

3. "Their name of Catholic which they suppose their own due." They have certainly reason to suppose so, if the possession or prescription of eighteen ages can make it their due. "I am sure it has fixed it so strongly upon them, that even their adversaries cannot help giving it them on many occasions."

4. "The antiquity of their many doctrines. He should have said all; but this could not be expected from a Protestant.

5. "The continual succession of their bishops; their immediate derivation from the apostles."

6. "Their title to succeed St. Peter, the supposal and pretence of his personal prerogatives." Grounded upon plain scripture, as we have seen, chap. xi. and therefore no vain pretence.

7. "The multitude and variety of people which are of their persuasion."

8. "Apparent consent with antiquity, in many ceremonies which other churches have rejected: and a pretended and sometimes an apparent consent with some elder ages in many matters doctrinal." Here he minces the matter for fear of allowing too much; yet cannot dissemble, that venerable antiquity is apparently on the Catholic side.

9. "The great consent of one part with another in that which most of them affirm to be of faith. The great difference commenced among their adversaries." Whose first fathers and teachers from the very beginning of their pretended reformation went quite different ways even unto an utter breach of communion, which never since could be repaired.

10. "Their happiness of being instruments in converting divers nations." Whereas none of the reformed churches have ever yet converted one.

11. "The piety and austerity of their religious orders of men and women. The single life of their priests and bishops. The severity of their fasts and their exterior observance." All which the good natured reformation has laid aside.