

ROMAN CATHOLICISM.—No. 11

"And he doth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by those miracles: which he had power to do in the sight of the Beast."—*John, the Apostle.*

By the Address of the Old American Protestant Association, which we have had the pleasure of laying before our readers for some numbers of this work, the reader has been enabled, from facts and documentary evidence, of the most indisputable character, to see what is the "mystery of Babylon," the "Roman Catholic iniquity" which is already spreading its deadly influence over the whole of our social and religious institutions. As an American citizen, a native of Ohio, and a resident of a district into which Catholicism has been pressing itself with uncommon industry and zeal for some years past, I owe it to my country and my contemporaries, in so far as facts and truths come in my way in reference to Catholicism, to speak out as candidly as I can, and to give you the result of my observations; what is, and what it would become in its most happy of all the countries on the face of the earth.

It is well known that Catholics assert the existence of numerous miracles among them, and that by these the true catholicity of the Roman church is illustrated and confirmed. We will, in this paper, treat the reader to a few of these miracles—and they are not such as Protestants may have invented for them, but such as have been recorded by themselves in their books of devotion, and which, therefore, enter into and make up a part of the religion of Catholics.

From the following facts, two important points, if no more, will be established: *First*, that Roman Catholicism directs directly to keep "true knowledge from the mass of men," and *Second*, that the "mysteries" and "miracles" which are said to be false; the Roman church reserves herself to be that iniquitous and oppressive power symbolized by Horns, Beasts, and Monsters, in the "prophetic and apostolic writings." For the following account of the "Myring wonders" among Catholics, I am indebted to the *second* part to the work of J. Bianco White, published at New York in 1867, and to the *first* part of the same work, though now, if living, is a clergyman of the church of England, he was, while a Catholic, M. A. and B. D. of the University of Seville in Spain; licentiate of divinity in the University of Osnaburg, and chaplain to the King of Spain in the royal chapel at Seville. This testimony is given by a man of high position, and of one who knows, and whose learning and opportunities are by no means inconsiderable. He says:

A Christian church cannot employ a more effectual sanction to fashion and mould the minds of her members, than the form of prayer and worship which she selects for daily use. Such is the *Breviary* or prayer-book of the Roman Catholic clergy, which, as it stands at present, is the result of a scientific work of the kind and consequence as the decree of the Council of Trent to Pope Sixtus V. ordered a number of *breves* and *ables* sent to compile the *Breviary*; and by his bull: *Quod a nobis*, July 1566, sanctioned it, and commanded the use thereof to the satisfaction of the Roman Catholic church, all over the world. In the year 1602, finding that the *Breviary* of Pius V. had been altered and depraved, restored it to its primitive state, and gave it the sanction of official communication, which it at all future editions should strictly observe, which is then printed at the Vatican. . . . Lastly, Urban VIII. in 1621, had the language of the whole work, and the order of hymns revised. . . . The value which the church attaches upon the *Breviary* may be known from the strictness, with which she demands the perusal of it. . . . Every clergyman every ecclesiastical viceroy, all persons of both sexes, and of all ages, of every rank, of every order, enjoy sub-dignities, deacons, and priests, are bound to repeat either in public or in private, the whole service the day out of the *Breviary*. . . . The omission of any of the eight portions of which that service consists, is held to be a mortal sin, that is, a sin that, unrepented, would be sufficient to exclude from salvation. . . . The scrupulousness of such an omission loses all legal right to the pardon of the confessor, and the penitency is due for every day or days wherein he neglects the duty; and naturally he is absolved all he has given the forfeits to satisfy. . . . For, in Spain, redeemed the greatest part by a certain donation to the Crusade. . . . Such are the sanctions and penalties by which the reading of the *Breviary* is enforced. . . . The scrupulous exactness with which this duty is performed by all who have not carelessly cast off their spiritual all, is quite surprising. . . . For more than twenty years of my life, I have seen many a university scholar bound to repeat the appointed prayers and lessons, which, in the time of a *persecution*, were reduced to a day and a half daily. . . . A dispensation of this duty is not to be obtained from Rome without the utmost difficulty, and is seldom known or heard of any one who has obtained it.

