to prevail; and those who at one time had based their opposition on these grounds became satisfied of their incorrectness. Hence, it was supposed by me that their continued adherence to the plan rested simply on the ground of individual preference. this being the case I did not think that the deeply settled opinion touching the question of taste comfort and convenience which had been adopted by a majority of our people in agreement with myself ought to give way, to what I thought only a preference of the Minority. Had I supposed that there were really conscientious difficulties in their way, and that they felt themselves wounded in this respect I should most undoubtedly have yielded, my own wishes if it seemed impossible to satisfy such scruples. No one would be more unwilling than myself, to trifle with tender consciences or rudely and wantonly wound them. Perhaps I did not sufficiently consider the suspicions that were then very naturally aroused by the excitement which prevailed on doctrinal subjects throughout the whole Church and the consequent jealousy which would naturally be excited by any thing carrying even the appearance of innovation. Having been myself so much accustomed to very similar arrangements elsewhere, and being well aware, that they prevailed widely in Churches administered by those known to be warmly hostile to every suspicion of novelties in doctrine

I did not probably make sufficient allowance for the feelings of those who really thought that there must be some ulterior purpose in urging there adoption here. In looking back therefore upon the past my present conviction is that it would have been better, on the whole to have yielded this point, both, on the one hand for the sake of gratifying those, who seemed to prefer another plan, as on the other to give the best practical proof that there were no hidden questions of principle lurking behind these outward ~~Appearances~~ arrangements.

In saying this, however, I must beg to be distinctly understood in the declaration, that at the time I was honestly swayed by different convictions on the subject; and in adhering to the plan adopted, sincerely believed that only a few weeks would elapse, before all would be satisfied and contented with it. If an error was committed in the course thus pursued it was at most only an error of judgement, which judgement was doubtless in some measure controlled by the excitement in which we all more or less participated.

I trust Dear Brethren that these explanations thus offered most cheerfully may have the effect to satisfy you all, that in many particulars you have misinterpreted the course pursued by me & that I am, and have been actuated in all my conduct in this matter, by no feelings of unkindness or disrespect towards you. With the deeply painful