

showing himself that he is God." Can any two descriptions more perfectly agree? But what is most fatal and ruinous to the character and claim of this Papal God is the further Scriptural description which is given of the power mentioned in the text, that he is "the man of sin and the son of perdition"; and elsewhere in Scripture he is mentioned as being "cast alive into a lake of fire, burning with brimstone." Of course, Romanists will not admit that these latter declarations of Scripture have any relation to their infallible Vicar; but if, as we have seen, the correspondence between the two characters is so exact in all the particulars first mentioned—and according to their own showing, too—they cannot consistently disclaim the rest of the really infallible description, and reject the doom and punishment of the apostate power. It is well known that many of the Popes were extremely immoral and wicked persons. This, we presume, Mr. Maturin himself will admit, for, doubtless, he is acquainted with the personal history of most, if not all, of them. We put it, therefore, to every Christian mind, is it not impious, in the highest degree, to say that the holy and blessed God delegated a portion of his attributes to such characters? Yet the assertion is equally made as to each and every one of the Popes; and, consistently with the Romanist doctrine, it cannot be otherwise.

There is another point contained in that passage of Mr. Maturin's pamphlet, which, to say the least, involves some inconsistencies, if not absurdities. He says, in referring to the Pope, "In every controversy he is bound to pronounce judgment according to the tradition of the Church, as founded on the Scriptures, councils, fathers, liturgies, and other public documents; and, after mature deliberation and consultation with the most learned and pious divines, invoking the assistance of the Holy Spirit to illuminate their minds with the light of heavenly truth, the final decision of the Church is delivered, and all further discussion is at an end forever." Now, if a Pope is really