

antiquity : but she regards it as sufficient to demonstrate the general principle of her divine commission and authority, which virtually includes all further details of doctrine and practice. And thus her whole religious system is contained in a single comprehensive proposition, which asserts that our Blessed Lord has founded One, Visible, Infallible Church on earth, which He eventually committed to the spiritual government of St. Peter and his successors in the See of Rome, and which is now commonly known by the name of the Roman Catholic Church.

The writer of the following pages must confess, with deep contrition and humiliation, that he was once deceived by the seductive claims of this system ; and, being resolved to act in accordance with his conscientious convictions, he joined the communion of the Church of Rome, which he believed to be the "One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church" of Christ ; and in consequence of this act, he felt himself under the necessity of separating from the communion of the Church of England, to which he had been strongly attached by early education and religious association, and especially by the sacred office of the Ministry, in which he had been happily engaged for many years. Since that time, he has had ample opportunities for further experience, study, reflection, and prayer ; and after a long and painful mental conflict, he is compelled to acknowledge that the whole theory of Church infallibility, as it is now held by the Church of Rome, is a mere delusion of human invention, and especially so, as it is made the foundation of the most dangerous corruptions of the Gospel of Christ, in doctrine and in practice. As it was this view of the subject which, almost exclusively, decided him in favor of Rome, he feels it to be his peculiar duty to reconsider the grounds of his own convictions, by examining the proofs alleged for the general principle of infallibility, and then