—The so-called Reformed Episcopal Church is not unknown in New Brunswick, and though few have apostatized from the Catholic Church of England for the sake of this new schismatical body, the reason which is sometimes given for such apostacy is marvellous indeed. Some time ago I was edified by hearing an elderly lady say, she joined the Reformed because she believes just as the old Church believes. I am at a loss to know how that can be, since at morning and evening prayer the member of the Catholic Church of England, repeating the Catholic creed, says, I believe that Christ descended into hell. The Reformer repeats the same creed, but he leaves out the article, "He descended into hell." He believes that Christ did not descend there. Of course it is only men whom God filled with the Holy Ghost instruct us to say as the creed says; but I presume the words of David and St. Peter have no weight compared with the organizers of a new church. That a thinking person can imagine that to believe Jesus descended into hell is the same as to believe He did not descend there, illustrates the power of self-delusion.

In one respect, the progress of the Reformed Church is very fast indeed—I mean in its advance in the way of Popery. About five years old, it has already tampered with the creed of the Catholic Church, and removed one article. What developments may we not see if it should sur-

vive for half a century. But then rapid strides in the road to Rome in one way or other seem to be a feature that characterises nearly all those churches that claim to be pre-eminently Protestant and Evangelical.

Yours, W.

INSTRUCTION IN CHURCH PRINCIPLES.

DEAR SIR,—On this subject let me call the attention of your readers to that excellent work, "The Catechist's Manual," by Rev. E. M. Holmes, LL.B., Rector of Marsh, Gibbon, Bucks, &c., published by James Parker & Co., Oxford and London.

W.

Family Reading.

RAYMOND.

CHAPTER VIII.

Raymond had told Dr. Kempe that his stay at "Chough and Crow" could not be prolonged beyond a certain day towards the end of June; and the doctor agreed to hold a consultation with a physician from London, and to give a final decision on Dr. Lingard's case, before Raymond's departure, in order that he might help Miss Lingard with his advice, at least, as to her future arrangement with regard to the invalid.

She was not any longer in such a complete ignorance of the nature of the evil to be dreaded for her uncle as she had been in the first days after the accident, for her own observation of his state during the weeks which followed had shown her plainly enough that his mental faculties were in total abeyance to say the least of it. No look of intelligence had ever yet lighted up his dull vacant eyes, and no articulate word had been heard from his lips; he slept the greater part of the day, and was incapable even of feeding himself, though he took mechanically any nourishment that was given to him; he recognized no one, but let himself be moved about, as far as his inert helpless condition rendered it possible, by any one who chose to lift him out of his chair.

Estelle had begun to feel very anxious and unhappy at the sort of mental paralysis which seemed to have overtaken her uncle, but she still thought it was only the temporary effect of the blow, and did not at all imagine that his recovery was hopeless. This was, however, the conclusion at which Dr. Kempe had already arrived; and he had only asked for a consultation from an eminent physician in order that Dr. Lingard's friends might feel satisfied that nothing more could be done for him.

After a long and careful examination of the patient, the two gentlemen asked to see Raymond, and told him that they were entirely agreed in their opinion, which was, in fact, too plainly demonstrated by the symptoms of Dr. Lingard's case to admit of a doubt. The injury to the brain which he had sustained in his fall had resulted in hopeless idiocy, and he was now as well as he could ever be in this world. It was probable that he had no suffering of any kind, and that his existence was to him a complete blank; but he might continue to vegetate in this way for some years, and nothing whatever could be done for him but to keep his general health in as good a state as possible. He was able now to be moved from the inn, where he ought not to remain any longer, as the rooms were small and confined and the doctors recommended that a residence should be found for him at the sea-side, as a thoroughly bracing air would prove most suitable to his state of health. The London physician went on to say that it would be necessary to make legal arrangements for placing his affairs in the hands of his relatives.

"I believe he has none excepting his niece," said Dr. Kempe, "but fortunately she is a very superior person, and quite capable of managing everything for him, both wisely and prudently, young as she is."

"That is well; besides this he will require constant watching, of course," continued the physician "but his servant seems very faithful and attentive."

"Yes he could not have a better attendant than Moss," said Dr. Kempe; "he is so entirely de-

voted to him. Still I am afraid the burden will fall heavily on Miss Lingard. She will never be able to leave him; for he is not in a state to be given over entirely to the care of servants."

"Nor would she ever consent to leave him, under any circumstances, I am sure," said Raymond. "You may perfectly rely on her devoted care of him in his helpless condition; but it is a most dismal prospect for her—to be shut up alone with a man who is only half alive; and I am afraid the knowledge of the truth will come upon her with a great shock. I do not think she is at all prepared to hear that he is doomed to imbecility for life."

"There can be no doubt, unhappily that such is the case," said the physician; "and Miss Lingard must be made aware of it now in all its painful details if she is the only relation who can become the guardian of her uncle's interests and health. One would have wished, certainly that the task could have been laid upon some older and more experienced person, but if there is no alternative we cannot delay the communication for my time is limited."

"Miss Lingard wishes to know all the truth," said Dr. Kempe; "she is waiting for us now in the next room, so we had better go to her at once; and after that, Mr. Raymond, we must return to town immediately."

"I will go then and give orders that your boat shall be got ready," said Raymond, hastily; and he ran down the stairs as the doctors passed into the sitting-room, and went out of the house as fast as he could. He could not bear the thought of witnessing Estelle's grief and dismay when she learned the truth; for, although his affections had been completely engaged long before he knew her she had inspired him with the highest admiration and the warmest friendship it was possible for him to feel without faithlessness to that nearer claim.

In fact, the combination of her rare intellectual power and high tone of mind with so much sweetness of disposition and assuming grace of manner formed just the character which would have won from him all the love he had to give if she had come earlier across his path; and he thought of her very tenderly as he hurried away from the inn door, after giving his orders and betook himself to the woods, where he would be quite out of sight of her distress. He sauntered about for an hour or two, while his mind dwelt anxiously on various plans which he thought might conduce to her comfort, and also give to himself and to the one most dear to him the benefit of her friendship on which he set an almost priceless value.

When at last he returned to the inn, it was with a scheme well worked out for producing those results; and he went away rather eagerly to look for her in the parlour. But Estelle had shut herself in her own room, and it was not till late in the evening, after Dr. Lingard had been settled for the night, that Raymond saw her again.

He was standing at his favourite post on the balcony, looking up to the serene sky, where now stars alone gemmed the deep purple shadow of the night, when she came quietly out through the open French window, and set down in her usual place beside him. The soft white light fell upon her face, and he saw that she was very pale, and that her eyes were swollen with weeping. He took her hand for a moment with a sympathetic touch, which she seemed to understand, and then, as he gently let it fall again, he said to her, "Dear Miss Lingard, I feel for you so much, now that you know the hopelessness of your uncle's mental state it must indeed seem to you that there is a very dreary prospect before you."

She bent her head for a moment, to hide the tears which the tender kindness of his accents drew quickly to her eyes, and then looked up to him with a sad wistful gaze.

"It is not for myself that I feel it, indeed, Mr. Raymond, but for my poor stricken uncle. Anything that I have to bear is absolutely nothing in comparison with the thought of that old man's wasted life thus suddenly brought to a close, as in a sense it is, with all his unfinished work, the labour of years, lying in useless fragments round him."

"It is a dismal picture, certainly, and it is merciful for him that he is himself unconscious of the cruel termination of all his ambition and his toil; but to you Miss Lingard it may be some com-