

markable confirmation of his sublime principle:—"At that time there was born in a stable, of humble parents, a child prodigious in the land of prodigies. It was said of Him that at the time of His appearance among men a new star shone out in heaven; that He was scarcely born when He was adored by shepherds and kings; that the patriarchs had watched for His coming; that the prophets had announced His Kingdom. . . . At the end of thirty years the child had become a man. On receiving on His head the waters of the Jordan, a spirit like a dove had descended on Him; the heavens had opened and a voice was heard on high saying, 'This is my beloved Son.' . . . That all this was a miserable farce enacted by wretched clowns, was a thing beyond all manner of doubt in the eyes of the strong minds of that age. . . . It happened that Jesus commenced to teach a new doctrine, and work extraordinary things. His audacity, or his madness, went so far as to call the hypocrites and the proud, proud and hypocrites. The hardness of His heart was so great that He advised the poor to be patient, and then, mocking them, proclaimed their happiness. To be revenged on the rich who always despised Him, He said to them "Be merciful." He condemned fornication and adultery, and he ate the bread of fornicators and adulterers. He despised—so great was His envy—the doctors and the sages, and conversed—so low were His instincts—with the gross and the rude. He was so filled with pride that He called Himself lord of the earth, the sea and the heavens; and He was such an adept in the arts of hypocrisy that he washed the feet of a few miserable fishermen. In spite of His studied austerity, He said His doctrine was love; He condemned labor in Martha and sanctified idleness in Mary; He had a secret compact with the infernal spirits, and received the gift of miracles in price for His soul. Crowds followed Him, and the multitude adored Him. . . . In this state the question remained for the moment. Then Pilate, immortal type of corrupt judges, sacrificed the just one to fear. The Son of God mounted the cross amid mockery and insults, and expired praying for His executioners, and commending His Spirit to His Father. Everything was at rest for a moment;

but then were seen things never before seen by the eyes of men. The abomination of desolation in the temple; the sepulchres yawning; Jerusalem without inhabitants; her people dispersed and the world in arms. Cities depopulated and the deserts peopled; as the governors of nations, men who did not know how to read and were clad in skins; the multitudes obeying the voice of him who said at the Jordan 'Do penance,' and of the other who said 'He who wishes to be perfect, let him leave all things, take up his cross and follow me;' and kings adoring the cross raised on high in all places. What is the cause of these great changes, of this universal desolation? What has occurred? Nothing; only some new theologians are going about through the world announcing a new theology. That new theology is called Catholicity."

Thus did Catholic theology take hold of the world and rescue society. "Catholicity seized on man in his body, in his senses, and in his soul. Dogmatic theologians taught him what to believe; moral theologians, what he should do; and the mystics, rising above all, taught him to ascend on high on the wings of prayer, that ladder of Jacob by which God descends to earth and man rises to heaven, till earth and heaven, God and man, burning together in the flame of an infinite love, are blended into one."

The true ideas of order and authority are of Catholic origin—"non est potestas nisi a Deo." To Christian princes on the day of their coronation, the Church addressed those words of gentle warning: "Take this wand as an emblem of your sacred power, that you may be able to support the weak, sustain the vacillating, correct the vicious, and lead the good along the path of Salvation. Take this sceptre as the emblem of divine equity, which directs the good and chastises the wicked; learn from this to love justice and abhor iniquity." Catholicity, by deifying authority, sanctified obedience; there are two things totally impossible in a truly Catholic society—despotism and revolutions.

Catholic theology is concentered in the visible, supernatural, miraculous, teaching church, between which and the other societies of the world there is the same distance as between the divine and hu-