The Brevariary therefore, must be reckoned, the true altar to which the church of Rome wishes to reduce the minds and hearts of hot clergy, from the highest dignity to the most obscure priest. It is in the Brevariary you may be sure, to find the full extent of the *pietas* and *pietatis* of the popes of their flock; and the true stamp of these virtues, in the most perfect models of christian perfection: By making the daily use of the Brevariary a paramount duty of the clergy, no evidently gives, if the preference, over all other duties, and as far as she is concerned, provided the apostolic and christian duty of being read her own book, they trouble themselves very little, with the affairs of the world. A Roman Catholic clergy man, says the author, is unable to devote more than an hour and a half a day reading; his church places him, under the necessity of

precious knowledge from the Brevari.
 Precious indeed, conquies Mr. White, must be the
 treasure of that precious volume, which the author
 which so decidedly enforces its purpose, and which
 when I know, by heart; but the highest object of the
 sort of knowledge has lately left me, but faint traces
 of most exquisite passages contained therein. The
 present occasion, however, has forced me to take my old
 5-book in hand; and it shall now be my endeavor to
 in the present, to make the copious extracts made in
 in the revision. The old and never ending variety con-
 to give some specimens.
 In the first place I shall speak of the early martyrs,
 spurious records of whose sufferings have been made
 contribute most copiously to the composition of
 the Brevari. The variety and legibility of the fortunes de-
 scribed are equally equalled by the innumerable miracles
 which attended them. Whenever they attempted to in-
 the church, by any means, or to be burnt, or to be
 slain, they were not only able to resist, but to triumph
 over their persecutors. The Brevari informs us that the
 and for a whole day and night without intermission there

Often do we hear of idols tumbling from their pedestals at the approach of the persecuted Christians; and even the judges themselves dropped dead when they attempted to pass sentence!

4 The wild beasts of the desert devour a martyr without pro-
trating themselves before him; and lions follow, pro-
voking him to protect them from insult. The sea refuses to
receive those who are committed to its waters; and when
compelled to do that odious service, the waves generally
convey the dead bodies where the Christians may preserve
them as relics.¹ On one occasion, a pope is thrown into
the lake Mesotis, with an anchor, while the cautious in-
fidel had tied round his neck for fear of the usual miracu-
lous floating; the plan succeeded; and the pope was
drowned. But the sea was observed soon after to recede
three miles from the shore, where a temple appeared; in
which the body of the martyr had been provided for with a
marble sarcophagus.

There is a good deal of romantic interest in the history of Cyprinus, which is a story of a young man who was forced to do that detestable art joined to all mean and infamous occupations, engaged to put a young man in possession of Justinus, a Christian virgin. For this purpose he employed the most potent incantations, till the devil was forced to confess that he had no power over Christians. Upon this, Cyprinus very sensibly concluded that he was not to be a Christian, and the forewearer. The readers of romance may, after this respect, be surprised to see a young man who had been so long in the service of the devil, ever contract a marriage, which none but inferior saints ever except; and from which all must extricate themselves before they can be in a fair way of obtaining a place in the calendar. Cyprinus and Justinus being accused before the Roman judges, are, however, tied together by a cudgel of melted pitch, fat, and wax, from which they are to be torn, and then cast into the sea, to swim, where they are put to death by the most fallible of all methods, the sword of the seas. I say almost, because I find no instance where even this method had nearly disappointed the persecutors. That happened in the case of St. Cecilia. This kind of musical torture, having been formerly used to marry a certain Valerius, cautioned most earnestly Cyprinus to abstain to avert from himself the vengeance of the angel, who was to be his executioner. The angel, however, natured Valerius agreed to forego his marriage, and Cyprinus believed in Christ; provided he saw his heavenly rival. Cecilia, however, declared that such a thing could not be obtained without previous baptism, upon which the curiosity of the bridegroom supping at the place of faith, he declared his readiness to be baptised. Cyprinus, however, was not to be so easily won, and Valerius and subsequently to a angel, who showed himself to him, let him into the secret. This Cecilia is the martyr on whom, as I mentioned before, a whole house flamin upon

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The use which the Breviary makes of the forged epistles of the early popes, known by the name of false decretals, is frequently obvious to those who are acquainted with both. As these *Decretals* were forged about the thirteenth century, with a view to magnify the power of the human See, nothing in their contents is more prominent than that object. The Breviary, therefore, never omits an opportunity of establishing the papal supremacy by direct reference to these spurious documents. Yet as this could have but slight effect upon the mass of the faithful, a more picturesque story is related in the life of pope John

His belatedness being on a journey to Corinth, and in
at a quiet and comfortable horse, borrowed one
such the lady of a certain nobleman used to ride. The
man carried the pope with the greatest gentleness and
affability; and when the journey was over, was rewarded
his mistress; but in vain did she attempt to enjoy the
customed services of her favorite. The horse had be-
come fierce, and gave the lady many an unseasonable fall;
at last, (says the authorized record), feeling indignant at
being forced to carry a woman, since the *Year of Christ* had
drawn to its close, he "kicked her on his back." The horse was accordingly pre-
sented to the pope, as unfit to be ridden by a less dignified
creature.

