

Mr. Maturin has labored hard to make out a proof of this Romanist doctrine, asserted at the close of the last cited passage—that of the *incompleteness* of Scripture *alone* as a rule of faith. It was needful for him to do so, in order to show the asserted necessity of the “Tradition” supplement, and to embody it in that rule. It is a common and true saying, that “*actions speak louder than words*”; and it may here be applied. Notwithstanding the professions, on the part of Papal Rome, of reverence for the Scriptures, yet we know that she has always been endeavoring in various ways, to undermine and lessen their authority and influence, and, we may well presume, would, if she dare, at once set them aside entirely, as to any rule of faith, and would abide by her own Oral Traditions as fully sufficient for the purpose.

In answer to the passage in Dr. Gray's letter, that “any one of the four parts of the New Testament may, under the blessing of Heaven, conduct a man to salvation,” Mr. Maturin says: “Take, for instance, the Acts of the Apostles: where will he find in this book any statement of the doctrine of the Trinity, Incarnation, Original Sin, or other essential truths of the Gospel? Are these fundamental points, or not? If they *are*, then it cannot be true that a book which omits them contains all things necessary to salvation.” So, here we see Mr. Maturin plainly declares that this Book of Acts does not contain those specified doctrines, “or other essential truths of the Gospel.” Now, let us look into that book as to those doctrines. To begin with the first named—that of the sublime doctrine of the Divine Trinity: We know that there is no text which, in so many words, expressly declares it, but the disputed passage in 1 John 5: 7; but there are numerous other passages in the Scriptures to show its truth very clearly, and some of them in this slighted book of Acts. In ch. 1: 5, 7, are these words: “Wait for the promise of the *Father* which ye have heard of me”; and “The times and the seasons which the *Father* hath put in his own power.”