

P R E F A C E .

It is a lamentable fact that among our people, a large amount of Ignorance prevails in relation to the Church and the sects—the divine and the human societies ; and this ignorance not merely prevails among the Roman sect, but among all the other sectaries of Christendom. Very many people who have not sincerely examined the subject for themselves, appear to imagine that the Church herself, originated at the Reformation, or in the days of Henry VIII., and that she has therefore no better claims upon the faithful than the diversified sects by which she is surrounded. Over the illiterate and uninformed Protestants the Romanist has a complete victory ; for he can easily show, from their own confession, that the Lord Jesus never belonged to their religion. and consequently did not found it ; simply because it was not in existence when he was upon earth ; and if the Romanists could but persuade the public that the Church only originated in the days of Henry VIII., it would follow