

of Faith will produce fruit unto eternal life. The intelligence which is so darkened by sophistries, or corrupted by a love of pleasures, as to see no contradiction in assigning the same lot to the nobly virtuous, and the degraded slave of vice, is not merely thorny, or rocky, it is hopelessly barren soil. This explains why the evidences of Revelation, so luminous in themselves, make no impression on so many. They do not reason. With all the pretention to superior knowledge, with all the ponderous platitudes in *Quarterlies*, and the delirious declamations in the Press and on Platforms about love of reason, the hard irreversible fact is, they do not reason. In past ages Satan gained many victories through the passions of men: in our day he seeks to dominate their intellects. Considering the extent of disbelief in his personality, and in eternal punishment, his success has been very marked.

What the voice of Nature proclaimed in all ages, and among all Nations, viz., that there was a spirit of evil, an enemy of mankind, who could exercise a certain malign influence over the unwary, that, the word of God confirmed. Shallow unbelievers win senseless applause from shallower crowds by declaiming against the absurdity of a spirit with tail and horns, and armed with a pitch fork, or shovel, and complacently imagine they have proved the non-existence of a personal devil. What the Catholic Church teaches is that the devil is a person, that is an individual being endowed with intelligence and will, and can act on us through suggestion, and temptations of various kinds. He is a spirit: hence he has no body, though he may, God permitting, assume a visible form, just as we read of the angels appearing to the Patriarchs. We must always bear in mind that visibility is not an essential quality of personality. So