

therefore does He teach with authority and certitude. Speaking to the Jews, he said, "Which of you shall convince me of sin?" That is, which of you shall give the lie to my teaching? His mission would have been a signal failure but for His infallibility: to guide men whom He came to redeem He had to know the road to life in order to avoid the abyss of eternal damnation. Having established His church to guide men to heaven, He must have given her His infallibility, and He must maintain her in truth and enable her to teach as He Himself has taught. True is it that he could have granted the privilege of infallibility to all the members of His church, but nowhere do we see that He did so. This prerogative, refused to each member, He bestowed upon the church as a body, and infallible she is.

No lengthy argumentation is required to prove that, the Founder of the church being holy, His work must be holy. The church must also be apostolic, because the apostles were the channels by which He watered the earth with his pure doctrine.

In Christ's church the characters of unity, infallibility, holiness, universality and apostolicity must shine out resplendent as the noonday sun. Now, in which of the many churches that claim to be the church of Christ, do we behold those signs? At our bidding the one that can step out boldly, bearing on her brow the divine im-

press, is the Catholic Church. She alone has a teaching immutable as God Himself, firm as eternity towards which she leads. The doctrine taught by Christ, repeated by His Apostles, submissively accepted by the first Christians, is the same that was proclaimed by the Catholic Church throughout all ages.

Vainly will the friends of progress taunt her with being stationary. Can they ignore that what is perfect from its origin cannot progress?

The Catholic Church knows no limit of time or place: she links together all nations to bring them to a common end. Bold in her claim for infallibility, she rests on a rock, and, inspired by the spirit of truth, she hurls anathema against those who presume to reject her teaching, whilst she solidly establishes in truth and unity her children, who listen to the voice of the Vicar of Christ on earth, the only center of unity in whom dwells infallibility.

"How beautiful are thy tabernacles, O Jacob, and thy tents, O Israel!"

Either nations shall listen to the teachings of this church or drift down the abyss of doubt and infidelity. "There are," said late Cardinal Manning, "only three indestructible elements in the history of man: the people and the faith of Israel, the Catholic Church sprung from it, and the world which has persecuted both."

