

else should we find the *Whosoever sins ye shall forgive, they are forgiven them*—that is, the ministry of the forgiveness of sins? Where else should we find the sacrifice of which the Apostle speaks—the realization of those words of St. Paul, *We have an Altar*—that is, the universal and perpetual sacrifice announced by the prophets the sacrifice according to the rite of the high priest of Salem, the sacrifice under the appearances of bread and wine, the *Priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech*? Oh, would that your Majesty had the true evangelical faith, the faith of the Hohenzollerns from the twelfth to the sixteenth century; and with it the consolation which is felt by all who do not separate what God has united—the Gospel and the Church, truth and life.

And do you desire a striking and actual proof that the true Christian faith is not in those who separate these two great things? It is this. In your letter to the Pope you proclaim the Divine right of power, and you confess the divinity of Jesus Christ. Anti-Christian Liberalism as you well know, would be irritated at such *official* language in the mouth of a Catholic King. Why then does it applaud such language in the mouth of your Majesty? It is because the Christian faith shines forth in its Divine and formidable splendor in the Catholic Church alone. The vain image of the faith elsewhere excites no fear.

VII.

Your Majesty at least wishes, you say, to *live in peace* with the children of the Mother Church.

In peace, Sire! In this your Imperial Majesty is most lamentably deceived.

This religious peace existed. Your illustrious brother, whom you succeeded on the throne of Prussia, had established it; and, amidst the benedictions of his people, he thus prepared the national unity. Who have broken and destroyed this religious peace? Not, assuredly, those German Bishops and German Clergy, who were inflamed with a sincere patriotism, and who, before the war, prayed, and spoke, and wrote in behalf of German unity. Not those religious men and women, whom you decorated for their admirable devotedness on the fields of battle, in your ambulances, and in your hospitals—but whom now your Government is driving out like criminals. Not those Catholic regiments of the Rhenish Provinces, and of Bavaria, Silesia, and Westphalia,