

it be true, as it is, that our Blessed Lord said, when the occasion arose, "he that is not with Me is against Me"; it is no less true that, on another occasion, He said of one who was casting out devils in His Name, and whom His disciples, in their zeal for His honour, forbade, "because he followeth not with us: Forbid him not, for he that is not against us is on our part." (S. Mark IX, 38, 39.)¹ Again, Saint Paul, the great champion of the Church's unity and authority, speaking of some who, he says, "preach Christ of contention", insincerely and without charity, does not hesitate to add: "Notwithstanding, every way, Christ is preached, and I therein rejoice." (Philippians I, 16, 18.) I shall hope to return to these foreshadowings, in due course; just now, I will ask only that the principle here indicated may be borne in mind as a possible justification of the alliance with which we are to concern ourselves.

Before, however, considering the possibility and the terms of any conceivable alliance between the Church of God and any other forces that may lawfully be called Christian, it may be well to give some attention to her enemies, open and secret. Of these, the open and avowed opponents, not of Catholicism only, but of all true Christianity, call for our first, and most immediate attention; for a study of their sources of strength and methods of attack; in order to ascertain, to the best of our ability, what lessons may be learned from them, and how they may be used.

If there is one fact more clearly shewn than all others, as the outcome of the Ferrer agitation, it is that the forces of socialism and anarchism, in the old world, and in the new, are fully aware of the strength to be derived from union, and from unity of purpose; are thoroughly well organized under leaders of whose ability and generalship, at least, there can be no question at all. And, while it may be true, as claimed by those who have made a study of the subject,

¹ Perhaps the words (S. John xx) "They beckoned to their partners who were in the other ship" might be taken as another instance of what is here alluded to