

munion. It was for refusing to accept laws of this kind from the civil power that St. Anselm was sent into exile, and that St. Thomas of Canterbury laid down his life, as the Archbishop of Westminster lately reminded his hearers, when speaking in the church of St. Edward, in London, of what is passing now in Prussia. And the Archbishop declared at the same time, to Catholics and Protestants alike, that he was himself ready to lay down his life rather than to give up his faith by a sacriligious submission to laws that are destructive of the divine constitution of the Church.

Such laws, happily, are no longer to be feared in England, where the Sovereign and Parliament would be ashamed to go back to the time of Henry VIII. and of Elizabeth. But what England, Sire, ought to be ashamed of, ought it not to cause shame every where?

How guilty, then, are those who have dared to represent to your Majesty that the profound trouble which has necessarily been felt in the consciences of men comes from *an abuse of ecclesiastical influence!*

### III.

And they have dared even, without regard to the august character of your Majesty, so far to deceive you as that you should address to the Head of the Catholic Church these words: "*The religion of Jesus Christ has not—I swear it to your Holiness before God—anything to do with these intrigues.*"

Has the religion of Jesus Christ, Sire, nothing to do with the writings of the New Testament? Well, then, *we* swear before God, to your Majesty, that these Divine writings declare that the teaching of the Church, the ministry of the Church, the legislation and judgments of the Church, do not depend upon the powers of this world.

Was it to the Emperors or to the Apostles that Christ said, *Teach all nations?*

Was it to Cæsar or Peter that Christ said, *feed my lambs, feed my sheep?* And when St. Paul wrote to Timothy, Bishop of Ephesus, *The things which thou hast heard of me by many witnesses, the same command to faithful men, who shall be fit to teach others also;* did he require the Bishop of Ephesus to apply to the functionaries of the State for certificates of capacity, in order thereby to make legitimate choice and mission of the ministers of the Gospel?