

motives and judgments of contemporaries, were afforded to the authors by treasure-trove dug out of the archives of Munich, and consisting in hitherto unknown letters and memoranda. The general struggle in the Church between Rigorist and Laxist was drawn out all through the last century. Now France, now Italy, became its chief theatre, but everywhere the Jesuits were the principal actors. The Order was suppressed, the Order was restored. At its suppression many hopes were entertained of deep-reaching reforms in the discipline of the Church. At its restoration it came back with its darling doctrine of Probabilism. That doctrine the Society has upheld and set forward until it has attained to a dominion such as in former times it was far from possessing. Furthermore, the elevating to the altar, and the solemn proclamation as the unassailable Doctor and Teacher of the Roman Catholic Church of Liguori, has won for the doctrine of Probabilism not only its most brilliant, but its most practical victory. No one will confound with the ordinary title of Doctor in Theology the altogether special and rare title of "*Doctor of the Church*," not "*in the Church*," whereto with much display was elevated a person so unlikely as Liguori; Pius IX. might in this act see only a due reward to the hardy advocate of Papal Infallibility, as contrasted with the Infallibility of the Church; but others saw more. "For a parallel to such an event," say our authors (*Vorwort*), "we should in vain seek in Church history. How this has come to pass, through what ways and byways, through what windings and vicissitudes the catastrophe was wrought out, have we here, for the first time as we believe, set forth with such measure of completeness as at present is attainable."

The two volumes, running as they do on parallel lines, are necessary one to the other, not in the common relation of prelude and sequel, but as text and comment, or as statement and authority. For instance, the first document in the list is a protest addressed to the General of the Jesuits, Oliva, by Father La Quintinye, against the lax moral teaching prevailing amongst his brethren of the Company in his own province in Gascony. The title of this in the table of contents is accom-