



TRADITIONS.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE SOCIETY

On Thursday, the 17th December, 1891.

BY JOSEPH POPE.

My Lord Archbishop, Sir John Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen :

The subject to which I desire to invite your attention for a short time this evening, is "TRADITIONS"—a wide word truly. But there are traditions of many kinds, and it is of only one class of these that I propose to speak.

I do not, for instance, intend to refer to the common law of England, by which we are governed, nor to the Constitution under which it is our happiness to live, both of which are great and venerable traditions, transmitted to us by our fathers, and held in equal veneration by all classes in the community. Nor shall I say anything here of that living stream which has flowed beside the Catholic Church for so many centuries; which connects us with every age, and us and them with the beginning of the