

bodies, so do these lying traditions, oft times repeated, conceal my face from you. You have been taught to believe that I have hidden away God's word for centuries—that I have resisted the progress of learning and of civilization—that I have flung a shadow over Europe for a thousand years. I need not the aid of any of my children to rebut these slanders. Open the histories of those times, written by men who never knelt at my altars, who lived and died outside my fold. I do not say that they represent me in all things as I am. Far from it. But unfriendly witnesses though they be, this much you will learn from them—that so far from having concealed the Holy Scriptures, but for me you would never have known the Sacred Book! Far from resisting the spread of knowledge, I have been its nursing mother! Far from opposing the progress of civilization, I have reclaimed all Europe from barbarism! Aye—and more than Europe. Centuries before my noisy detractors of to-day were born, my missionaries bore the gospel into these western lands, then an unknown wilderness; spent the best years of their lives in imparting it to savages, and for it joyously underwent the most cruel of deaths.

Learn these things from those who hated me, and when you have learned them, perhaps you will be disposed to a further enquiry, and so come to know that my doctrines and precepts have been no less misrepresented than has been my historic past!

