

from what he says, (1 Cor. xii. 29,) that all the members of a church, even at that time, were not endowed with miraculous gifts.

9. Repeat the passage to which you refer?—*A.* “In the which, after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.”—Ephes. i. 12.

10. Why do you suppose that by the word “sealed,” he here alludes to confirmation?—*A.* Because it is the word used to express it in the primitive church.

11. Have we undoubted evidence that this rite was retained in the church after the death of the Apostles? *A.* The clearest and most convincing. The universal prevalency of it was such that St. Jerome, speaking of this ordinance, says, “do you demand where we find our authority for it? I answer, in the Acts of the Apostles. But although we could produce no positive authority of Scripture, yet the consent or practice of the whole world, in this respect, would have the force of a command.”

12. What is to be thought of such persons as affect to despise this rite, and refuse to receive it?—*A.* They dishonour the ordinances of the Holy Spirit; disturb the order of the church; they shew disrespect to the spiritual rulers; and are forgetful of the example of their Lord, who, when he persisted to receive the baptism of John, said “Thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.”

13. What injury do they suffer hereby?—*A.* They deprive themselves of the grace and blessing which they might have received; and they render themselves inadmissible to the Holy Eucharist.