

church is nothing without the Scriptures; in that of Rome, its powers and doctrines might have been as they are, had the New Testament never been written. This irreconcilable difference between the two Churches appears upon the first inspection of the volume now before me. The work which we prepared is provided with references to the sacred writers, so that every reader may satisfy himself of the fidelity of the quotation; and if he be competent to such inquiries, of the correctness of the original reading, and accuracy of the version. There are no references in the printed work. The Church delivers her 'Christian Lessons,' as they are styled, but without any intimation that they are derived from a higher authority. There is nothing wherein a child or a peasant could conjecture that there was such a book as the New Testament in existence. This omission you will perceive to be of vital importance. Should Government or the Legislature determine on insisting upon the circulation of the work, it will be our duty to submit; but we could not express our consent, and still less give our active support to the measure, without withdrawing our protest against the assumptions of the Church of Rome." p. 15.

This letter also contains the copy of some resolutions which the Roman Catholic Bishops had adopted, in reference to general education, on the 25th of January, as follow:

"1. Having considered attentively a plan of national education which has been submitted to us—Resolved, that the admission of Protestants and Roman Catholics into the same school, for the purpose of literary instruction, may, under existing circumstances, be allowed; provided sufficient care be taken to protect the religion of the Roman Catholic children, and to furnish them with adequate means of religious instruction,

"2. That in order to secure sufficient protection to the religion of the Roman Catholic children, under such a system of education, we deem it necessary that the master of each school in which the majority of the pupils profess the Roman Catholic faith, be a Roman Catholic; and that in schools in which the Roman Catholic children form only a minority, a permanent Roman Catholic assistant be employed, and that such master and assistant be appointed upon the recommendations, or with the express approval of the Roman Catholic Bishop of the diocese in which they are to be employed; and further, that they, or either of them, be removed upon the representation of such Bishop.

"3. That in conformity with the principle of protecting the religion of Roman Catholic children, the books intended for their particular instruction in religion shall be selected or approved by the Roman Catholic Prelates; no book or tract for common instruction in literature shall be introduced into any school in which Roman Catholic children are educated, which book or tract may be objected to, on religious grounds, by the Roman Catholic Bishop of the diocese in which such school is established.

"6. That appointed, as we have been, by Divine Providence, to watch over and preserve the deposit of Catholic faith in Ireland, and responsible as we are to God for the souls of our flocks, we will in our respective dioceses, withhold our concurrence and support from any system of education which will not fully accord with the principles expressed in the foregoing resolutions." p. 16.

The Archbishop of Armagh remarks upon these—

"Various misgivings are awakened in my mind by these resolutions; the sum of them is, that the source of the present difficulty lies out of the power of the Commissioners. Give me leave to suggest a very easy mode of submitting the justness of this opinion to experiment. One of the objects of the Commissioners,