THE APOSTOLICAL JURISDICTION AND SUCCESSION OF THE EPISCOPACY IN THE BRITISH CHURCHES VINDICATED AGAINST THE OBJECTIONS OF DR. WISEMAN IN THE DUBLIN REVIEW

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WILLIAM PALMER

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BY THE AND THE AND THE BEV. WILLIAM PALMER, M.A.

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In the latter half of the past year, a popish association, assuming the appellation of "the Catholic Institute of Great Britain," commenced the publication of some tracts, entitled, "The High-Church Claims, or a Series of Papers on the Oxford controversy, on the High-Church theory of dogmatical authority, *Anglican claim to Apostolical succession*, &c. By Nicholas Wiseman, D. D." From a notice profixed to this publication, it seems that the papers in question "appeared originally in the Dublin Review."

The two articles on "the Anglican Claim to Apostolical Succession," which form a portion of this series, and were published in the Dublin Review for 1838 and 1839, have recently engaged my attention : and, as they are written with a view to supply Romanists with arguments adapted to the present state of the controversy, it seemed adviseable to direct immediate attention to their designs,

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and to supply, as far as I could, an antidote to their errors.

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Dr. Wiseman has devoted his attention to the theologians of Oxford in general, and especially to the "Tracts for the Times;" and has endeavoured to make their principles and conclusions available for his own purposes. He felt that their general tendency was not (as some have imagined) to establish the dominion and the superstitions of Rome, but to purify and invigorate the Church of England, and to edify the whole Catholic Church; and he has attempted, in this series of papers, to excite prejudice against sound and salutary principles, by fixing on them a character alien from the intention of their advocates in ancient and modern times. The learned and religious authors of the " Tracts for the Times" need no advocacy but their own : in the articles, however, which form the subject of the following pages, they are made the medium of so direct an attack upon the church of England in general, that I trust I may stand excused for interfering in a matter with which they are so immediately concerned.

Oxford, June, 1840.

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