

prevent the diminution of that reverence and submission which all Christians owe to the decisions of the Vicar of Christ, the visible head of the Church, when in Her very bosom, and during the holy sacrifice of the Mass, they shall be told that a Tribunal established, kept up and defended for three centuries, under the sanction of the most severe penalties, by the Popes, is not only useless, but detrimental to Religion itself, and contrary to the wise and just laws of a Catholic Kingdom?—If his Holiness were free at the present moment, I should content myself with giving him notice of this event; but as He is, most unfortunately, kept in the captivity which we so much lament, I find it necessary and indispensable to protest, in his name, against an innovation of such influence in the Church of Spain, and which wounds the rights of the Supreme Pastor of the Universal Church, the Vicar of Jesus Christ; and trust that your Holiness, led by your well known religious feelings, and consummate prudence, will take the most effectual measures, in order that the August Congress, who so ardently desires to protect the Religion we profess, may be pleased to suspend the execution and publication of their Decrees, until, at some more happy period, the approbation or consent of the Roman Pontiff may be obtained, or, in his default, that of the National Council, whose peculiar province it is to regulate these religious and ecclesiastical matters. None of these considerations can escape His Majesty's wisdom; nor can his great piety take it amiss that I, in the exercise of my ministry, and with all the necessary secrecy and due sense of submission, should, through your medium, lay before His Majesty this most humble Petition, so intimately connected with the good of the Universal Church, and especially of the Church of Spain, the happiness of the Monarchy, and even the honour and prosperity of His Majesty; which is the object of my most ardent wishes, as well as of my incessant prayers to Heaven. God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

P. Archbishop of Nicca,

Most Serene Lord President, and
Supreme Council of Regency.
Cadiz, March 5, 1813.

Nuncio of his Holiness.

(3.) Most illustrious Sir!—Sir, my most esteemed Brother.—I have thought that it became my office to remonstrate to the Regency, concerning the Decrees of the August Congress, which are ordered to be circulated and published, for the abolition of the Holy Inquisition; and also to give you this information, and let you know that the Chapter of this Cathedral, *sede vacante*, with the approbation of the Bishops resident in this town, are determined not to put the said Decrees into execution, without the previous and mature consideration, which a subject of such weight demands. I leave it to the wisdom of your most illustrious Lordship to make use, with due secrecy, of this information, and regulate your proceedings according to what you may deem just.

God preserve, &c.

Most Illustrious Sir, &c.

(Signed)

P. Archbishop of Nicca.

To the Most Illustrious Lord Bishop of Jaen.
Cadiz, March 5, 1813.

(4.) This letter is similar to that which the Nuncio addressed to the Dean and Chapter of Malagar, under the same date.

No. 2.—Extract from the Code of General Law for the *Prussian* States, relating to the ROMAN CATHOLIC Church:—Dated Berlin 1791.

(Part. II.) *Of Ecclesiastical Functionaries in general.*

1. In the Roman Catholic Church, § 114. seq.
Of Bishops within the realm.

a. Their relation to the State.

ALTHOUGH the Churches of those religious Sects, which have been received in the State, stand under the direction of their Ecclesiastical Superiors, still the State exercises