

12. "The great reputation of their first bishops for faith and sanctity. The known silliness of some of those persons, whose institutes the religious persons pretend to imitate."

13. "Their miracles, true or false," says the doctor; true says I, if any faith may be given to the most certain records of all ages, and of all nations.

14. "The casualties and accidents that have happened to their adversaries." I suppose he means such as Luther's sudden death after a plentiful supper: Zuinglius's falling in battle defending his reformed gospel sword in hand: Œcolampadius being found dead in his bed, oppressed, as Luther will have it, (*L. de Miss. privata & unct. sac. T. 7. Wit. Fol. 230.*) by the devil; Calvin's dying of a strange complication of distempers, consumed alive by vermin, &c.

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

I have passed over some other things of less weight, which he alleges in the same place; and shall only desire the reader to compare the motives which by the concession of this prelate, so much esteemed by all Protestants, may retain Catholics at present in the religion of their forefathers, with those motives which St. Augustine alleged 1400 years ago, against the heretics of this time, and by which he declares himself to have been retained in the Catholic church. *L. contra 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, Her authority began by miracles, nourished by hope, increased by charity, and confirmed by antiquity. 3rd, A succession of prelates,