shaken) be devoted to My cause on earth, in the pure strength & wisdom of My own Holy Spirit!

The company on board ship of a pious & pleasing RC Priest, & the reading of the memoirs (translated) of Ignatius Loyola, have been one means of bringing me apart into calm consideration of my own position in the professing church of Christ. ~~The~~ ~~wrath of~~ Similar reflections have been induced by an argument ~~which~~, last evening, with a Mormon, in which I believe the views of Friends were in dominion: ~~predominance~~. While fresh evidences multiply upon me that God permits grace to flow through many very different administrations, I increasingly love & approve the simplicity, solidity, & purity of ~~[illegible]~~ Christianity as held by Friends; first as it relates to my own welfare. In the saving of the spiritual, immortal & immortal soul, the application of the grand truths of the New Testament, under the immediate & most precious influences of the Holy Ghost, seems all that is required. It is the appropriation by faith of a most glorious scheme of wisdom, holiness & benevolence. The comfort which I have experienced on the subject of a true and adequate sanctification seems very much taken from me. The seal of the Spirit has remarkably rested, to my own apprehension, on a decided practical view of this subject. I have found help, I have drawn from above, when I have had to compose the fears or to quiet & convince the doubters on this subject; & on the other hand, the unsatisfactory, unwilling, turn towards the ordinary & guardian provisions; & the equally unsatisfactory turn towards the highest & most superstitious views of them, from many of the clergy & other members of the Ch. of England, have now had the effect of confirming me in the position in which God has (I believe) placed me in reference to this subject. It is my judgment that it would have been far better for the seceders from our society — more conservative of the heavenly dew — had they ~~continued~~ continued solid, exercised, ~~members of~~ wholesome, Friends. And surely it would have been greatly preferable, had the other parties adhered to & the more simple evangelical views of religion, instead of making so rash a retrograde leap towards popery. I am no priesthood, but the priesthood of Christ — no surplice in worship, but in spiritual communion with Him & his followers at his own table, in his kingdom — no baptism, as an introduction to the rights & citizenship of the Christian believer, but that of the Holy Ghost. I heartily crave & pray that the blessed principle in me of light, & life, & love, (even the perceptible, operative, influence of the Spirit of Christ) may consummate its three-quarter victory over the native pride, malice, vanity, folly, impatience & wickedness of my own heart. Euge Domine — eta sit — precor. The sudden eruptions of the worst of all enemies, with my cilated, are still at times appalling — Gray headed as I am, I am at times haunted by the shadows of old corruptions — so inveterate is the seed of evil in my poor soul. & Satan still plays at seasons on the irritability of my nervous system — fills me with strange fears, & bids ~~[illegible]~~ words of murmuring (in which I believe I have no heart) dart like lightning, thro' my ~~[illegible]~~ and on ~~[illegible]~~ minds