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on condition of attesting their Allegiance, and  
 disclaiming certain opinions, which, 'twas sup-  
 posed, however groundless the supposition,  
 made a part of their doctrine, no inferior Le-  
 gislature can exact more. And I add to this  
 as a general answer to that question which of-  
 ten occurs : that an indispensable rule of Ca-  
 tholic morality, tho' it strictly forbids a com-  
 pliance with any order contrary to the divine  
 law or known principles of Religion, does not  
 in any case permit active resistance ; and this  
 rule is founded on the express authority of the  
 Scriptures : *St. Paul* in his Epistle to the Ro-  
 mans, says, Chap. 3. v. 8. " That evil is not  
 " to be done tho' good may result from it : "  
 Insurrection is an evil so great in itself that no  
 abuse of power can justify it : there are more  
 crimes committed more innocent lives lost,  
 more families reduced to the last state of indig-  
 ence in one year of insurrection than in a  
 whole century of oppression, the proofs of this  
 assertion are public and indisputable, to have re-  
 course to a remedy worse than any possible dis-  
 ease argues not simply irreligion but the most  
 blind and senseless extravagance. Hence ap-  
 pears the wisdom of these strong injunctions  
 to the faithful to be obedient to the ruling  
 powers, and if unjustly oppressed to suffer pa-  
 tiently : " Be submissive says *St. Peter*, in his  
 " second Epistle, in all fear to your Masters,  
 " not only to the humane and to the modest,  
 " but also to those, who are difficult to please,  
 " this.