

tles and bulles of the Holy See ; and was published and declared to be authentic under the auspices of different Popes.

With respect to the obedience due to protestant or heretical sovereigns ;—Pope *Gregory* the Ninth issued a decree in which he says,—We hereby absolve from every obligation of allegiance, homage, and every other duty, all those who are bound to manifest heretics by any compact or promise whatsoever ; in whatever manner it may be confirmed *, that is, even if an oath of allegiance be taken to confirm it.

In the year 1538, consequently above a century after the Council of Constance, by which, Mr. *Burke* says, such doctrines were condemned. Pope Paul the Fourth, in a law which he declares to be of perpetual duration, by the fullness of his apostolical power, and confirming all former decrees against heretics, enacts that all and singular Earls, Barons, Marquisses, Dukes, Kings, and Emperors, who shall have fallen into, or shall hereafter fall into heresy, shall, moreover, by such crime alone, without the intervention of law or farther act, be entirely, totally, and for ever, deprived of their Earldoms, Baronies, Marquissates, Duchies, Kingdoms, and Empires ; and shall be

I shall produce here the extracts above quoted, in the original language, which is Latin, that they who understand that tongue may vouch for the fidelity of the translation.

* Decretal. Greg. Lib. V. Tit. 7. cap. 16. Absolutos se noverint á debito fidelitatis, hominú, et totius obsequii quicumque lapsis manifeste in hæresim aliquo pacto quacunque similitate vallata tenebantur attrití.

All.