

strange complication of distempers; consumed alive by vermin &c.

15th. The oblique arts and direct proceedings of some of those who departed from thence in manifestly corrupting the scriptures, as the first Protestants did in all their translations to make it chime with their errors. In quoting the fathers and ecclesiastical writers falsely, in perpetually misrepresenting in their sermons and writings, the Catholic Church and her doctrine a fault which the Doctor himself is not exempt.

I only request that you will compare the motives which by the concessions of the Prelate, so much esteemed by Protestants, may retain Catholics at present, in the creed of their forefathers with those motives which St. Augustin alleged 1400 years ago against the heretics of this time, and by which he declares himself to have been retained in the Catholic Faith, *L. Contia Epistolam Fund. C. 4.* Not to speak says he, of that true wisdom which you do not believe to be in the Catholic Church, There are many other things which must justly hold me in her Communion. 1st. The agreement of people and nations; 2nd. the authority begun by miracles, nourished by hope, increased by charity, and confirmed by antiquity; 3rd. a succession of prelates descending from Peter the Apostle, to whom Christ, after his resurrection, committed his flock to the present Bishop; lastly, the very name of Catholic, of which this Church alone has, not without reason, in such manner kept the possession. Wishing you peace in this world, and happiness in the next.

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### LETTER No. VII.

You remark on taking up musty traditions as if they were of no avail:—Therefore brethren stand fast and hold the traditions which you have learned, whether by word or by our epistle.—2d Thessalonians, 26, xiv. Ask thy father and he will tell thee, thy elders and they will shew thee.—Deuteronomy, 32, v. 7.

The Apostle's creed, which Protestants, some of them at least, hold as sacred as they do the Scriptures, says, I believe in one Holy Catholic Church, I confess one Baptism for the remission of sins; does not this creed exclude every other church but the one promised by Christ? O, say the new lights, we are bound, tied down by the Priests and their Jesuitical craft; we will burst such bonds and become free from every restraint. But do the Priests compel any of their hear-