

it is that tends to protract discussion, even when victory appeared decided. The triumph of the prevailing party appears to the others a calamity which must be averted at all risks. Thus it was that the very success contributed to raise again a standard which appeared for ever fallen. The dogma was thought to be compromised by the propagation of a belief which did not quite agree with the theology of its adversaries; the phantom of heresy, evoked by zeal, frightened the defenders of the faith, and it so happened that their very devotion to Catholicity carried the sons of St. Dominic over to the opposition. But notwithstanding the power of these auxiliaries, and the halo of glory which encircled their name, the issue of the contest was no longer doubtful. They could still dispute, but they could not overcome. The thesis of Duns Scotus reigned supreme. The Sorbonne itself, at first astonished at the Franciscan's boldness, had, at length, adopted his opinion; and it is well known what it soon after did in order to secure the services of its doctors on behalf of the glorious privilege. Hence, great was its indignation on hearing one of its own members, opposing Catholic dogma to the Immaculate Conception, charge its defenders with heresy. This insulting accusation, so imprudently made by Jean de Montezon, against a cause so highly patronized, excited a fresh tumult. The two camps were already formed, genius and