

denouncing the papal de-
 crees, &c.; so far from
 Poitiers, Winchester,
 &c. decrees of that held in
 against the concubinary

JOHN MILNER.

LETTER of NEWCOTTAGE.

CHRIST.—Having, at
 your worthy pre-
 society, completed the
 posed upon me; I ad-
 in common, as a slight
 you, that to succeed in
 and to follow the right
 erred upon the present
 revelation, with a dis-
 owed for this purpose by
 ng taken for granted the
 appointed some rule or
 hat this rule must be an
 adapted to the capacities
 of the people;—I proceeded to shew
 particular inspiration, is
 ion has led numberless
 Christ, into the depths of
 y kind. I proved in the
 or scripture, according to
 g, is not that rule; be-
 ties and situations of the
 on of them not being able
 ess to form a connected
 nd, because innumerable
 owing this presumptuous
 eties, contradictions, and

relictis erroribus, repetendam et
 p. 138.

crimes, almost as numerous and flagrant as those of the
 abovementioned fanatics. Finally, I demonstrated, that there
 is a twofold word of God, the *unwritten* and the *written*;
 that the former was appointed by Christ, and made use of by
 the apostles, for converting nations; and that it was not
 made void by the inspired epistles and gospels, which some
 of the apostles and the evangelists addressed, for the most
 part, to particular churches or individuals; that the Catholic
 Church is the divinely commissioned *guardian* and *interpreter*
 of the word of God in both its parts; and that, therefore, the
 method appointed by Christ for learning what he has taught,
 on the various articles of his religion, is to HEAR THE
 CHURCH propounding them to us from the *whole* of his
 rule. This method I have shown continued to be pointed
 out by the fathers and doctors of the Church, in constant suc-
 cession, and that it is the only one which is adapted to the
 circumstances of mankind in general; the only one which
 leads to the peace and unity of the Christian Church; and
 the only one which affords tranquillity and security to indi-
 vidual Christians during life, and at the trying hour of their
 dissolution.

At this point my labours might have ended, as the Catho-
 lic Church alone follows the right rule, and the right rule
 infallibly leads to the Catholic Church. But since bishop
 Porteus and other Protestant controvertists raise cavils as to
 which is the true Church; and whereas this is a question that
 admits of a still more easy and more triumphant answer, than
 that concerning the right rule of faith, I have made it the
 subject of a second series of letters, with which I flatter my-
 self the greater part of you are acquainted. In fact, no
 inquiry is so easy to an attentive and upright Christian, as
 that which leads to the discovery of the true Church of
 Christ; because, on one hand, all Christians agree in their
 common creed concerning the *characters* or *marks* which she
 bears; and because, on the other hand, these marks are of
 an exterior and splendid kind, such as require no extensive
 learning or abilities, and little more than the use of our
 senses and common reason to discern them. In short, among
 the numerous and jarring societies of Christians (all pretend-
 ing to have found out the truths of revelation), to ascertain
 which is the true Church of Christ that infallibly possesses
 them, we have only to observe which among them is distin-
 ctly ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, and APOSTOLICAL,
 and the discovery is made. In treating of these characters
 or marks, I said it was obvious to every beholder, that there

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20