

mination to teach and defend the intercession of saints; and why? His reason is stated in the following extract, (page 92):—

“Respecting the intercession of saints, in addition to the *X* *plea that Pearson, our text book*, is followed, I may add, that so long as I lecture on the Articles, and so doing necessarily treat of the Romish error of invocation of saints, so long must I necessarily refer to the intercession of saints departed, in our behalf; it *cannot be escaped*; I must speak of it either as a probable belief, not contrary to Scripture, or as a presumptuous and unwarrantable conceit, dishonourable to the one Mediator between God and man. The latter I will never do, because it is contradictory to my reason, and against my conscience; and my position as a teacher in the Church of England does but add to the impropriety of my doing so, as in so doing I should be setting at nought the authorities of her great divines.”

It will easily be imagined that in introducing such a doctrine as that of intercession of saints into his teaching in a public Protestant institution, and into discussion in a Protestant community, the learned gentleman would have many opponents whose opinions might have deserved more respect than he seems to have given them.

The followers of John Knox, of Martin Luther, and they of the Anglican Church, have again and again protested against the dogma of intercession of saints, yet this gentleman treats the opinions of such men as nothing more than “miserable cant,” and through the whole of his pamphlet he deals with those who differ with him in opinion, with a degree of intolerance more becoming a creed which may possibly agree with him in his doctrinal views, and commend his zeal in the defence of the doctrine of intercession of saints.

Before entering into a general view of the subject, I would call attention to the system of reasoning adopted by the advocates of this dogma, whereby they seek to gain our acceptance of the tenet. In the passage above referred to, the Provost

*how the Provost assumes that Pearson is on his side*