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INTRODUCTION.

THE following letters have been extorted from a Father by a once beloved son, which Son was the pride of his heart, and whose Education, &c., cost the writer many pounds sterling; besides, he was brought up as firmly in the principles of the Catholic doctrine as any youth could be until he came to manhood, and even then was a zealous supporter of the faith of his Fathers, possessing transcendent talents. However, it is a maxim too true, that with the talents of an Angel a man may become a fool; and great gifts when misapplied bring thousands to destruction. This man having settled himself in the capital of Great Britain, and by his talents and address gained the confidence and the esteem of a great portion of the nobility and gentry of that great City, (this I had from a young man born and reared in London, who told the writer that he knew him, and that he was realizing £1000 a-year)—has become an eminent author; and his works already published have been sanctioned by all the Reviewers and Court Journals in and about the metropolis, and also by the Edinburgh Reviewers.—However, he has basely deserted the Church in which he was reared, he having sent his works then published to me in one binding, in which his egotism is set forward in raising the most unfounded and the grossest fabrications against the faith of his fathers, which has given me more infelicity than I am able to describe. Yet, old and incapable as I am for such a task, I am stimulated to send him the following letters when I get them printed as my last and only legacy; besides, I am almost certain that *Pride* (the mother of all evil) has taken possession of his heart; and were it not for paternal affection I would not at my time of life engage in a controversy so onerous to a man of seventy years. I have written a great many letters, but could never satisfy myself in the bounds of a sheet of paper; and being well assured that no other individual will interfere with him, I have therefore cast all diffidence aside, being determined, with God's assistance, to make use of every energy (feeble as they are) to rouse him from his a-