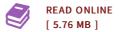


The Christian Democracy: A History of Its Suppression and Revival (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By John McDowell Leavitt

Forgotten Books, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Christian Democracy: A History of Its Suppression and Revival When we turn from State to Church we find three theories of supreme power, corresponding to mon archy, aristocracy, and democracy. Where is ec clesiastical sovereignty? Is it an autocracy in the pope? Is it an oligarchy in bishops? Is it a de mocracy of all believers, including clergy and laity, and whom we will call the people? Before answer ing these questions the three theories of ecclesias tical sovereignty should be more fully stated. I. The papal claim.-early as A. D. 496 Ge lasius asserted for himself all political and pontifical power. His successors proclaimed their right to rule the world. Centuries before Hildebrand and Innocent III and Boniface VIII this was the uni form view of Roman pontiffs as implied or expressed in the Vatican Decree of Pio Nono. The papal system is an autocracy. It vests all sovereignty in its pontiff. He is source of power and grace. These, through him alone, ?ow to bishops, and from bish ops to priests, and from priests to people....



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