

A PROTESTANT'S ANSWER, &c.

SECTION I.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

THE pamphlet recently published by Mr. Maturin, as part 1 of a "Defence" of his former work, entitled, "Claims of the Catholic Church," may, on a general view of it, be considered as little more than a repetition of the main positions and arguments contained in that *first* publication. Viewed in that light, merely, this *second* production might well be suffered to remain without any public refutation, after the several conclusive answers to the *first*,—and more especially the one of such an overwhelming and annihilating character, on every point, given by Dr. Gray of New Brunswick. There are, however, in this second publication, some additional most erroneous and dangerous positions and statements, as well as some sophistries, which for several reasons ought to receive a public exposure. The most important of those reasons is, that several assertions have been made by Mr. Maturin, in this second work, which are directly contrary to Scriptural truth,—and some of them on most essential points. This, however, may be imputed merely to his defective knowledge on the subjects concerning which those assertions have been made. There are also frequent perversions and misapplications of revealed truth, as well as misrepresentations and mistaken views as to some of the statements made by those who have written in answer to his first publication. On all these points, as well as some others of lesser importance, explanation and correction are required.