

can Church more dreaded at Rome than the section which is busied in advancing Catholic principles; nor can there be a doubt that if we could only unite among ourselves, we should, in the space of a generation, both on the one hand draw in to ourselves all the Protestant sects, and also confine the power of the Roman See to those Churches of the European continent which, from early days, have constituted the Roman Obedience. But we have forgotten that unity is strength; so long as we are so unhappily divided, we can but maintain a feeble warfare. May the time soon come when, in the Providence of God, we can show to the world an united front against the terrible foes of superstition and Infidelity!

Since the above was sent to the press the full Report of the Ritual commission has appeared in the English papers: it is very short and meagre leaving the question very much as it was before. We insert it below in extenso.

*"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty :*

"Your Majesty having been graciously pleased to issue a commission reciting that 'differences of practice have arisen from varying interpretations put upon the rubrics, orders, and directions for regulating the course and conduct of public worship, the administration of the sacraments and other services contained in the Book of Common Prayer according to the use of the united church of England and Ireland, and more especially with reference to the ornaments used in the churches and chapels of the said United Church and the vestments worn by the ministers thereof at the time of their ministration'—and that 'it is expedient that a full and impartial inquiry should be made into the matters aforesaid with the view of explaining or amending the said rubrics, orders and directions, so as to secure general uniformity of practice in such matters as may be deemed essential'—and enjoining your commissioners 'to make diligent inquiry into all and every the matters aforesaid, and to report thereupon from time to time as to' them 'or any ten or more of' them, 'may appear to be most expedient, having regard not only to the said rubrics, orders and directions contained in the said Book of Common Prayer, but also to any other laws or customs relating to the matters aforesaid, with power to suggest any alterations, improvements or amendments with respect to such matters or any of them, as they, 'or any ten or more of' them, 'may think fit to recommend:'

"We, your Majesty's commissioners, have, in accordance with the terms of your Majesty's commission, directed our first attention to the question of the vestments worn by the ministers of the said United Church at the time of their ministration, and especially to those the use of which has been lately introduced into certain churches.

"We find that while these vestments are regarded by some witnesses as symbolical of doctrine, and by others as a distinctive vesture whereby they desire to do honour to the holy communion as the highest act of Christian worship, they are by none regarded as essential, and they give grave offence to many.