

THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

GOD the Father, is the projector and the founder of the CATHOLIC CHURCH; God the Son, her redeemer; God the Holy Ghost, her sanctifier. The Blessed Virgin is her first-born, and her sole link with God; the Angels are her protectors; the Saints, her intercessors; the Patriarchs, her stem; the Prophets, her oracles; the Apostles, her foundation; the Pope, her head; the Cardinals, her counsels; the Bishops, her shepherds; the Priests, her voice; the Deacons, her stewards; the Subdeacons, her servants; the Martyrs, her witnesses; the Doctors, her light; the Confessors, her support; the Religious Orders her succour; the Virgins, her ornament; the Faithful, her children.—Baptism is her cradle; Confirmation, her strength; the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, her food; Penance and Extreme Unction, her remedies. Holy Order is her Jurisdiction; Matrimony, her nursery. The Ten Commandments of God are her walls; her own Precepts, her ramparts; the Evangelical Councils, her outworks. The Body of Jesus Christ is her treasure; Infallibility, her characterise; the Gospel, her warrant; Unity, her centre; Holiness, her brightness; Universality, her seal; the Holy Scripture, her proof; Tradition, her solidity. The Councils are her authority; Truth is her rule; Meekness, her spirit; Zeal her spring; Prayer, her shield of protection; Patience, her Victory; Faith, her gate; Hope, her progress; Charity, her consummation. The Grace of our Saviour is her riches; Chastity, her bloom; Justice, her beauty; Prudence, her eye; Fortitude, her arm; Temperance, her body. The Just are her joy; Sin,

her horror; Sinners are her objects of compassion; the Heretodox, her sorrow; the Jews, her living witnesses upon earth; the Conversion of all those, the constant subject of her sighs and prayers to God. The Perseverance of her members is her desire; the Glorification of God, her pride; the Most Holy Trinity, the object of her adoration; the slaughtered Man-God, her sacrifice; the Ceremonies, her adornment. The Earth is her exile; the Cross, her portion; Heaven, her term. Scandals are her grief; Penance, her comfort; Indulgences, her liberality. Jesus Christ is her spouse; His presence, her glory. The end of the world is the day of her coronation. Her combat is on the earth; her sufferings are in purgatory; and her triumph is in heaven.

Am I a living member of this Church? Am I her joy? Yes, if I but join divine love to my divine faith, and fervor in the love of my God. Ah, sweet Jesus! grant me thy gracious assistance, and grant it me until my end! Amen.

CELIBACY OF THE CLERGY.

We often heard it said by Protestants that the celibacy of the clergy is an innovation of this or that Pope, this or that age or nation. Hear how Helam settles the question in his "Middle Ages." "Celibacy had been, from very earthly things, enjoined as an obligation upon the clergy. Some of the fathers permitted those already married for the first time, and to a virgin, to retain their wives after ordination, as a kind of indulgence of which it was more laudible not to take advantage; and this after prevailing for a length of time in the Greek Church, was sanctioned by the Council of Trullo in 691, and has ever since continued one of the distinguished features of its discipline." In a note, he adds:—