V. Mr. Roy's Allegation, that he has been Persecuted and Denied Liberty of Thought, is Based on Erroneous Assumptions, both with Respect to Principles and Facts.

A cry for liberty is always popular. It awakens a response in every heart. For that reason, it has been made the battle-cry of many a cause which did not deserve its prestige. Even the Ritualistic Mr. Tooth, who wanted the privilege of being paid by the Church of England to undermine her Protestant doctrines, is regarded by himself and his admirers as a martyr of liberty. Mr. Roy's complaint that his liberty was violated, and that he has been treated with unjust severity, has no justification in the facts of the case. It will be admitted that Mr. Roy's personal liberty to believe and publish whatever he pleased was not, and could not be, interfered with. That has never been called in question. It was his alleged right to retain the full authority of a minister of the Methodist Church, while he preached views, respecting the central truths of Christianity, which that Church has always held to be false and unscriptural, that has been denied by the Methodist Church and claimed by Mr. Roy. This claim, on his part, assumes that a Church should renounce the right to guard the doctrinal soundness of those she appoints to preach the truth. All his arguments on this point are in favor of each minister being free to preach anything he chooses, without let or hindrance. His pet "catholicity" requires this. In other words, his idea of liberty is unlimited license. And in respect to Churches, he evidently desires a state of things which can never exist, until there is complete indifference respecting the value of religious truth. None but those who think nothing so true as to be worth contending for,