

*adding to the Scripture*, and assumes the entire argument. When I look at Rome, abhorred ! and fallen !! I care little for a succession, as it may transmit error as well as truth, and when I read the history of the individuals through whom that succession came, then I find a class of monsters who excelled in nothing but vice and infamy, and who are represented in Scripture as "wearing out the souls of God's people, and speaking blasphemies against the Most High." But we need not fear Christ's promise to His Church,—*It has never failed*. The *faith* which Peter confessed was the Rock ;—on that faith, his Church was built—*his believing people*—not a *visible* city on seven hills !—not a pampered hierarchy !—but a band of true believers who *successively* held to Peter's faith, from which Rome departed. Rome was "the gate of hell," endeavouring to *prevail* against the faith of God's people—and long and loud did "the Apostolic chain" clank its "golden links," to destroy truth on earth, and to nullify Christ's promise. But the sainted Waldenses withstood the foe ; their blood paid the penalty for holding to the faith which had the promise, and when nearly *prevailed* against, we find the Albigeneses, the Wichliffes, the Lollards, furnishing successive evidences that the faith of God's elect had not perished, till at length the glorious Reformation burst upon the world, and then the consumption of the man of sin commenced, his "chains" were then broken ; oh ! may no expressions of admiration, may no "golden" epithets ever tempt us to court *one* "*link*" of connection with him whose days are numbered, and whose plagues will soon be poured forth. A successional