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ROMAN CATHOLICISM—NO. I

To paint in characters true as life; to record, every chapter of falsehood; to describe every lying wonder of the church of Rome, would require more time and labor than we can devote to the subject, or than it requires or deserves. That that church has left "the world of God, and is turned aside to fables," the following facts of the Breviary, as quoted by Mr. J. B. White, will show.

The standing miracles of the city of Rome—those which have survived at this moment—are as varied as the plagues within its walls; and which, in former times, made the whole of Europe support the ill-fated empire of the Romans at the expense of their devout curiosity—their overlooker in the prayer-book of her church—she does not mention the accumulated lives of St. Peter's chain, such as they are now accounted at Rome! Evidently the chain was pious and popular from the first; for, in the forum, we received, or present one of the chains which St. Peter was bound in prison, when he was executed by an angel. This chain, set with jewels, was awarded by the pious empress to her daughter, then at Rome! The young princess, rejoiced with the gift, showed the chain to the pope, who replied the compliment by exhibiting another chain, which the holy apostle had worn when he was crucified. These two chains were brought into contact, the links at the extremities of each joined together, and the two pieces became one uniform chain. [Now, that two clasped by their own accord, would, out of sympathy from having been touched the body of Peter at different times, upon coming near each other, kick up so strange a folio and stir it both ends without the aid of a blacksmith, is a thing which I cannot believe.] And even the pope himself, so late as 1824, invited his faithful children to come to Rome and see the chain! The reader may see the confirmation in the pope's proclamation of Jubilee for 1825. After, these samples no one will be surprised to find the same authorized record, all the other supposed miracles, which, in different parts of Italy, move daily the frightened traveller to laughter or disgust? The translation of the House of Loretto from Palestine: to the place where she dwelt, for some time before her death, which being a direct address to the Devil, cannot be explained to have been carefully compiled. The two legends of that house by the hands of angels, first to the coast of Dalmatia, and thence over the Adriatic Sea to the opposite shore, are gravely related in the Lessons; where members of the Roman Catholic church are reminded that the identity of the House is warranted by papal authority for the annual commemoration of that event. Here the credulous dupe of superstition and priestcraft respects upon a whole House, lifted up into the air, imitates all, perhaps, in the land of Palestine, and carried by the hands of strong-angels across the Adriatic and put peacefully down! what emotions of wonder and awe must be in his mind! And when by the authority of his spiritual father, he has seen the House, and found it possible to bring him to sober reflection. He then returns to the house story, could easily believe that St. Dionysius, walked with his own head in his hands from Paris to the Abbey of St. Denis, besides Catholic missionaries. No man believe the miracle of St. Januarius, who has been thrown into a burning furnace, came out, not unhurt, but without his hair or garments saved!—I have heard of a theatrical case and crowded in that sense. And after he was dead, his body on one occasion, is said to have exhibited the flames of the volcano Vesuvius.

Walls continue. "The world is full of Roman miracle miracles, in the incorrupt bodies of saints, which in the altars, enshrined in gold and silver cases: as often performed high mass be one that of St. Ferdinand, which is preserved in the royal chapel at Seville; though a member of the chapter to whose charge it was committed, I never saw it, and I am not sure it is never absent a distinct view of the body which the Council of Rome declares to be incorrupt." On certain days the front of a massive silver sarcophagus is removed, when a gold and glass chest is seen, containing within like a man covered with splendid robes. "The multitude of candles on the altar, and the wan glow from behind, presented a distinct view of the objects within; when the multitude was thronging the church, and the light was so great, that it was not possible to view that which was allowed to the crowd, was furnished a stool to stand upon above the body, to gratify the curiosity and my curiosity. I took a candle from the altar and endeavored to counteract the reflection of the light by throwing in the least opportunity." One of the incorrupts, the body of the saint, whose duty it was to stand in the choir, and sing, "Veni, sancte, domine," was about to take the candle from my hand, and I was about to snatch it but his rigid roguish and half holy cast could not be resisted. I pretended to be alarmed for the pane of glass, but I more than suspect he knew the incorruptibility of the saint could not bear inspection. The image of the saint in a distinct view was a mere skull, with something painted parchment holding up the lower jaw! A covering seemed to have been laid on the right foot

