

Doctor or Father, or out of any general council, or out of the Holy Scriptures of God, whereby it may be clearly and plainly proved, that there was any private Mass in the whole world at that time for the space of six hundred years after Christ—or, that there was then any communion ministered unto the people under one kind—or, that the people was then taught to believe that Christ's Body is or may be in one thousand or more places at one time—or, that the Priest did then hold up the sacrament over his head—or that the people did then fall down and worship it with Godly honour—or, that it was lawful then to have thirty, twenty, fifteen, ten, or five Masses said in one Church in one day, &c., &c., &c., I promise that I will give over and subscribe unto them."

This challenge never has been answered, and never will be; for it cannot: there is no mention of any one point of Popery in any one writer of all sincere Christian antiquity.

*The destructive character of the Church of Rome.*

The Holy Scriptures, Right Reason, Christian Antiquity—all failing—on what ground does Rome now invite us to enter her pale?

What ground?—can there be any other? Can it be that she is not willing to leave to us the solid foundation of these three great pillars of the Christian Faith—the Scriptures, Reason, and the testimony of Antiquity? No, none of these. Reason's eyes must be put out, if Rome is to stand. The Holy Scriptures must be silenced, because those Sacred Oracles refuse to be in her hand, what her most honoured sons have profanely called them, "a nose of wax," and "a flexible rule of lead." The writings of the Fathers must be corrected, or rather corrupted, and when that fails, through the progress of learning, the Fathers themselves slandered and depraved as ignorant and heretical.\*

What then remains to us? *The present voice of the so-called infallible church*—between that, she tells us we must choose, and INFIDELITY. Is it any wonder then, that, when

\* See this abundantly proved in Wordsworth's Letters to Gordon, Series I. and II.