

And when the Apostles, united in Jerusalem, promulgated the first disciplinary laws of the Church, did they not dream of asking for the *visa* of the Roman Prefect.

And when the Apostle of the Gentiles excommunicated the incestuous man of Corinth, did he wait for the confirmation of his sentence by any magistrate?

The Apostles, Sire, rendered unto Cæsar that which is Cæsar's, but to God alone did they render that which belongs to God. Their successors have done the same in every age; for He gave to them successors, as he promised he would be with them, *even to the consummation of the world.*

Your Majesty, therefore must see clearly that *the religion of Jesus Christ has not any thing to do with* the legists of your Empire. And it is these legists that are to be accused of *denying the Christian teaching*, when they undertake to legislate upon the teachings of the Church, upon the choice and institution of her ministers, and upon the validity of her laws and of her judgments.

IV.

And would that these men deny the gospel only for themselves! But, taking advantage of the position in which your Majesty, surrounded by the cares of the Imperial Government, is hindered from going deeply into sacred subjects, they have not feared to place upon the lips of your Majesty words which formally condemn what you have done. They make you, Sire, say to the Pope that the Evangelical Faith forbids you, and forbids the majority of your subjects to admit into the relations of man with God *any other mediator than our Lord Jesus Christ*; and, at the very moment when you are made to speak thus, they lead you to usurp the office of supreme mediator between your Catholic subjects and our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. At the very moment when your Majesty rejects the Pope, in the name of what you call the Evangelical Faith, these men would make of you a Pope over your Empire.

V.

So true it is that a Pope is needed, and that men who will no longer have the Pope of the Gospel seek immediately for another. It is because all theories are useless, when contrary to the nature of things. There is no society without authority; no religious society on earth without religious authority on earth. Hence it happens that the sects, when they reject the authority