

words Roman Catholic. They signify strictly, only the particular congregation meeting in that place.

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But suppose we call her "Catholic" alone ; and her advocates now endeavor to impress the idea that she is no longer to be called "Roman Catholic," but "Catholic."

This term equally proves her a sect ; for in the New Testament and primitive antiquity there is no such designation. It is simply the church of Christ. It is one thing for us to choose a name for ourselves, and to have one chosen for us by our enemies. Societies, like persons, are passive in receiving their names. It is with churches as it is with individuals. They may not wear the name they prefer. She wishes now to be called no longer Roman Catholic, but Catholic. She repudiates the appellation of Roman, and claims to be called the only Catholic church that ever was, and is, and ever more shall be. But we cannot allow her to assume it, and we dare not in truth, bestow it, for she is not Catholic. But as there is no church known in the New Testament by that name, could we so designate her, still she would be a sect. But let me ask, what is the Church of Rome of the nineteenth century ? or rather, what is the present Roman Catholic Institution ? Permit me here to say most emphatically, that I have not the slightest disposition to use terms of opprobrium in speaking of this Church ; or of the worthy gentleman who is opposed to me in this debate. I do not wish or intend to use the slightest expression which could be construed into an unfriendly tone of satire, irony or invective towards the venerable gentleman or towards his church. I shall speak freely of her pretensions to be considered the only true Church, &c. but I shall observe a scrupulous respect in all my language towards the present representatives of the Catholic Church in the nineteenth century.

Are we then to understand by her the immutable, infallible, ancient, primitive apostolic Church of Christ ? Are we to understand this, by the Roman Catholic Church of the nineteenth century, with her Popes, her Cardinals, Patriarchs, Primate, Metropolitans, Arch-bishops, Arch-deacons, Monks, Friars, and Nuns, and teaching and preaching the use and worship of images, relics, penances, invocation of the spirits of departed men and women, veneration for some being whom they call "the Mother of God"—teaching and preaching the doctrine of priestly absolution, auricular confession, purgatory, transubstantiation, supererogation, extreme unction, &c. &c. ?

Is this the ancient, universal, holy apostolic church ? Not one of these dogmas can be found in the Bible. They originated hundreds of years since, as I am prepared to show from the evidence of Roman Catholic authors themselves. How then