

Romish unity and infallibility.

Is *Rome* free from evils of this sort? Are there within her pale no doubts and disputings, no differences of faith, no unsettled questions of religious controversy? With a terrible iron hand she crushes out the light of reason and the exercise of thought, silences the voice of Scripture, mangles and vilifies the writings of the Christian Fathers. Well may we say of her, "They make a *wilderness* and call it *peace*." But after all *is* there *peace* in her borders? No, far from it. The principal lure they hold out to us is, the certainty of faith, grounded upon their doctrine of an infallible judge. But where is this infallible judge, and how are we to get from him an infallible decision? On this point they cannot agree among themselves. Some few say it is the Pope; others say no, but the Pope with his Cardinals; others deny this, and say, the Pope and a Provincial Synod; others again, nothing less than the Pope and a general Council; others, a general Council alone, with or without Pope.—They hold to the *word* Transubstantiation, but *what* the actual change is, or *how* it is brought about, they differ and dispute to this very day.—They believe in the Mass, but they cannot agree *in what* the sacrifice consists.—They assert a Purgatory, but as to *where* it is, or *what* are its pains, their nature and duration, they have endless disputes.—Many yet strive and even write against the Immaculate Conception. In short, there is scarcely a single point of divinity about which her doctors do not yet dispute and differ.*

Rome offers us *unity*? What unity?—The unity of death. But who is it that has broken up the once glorious unity of Christendom? Rome, and Rome only. Rome alone is respon-

* See this proved in Edgar's *Variations of Popery*, Bp. Hall's *Peace of Rome*, Wordsworth's and Palmer's *Letters*, and Bp. Bull's *Corruptions of the Church of Rome*. This last admirable little Treatise is published as a tract by the S. P. C. K., and ought to be in every Churchman's hands, and read, and read, and read again.