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sufficient, consideration. I believe, however, we are rather to be pressed by examples, than arguments. We are told of men of learning and piety, who have gone out from us, making great sacrifices, and giving all signs of disinterested sincerity ; (I am speaking of the Church at home ;) and we are asked if this is not the way in which God leads His people ? It is notorious that the majority of the deserters have confessed and alleged that they have followed one leader and guide, without pretending, or even desiring, to examine for themselves the various points in dispute. But, my Brethren, some of us can remember ; (indeed little more than twenty short years have passed,) when we were pressed and invited, in like manner, by similar examples and authorities, in an opposite direction : when men of distinguished talents and undoubted piety made like sacrifices for new and rampant forms of dissent ; gathered followers, created brotherhoods, and opened meeting-houses of no creed or name, which have continued, in some cases, to this very day. Yes, in these opposite directions have wandered brothers, both in the flesh and in the Lord, equally talented, equally disinterested, equally devoted to the cause of CHRIST, and the good of souls. Do we then make no account of talents and piety, of learning and a holy life ? God forbid. But we may venture to say that these so different examples cannot be intended by God to guide and determine us ; nay, I think, we may go farther and believe, with much confidence, that the middle point, from which both have departed to these wide extremes, is the safe resting place. And it is well known that like defections, in such opposite directions and to such opposite extremes, sad as they are strange, have, in former days, happened in similar succession ; and therefore they who have studied