

former series was held, and of the public desire that Kirwan would resume his pen :—

*To the author of the Letters on Romanism, lately addressed to Bishop Hughes through the New York Observer, over the signature of Kirwan :*

SIR,—Though you have chosen hitherto to keep in the shade in reference to the authorship of these letters, I suppose you are not buried in so deep obscurity as not to have some knowledge of what is passing in the world around you. But lest you should chance to be less knowing than might be presumed, I beg to state to you through your own channel of communication, that the letters to which I refer have been read by the religious community at large, with a degree of interest that has rarely been felt in reference to any similar publication. If I mistake not, the judgment of the world is that they are characterized by a simplicity and perspicuity that bring them fairly within the scope of any comprehension; by a force of thought and expression which no reflecting and impartial mind will find it easy to resist; by an amount of good nature and christian charity which must prevent any reasonable opponent from taking offence; and last, though not least, by an unwonted pungency, which is likely, ere this, to have vibrated in a note of terror to the innermost heart of Rome. I believe, in common with a multitude of wiser and better men, that these letters have, as yet, only begun to fulfil their mission; and that those who live at the ends of the earth, and who are destined to live in coming years, will look upon them as having had much to do in lifting from the world one of its heaviest curses.

But my object in addressing you is something more than to inform you of that of which, I dare say, you need no information. You are aware that it is only a portion of the ground of the Romish controversy which your letters have occupied. There are many points of equal moment with those already discussed, which you have left untouched. Allow me to say, yours is the hand to sweep through this whole domain