

word written, and of what may be so established He and He alone is the final judge. He practically roams about in intellectual liberty, or to speak more accurately, intellectual license, and this absence of any effective control over his judgement deprives him of what is an essential element of sanctity, so that he who craves after anything like holiness, instinctively looks out for some system which shall exercise over his reason that control which he feels that it stands in need of. He soon discovers, if he has the opportunity of becoming acquainted with her, that the Catholic Church, and she alone, can supply his need. If he is content with Anglican liberty of judgment (I am speaking of educated and thinking men) he thereby acquiesces in a low standard of virtue. He may be virtuous, just, liberal to the poor, honorable, prudent, self-sacrificing, but a saint — never. He cannot even attain to a high level of supernatural virtue, such as is reached by hundreds and thousands of Catholics who have no sort of pretension to the name of saint.

“ But there is a second bar to Anglican sanctity. Besides this submission of the judgment, there is also a submission of the will that is required of every Catholic, and which in practice is nothing else than the virtue of obedience. A Catholic has certain very definite laws which he has, willy-nilly, to obey, if he is to save his soul. He must go to Mass on every Sunday and holiday, he must abstain from meat on Fridays, and must fast, if he can, on fast-days. He must go to confession and communion at certain stated times: he must also conform to the rules and regulations as to his marriage and the bringing up of his children. To all this the Catholic layman is subject, under pain of serious sins, but the priest has many other obligations besides. He has a number of stringent rules as to every part of his priestly life, as Holy Mass, Confession, and the other sacraments, his daily office, etc. He has to render obedience to his Bishop, who stands to him in the place of God, and to his other ecclesiastical Superiors. Bishops again have to obey