Dear Lord Lyttelton.

We seem to have come to the same point, I mean to the decision to withdraw at some time, not now, but perhaps at no distant time.

I would not withdraw now (1) because it would seem to be yielding to a senseless outcry, & (2) because it would seem to give a colour of truth to it.

But in the end I intend to withdraw because the obtrusive notoriety given by Archdeacon H[. . .] to [. . .]ing & miserable unbelief is an indelible mark—change the name or no—and alas because I seem to have become aware through this silly noise of more reasons than I knew for living life satisfied with the cosmogony and elements of the [. . .].

I am very willing to stay awhile so long as we are labouring under the imputation of infidelity, but when my friends think that their Faith has weathered the Record & the Morning Herald my purpose is to withdraw.

There is no necessity or duty to be ‘demonstrative’ about it.

This I suppose is about the sum of your ideas.

I have this morning received your paper from the Bishop of Oxford & send it on to Archdeacon [Allen] by this Post.

Believe me,

Dear Lord Lyttelton

Yours very truly,

H.E. Manning.

[along the side of the last page]

Archdeacon Manning 3 April 1849