INTRODUCTION

the following tract to elucidate most clearly / . of adherence to primitive Catholic truth be any indication of our parentage, then indeed is the Holy Catholic Church of England, Ireland Sectla derichly entitled to the claim, since in all things she "holds fast the faith once for all delivered to the Saints," A leaving to the Scriptures as the Rule of Faith, and in all doubtful points unhesitatingly appealing to the primitive Church of the first centuries, when as yet she spake with one mouth, to aid in the solution of those doubts. Whether the Church of Rome can say as much is a question for her to answer, but as her rulers change the foundation on which they build their arguments to suit the times, it is plain that in doctrine, at all events, Rome is forced to wear a coat of many colours. To-day she appeals to the Fathers and antiquity, to-morrow she claims to be in a transition state, and presumes to develope truths heretofore unknown.

Anglo-Catholics have much cause to be thankful that such ground is taken by their erring brethren of Rome, for as the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth remarks, Its very name is ominous against it. What is Development? The explication and evolution of something that was wrapped up in embryo. St. Paul gives us a very pertinent illustration of this process with respect to doctrine. He speaks of a mystery. What is a mystery. A thing concealed, undeveloped. He speaks of a mystery of intiguity or rather of lawlessness. He says that

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