

# Contents

Editor's Note . . . . .	vii
Introduction . . . . .	3
Five Charges against the Church . . . . .	7
ACCUSATION 1	
Church authority enslaves human reason. . . . .	21
ACCUSATION 2	
The Church withholds the Bible from Catholics. . . . .	25
ACCUSATION 3	
The Church blindfolds reason with art, music, and sentimentalism. . . . .	27
ACCUSATION 4	
The Church wrongly promotes love of Mary and the saints. . . . .	29
ACCUSATION 5	
Catholic priests perform deeds reserved for God alone. . . . .	31

Honest Answers to These False Charges . . . . .	33
RESPONSE 1	
Church authority does not enslave human reason . . . . .	37
RESPONSE 2	
The Church does not withhold the Bible from Catholics . . . . .	41
RESPONSE 3	
The Church does not blindfold reason with art, music, and sentimentalism . . . . .	49
RESPONSE 4	
The Church does not wrongly promote love of Mary and the saints . . . . .	63
RESPONSE 5	
Catholic priests do not perform deeds reserved for God alone . . . . .	77
Conclusion . . . . .	83
Postscript . . . . .	89
Bibliography . . . . .	93
Patrick John Ryan (1831–1911) . . . . .	95