

Here we have the people individually without any discrimination constituted by *divine right* the judges of controversies, and secured from error by a kind of spiritual instinct, as infallibly as animals are taught by nature to refuse to eat that which would be injurious to them! How is it that the sects which Calvin planted in Geneva, and which once flourished there, have become so confessedly the hot bed of heresy, and the very synagogues of Satan himself? Was it by such teaching as this or from what other cause was it? Reader, you may innocently exercise the right which these gentlemen give you in forming a judgment upon this subject.

It does not seem to have entered into the mind of those sectarian gentlemen or the members of the Church Association referred to, that the full, perfect, and sufficient revelation of God's will was only one part of his gracious plan for uniting his people into one body and gathering his sheep into that fold of which Jesus Christ himself is the Chief Shepherd. Had they been attentive in the study of that word they could not have persuaded themselves that it was in favor of Sectarian Theology; for they would have learned from St. Paul that when our blessed Lord had ascended up on high: "He gave some, Apostles; and some, Prophets; and some, Evangelists; and some, Pastors and Teachers; for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the

body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ, that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up into HIM in all things, which is the head, even Christ; from whom the whole body fitly joined together, and compacteth by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, making increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Ephes. iv. 11-16.

We have transcribed this passage in full that our readers may be able to judge how far the Apostle's sentiments correspond with those of our modern sectarians and Associationists, when they tell us there is no authority in the Church beyond themselves.

The question at present is not respecting the particular form of government established in the Church, but whether there still exists or not any order of men to whom the apostolic injunction will apply, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account; that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you; Heb. xiii 17. Indeed to take the negative side of this question would only