

CATHOLIC ANTIDOTES

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Catholic Antidotes by W. E. Heygate

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W. E. HEYGATE

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BY THE

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NOTICE.

THESE pages may, without some explanation, seem open to the charge which is brought against Anglicanism,—that it makes use of the Early Church only as a witness; that it finds no place for the Church as a living interpreter; and hence, that it only adds Antiquity to Scripture, and enlarges the subject matter of private judgment, which remains uncontrolled and unguided, and liable to misconstrue the one as much as the other.

But these pages do not treat of the principles of Church authority, which is asserted p. 47, but only of the principles of Christian truth. It does not fall within their scope to appeal to a single General Council.

That the definitions of Ecumenical Councils are authoritative to the whole Church is, of course, not only admitted, but maintained by the writer. But it did not enter into his plan to show this, any more than to inquire what are Ecumenical Councils, or whether they

ever have exceeded or ever can exceed their just powers by defining beyond the first deposit of the faith, as recorded in Divine Scripture, and witnessed by the Primitive Church.

The questions at issue between the Church of Rome and our own are not hinted at in the acts of any Council which we allow to be Ecumenical.

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