

# ROMAN METHODS OF CONTROVERSY

AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE CATHOLIC TRUTH  
SOCIETY,

BY W. J. MUCKLESTON.

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Of all the duties which conscience may lay upon a minister of the Gospel of Peace there is none from which he is more inclined to shrink than controversy.

Those from whom he differs have a right to their own opinion. He is not likely to change their view. He may be conscious that his own weakness either in knowledge or in argument may do harm to the cause of truth. He may know that the effect of controversy has often been bitterness, and he may be strongly inclined to refuse a challenge ; to allow it to be thought and probably said that for the side which he ought to advocate there is nothing to say ; and by such refusal to speak at the right time to allow possibly weaker and certainly less instructed brothers and sisters in the same Church to have their confidence shaken in her mission, her divine call and the truth of her testimony.

Such a challenge has been given most defiantly to the Church of England in this city by a society formed in the interests of the Church of Rome and self-styled by the proud but altogether misleading title of " Catholic Truth."

Her right to her own name, the continuity of her history, her orthodoxy in teaching the truth as it is in Jesus, the faith once delivered to the saints, everything in fact that we Church-