

Let me now illustrate these five points by quotations from "Steps to Reunion."

1. "I have undertaken to examine only those points on which we say that we differ. And I show that there is room for compromise. If we want reunion, it will never do for us Catholics to say absolutely that we have all along been right in everything, and that we cannot give in in anything..... We have ruled too strictly and taught too minutely. That is what our separated brethren complain of. If we have ruled too strictly, we can of course give in on that point, for that reduces itself to question of discipline. But on doctrine can we surrender anything? I show that contrary to what is commonly said by Catholics, we can surrender a vast body of doctrine. We can surrender all that is taught not by the Church but in the Church by theologians. And the difference between what is taught by the Church and what is taught by theologians is enormous." (pp. 3, 4.)

That there should be erroneous doctrines taught by those in the Church is not surprising when Father Duggan shows that "at least four errors were commonly held by the Apostles, though not officially taught; the necessity of living in common and of possessing no private property; secondly, the belief—and the practice—that no Gentiles were to be received; thirdly, that the end of the world was to come soon; fourthly, that the number of the faithful would never be great." (p. 5.) He considers that the Reformers of the 16th Century went too far, but the Catholic Church of that day admitted errors on its part, "for more than half the work of the Council of Trent is called 'De Reformatione.' And reformation, of course, means the existence of errors." But if the reformers "went too far, is it infallibly certain that the Council of Trent 'went far enough'?"

2. Father Duggan is exceedingly severe on the theologians. He often reminds the reader of Dean Stanley, although in his assault upon theology, he "out Herods Herod." "It would be a step," cries he, "towards the reunion of Christendom if we could abandon scientific religion." He adds that he knows it cannot be done, but