

**CLAIMS OF THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ON NATIONAL SUPPORT**

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Claims of the Church of England on National Support by Joseph Simpson

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JOSEPH SIMPSON

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CHURCH OF ENGLAND
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NATIONAL SUPPORT.

BY THE
REV. JOSEPH SIMPSON, M.A.,

VICAR OF TILSWORTH, BEDFORDSHIRE.

—"per eam Rex et regnum solidum
subsistendi habent fundamentum."
Leges. Eccl. St. Edw. Regis et Confess.



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J. T. HAYES, 17, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT
GARDEN; AND LYALL PLACE, EATON SQUARE.

1877.

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ERRATA.

- PAGE 16, LINE 32—For “Whilgift” read “Whitgift.”
- „ 25 „ 15—For “best” read “test.”
- „ 26 „ 23—For “Paptists” read “Papists.”
- „ 45 „ 5—For “Lib. III. c. 7, 8” read “Lib. II. c. 18.”
- „ 78 „ 28—The following has been omitted :—“In hac sancta sede constitutum habemus, ut duo presbyteri, et tres diaconi in omni loco episcopum non deserant, propter testimonium ecclesiasticum.”—*Epistola Lucii Papæ I. ad Gallia atque Hispania episcopos. A.D. 253. Ex libro pontificali Damasi.*
- „ 89 „ 27—Insert “time” between “some” and “after.”
- „ 93 „ 22—For “Bede E. H. VI. 7” read “Bede IV. 17.”
- „ 93 „ 24—For “A.D. 642” read “A.D. 649.”
- „ 93 NOTE—For “Bede E. H. VI. 18” read “Bede IV. 18.”
- „ 113 NOTE—For “Waller” read “Walter.”

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

CIRCUMSTANCES having rendered a re-issue necessary, it may not be out of place, at this particular time, when the Church in this land is passing through a crisis in her history, to inform those, who seeing the title of the book may cast it aside, as treating of a subject which recent events have rendered of little interest to them, that it is not the Author's object to advocate the support of the connection between the Church and the State, as some political churchmen seem to understand it, but to furnish proof from history that the subjection of the Church to the Civil Power, has always been regarded as contrary to the object with which the Church was founded by God.

It is manifestly the duty of churchmen to strive persistently to obtain freedom for the Church to govern herself in Synod; but, of course, before she can obtain legal authority to enforce Canons, or obtain the assistance of the State to carry out her enactments, an agreement must be arrived at between them. This is the theory of the constitutional relations between Convocation and Parliament, and the rupture of those relations is the cause of the present distress

The matter is in the hand of God ; and we must not grow fainthearted, if our efforts to free our Spiritual Mother appear at present to be in vain. Let us satisfy ourselves that it is our duty to try and obtain for Her her former rights. And if, like Pharaoh, the State will not " let the people go," let us still do our duty, and await the salvation of God.

Rome and Dissent point the finger of scorn at the Church of England, and taunt Her with being the creation of the State three hundred years ago. If we are satisfied that such is not the case, we have no other course but to hold fast to Her, and strive earnestly for Her freedom.

The main object of this book is to show how that freedom has been enjoyed in past ages. May God in His own time grant it to Her again.

TILSWORTH VICARAGE, BEDS.
Whitsuntide, 1877.