

visible presence from amongst men, and ascended into Heaven to resume His eternal throne, He has left behind Him on earth His Church to continue the work of human salvation and sanctification which He had inaugurated. He has made this kingdom of God on earth more vast and more enduring than any earthly empire. He has endowed it with an undying, immortal life; and although nations will disappear from the map of the world, and dynasties be overthrown, and the proudest thrones be shattered into fragments, and although the mightiest and greatest institutions of man will crumble away into decay and nothingness, and cover the earth with their ruins and wrecks, this kingdom of Christ on earth, upheld by the everlasting arms, shall live on forever in undying vigor, in enduring power, and undiminished splendor until that day when Time himself will look his last on a perishing world; when the sun, and moon, and stars will drop from the firmament, and when the curtain will fall for-