

does not profess to give any *new revelation* to the Church, in *writing*, but simply to explain and enforce what he had delivered to them before, in the course of his previous teaching." We agree with you, Mr. Maturin, that he did not give any new revelation, and that he explained and enforced in the *writing*, "what," as you say, he had "orally delivered to them before," meaning, of course, *all* he orally taught them. But here, we may ask, if the oral teaching was sufficient, not only for them, but it was intended that it should, as a sufficient mode of conveyance, be orally transmitted for the benefit of the Church, through all succeeding ages—why did he take the trouble, to put in writing, and send to them, all the same truths he had before orally taught them? Any ordinary mind may readily see, that he did it, and so *speedily* too, that those to whom he wrote might have those truths always before them, in an unchangeable and a *permanent* form; and not be obliged, as to any of those truths, to fall back upon the resources of fallible human memory. And for this further reason, also, that the Church in all succeeding ages should possess the same permanent records and enjoy similar *independence* and *exemption* as to primitive *verbal* teaching and its *oral* transmission, and might not be led astray by any false doctrines of human invention.

By the passage just cited, Mr. Maturin has really—though, of course, not designedly—undermined and destroyed the very foundation of his essential doctrine of *oral Tradition*, and its *oral* transmission. He has, in like manner, and even more palpably, destroyed that doctrine by the following texts which he cites (p. 26) in its support: "Remember ye not that when I was yet with you '*I told you these things?*'" (2 Thess. 2: 5). It seems the Apostle had some thought or *apprehension* that that they had forgotten or were forgetting the truths he had *verbally* taught them so recently, and, *therefore*, he sends them all the *same* "things" in the permanent *written* form. Again, he cites, "I will not be negligent to put you always in remem-