historical miracles are also from this troublesome cause. There are few specimens from those of the ages of monarchs, and these are there hardly any. I will be found more curious than that, which the original copies from Saint Jerome, is a record of Paul the first Hermit. Paul, we are told, retired early in the desert parts of Thebais, where he lived nearly youth to the age of one hundred and ten years near his death; Anthony, another Egyptian anchorite, was visited by a supernatural command from heaven, and, in the same manner, revealed the secrets of the future time with the full certainty of old seers; and, in the same manner, the great apostle of spiritual matters, as I have dropped a leaf of the book of Paul. "Thanks be to heaven," said this father of hermits; "it is now sixty years that I retired a half-foot daily; in this manner, to any distance has been doled!" On the improv Paul read his friend Anthony to return for a clerk; which he refused to do. St. Anthony, he wished to have a companion, and he said, "I will go with thee," when he saw the saint. St. Anthony was coming back with the clerk, and he saw the saint. The saint was surrounded by the holy company, the apostle of spiritual matters, as I have dropped a leaf of the book of Paul. In the cave he found the corpse, with crossed feet, and the arms raised above his head. He discovered at a loss how to dig a grave, being also an old man of ninety, and having no space or any instrument of that kind. In this distress he saw two lions run towards him from the interior of the desert. The saint, in what manner they could, gave him to understand that he should dig a grave, and he did so. The lions, much affected by the death of Paul, the saint, and the work with their claws, and having made a hole of sufficient size to contain the dead body, quickly retired to their fastnesses. Anthony, and the

ion of Paul's robe, which was made of palm-leaves like a basket, and wore it regularly as a holiday dress on Easter and Whit Sunday.

The life of St. Benedict the great propagator of monachism in the sixth century, has furnished the Breviary with several curious miracles. One of the first among them would be wrought did not give a favorable idea of the character of religious society at that period. St. Benedict having undertaken the government of a certain monastery where he wished to introduce a more severe discipline than the inmates were disposed to follow, gave a poisoned cup presented by the monks. He would have laid a victim to their wickedness but for the habit of making the sign of the cross over every thing he had drunk. The sign was no sooner made than the cup fell into pieces and spilt the deadly content on the table.

St. Benedict is inseparably coupled in my recollection with his sister St. Scholastica, who had the gift of working a peculiar kind of light playful miracles. By virtue of these, the holy nun Scholastica, who paid a year of her life in the most austere seclusion of the monastery, was able to keep him a whole night in conversation, and not being able to persuade him to leave, she threatened that, if he would, she would smother him in his bed. "On hearing this," she carried her point was simple enough. "The next morning," she crossed her hands, laid them together, and, after talking, then reached her head upon them and wept. "The tears," it is said, disturbed the state of the atmosphere, and the result was a beautiful and a violent storm of thunder, and rain instead of snow. In a few minutes the river overflowed their banks, and the whole country around was like a sea! "Benedict," who was familiar with miracles, could not mistake the cause of the storm, and good-naturedly repeated his sister's story. "What else I do?" said she, with a smiling archness, of which we must be sure the Brevariary could ever suspect the truth. "I am sure," she went on, "you are vexed; I therefore beg my God and he has sent you a warning. I therefore beg you to leave me and run away to your brother, go if you can. I am sure you will find him in the same state of playfulness as the more surprising as the good lady, Scholastica had then a certainty of her approaching death. Benedict saw her soul in the shape of a dove, flying up her way to heaven only three days after this time." The instructive Lesson in which this is related is free from all vulgar pious. They are portions of the

From the most indubitable sources; therefore, from
 per, themselves, and the books that bear their au-
 thority, we are pointed to the power of falsehood as in-
 grained in Catholicism. We would not abridge one pri-
 vilege of a Catholic citizen; not add a pain to his body or
 mind; but we have a right to raise up a warning voice
 against a scheme of oppression, ignorance, superstition,
 and vice, wherever it has come and risen to power,
 to spread degradation, slavery, and blood; upon the vic-
 tims of its rage; and ignorance, intolerance; and supersti-
 tion, over the minds of its devotees. A. C.

THE GREAT FINAL BATTLE.

Archbishop Aher is said to have had a foreboding of impending final struggle between Popery and Protestantism. As the anticipations formed by this eminent late of the issue of this conflict are of an encouraging ure, and have evidently a bearing upon the subject which has been under discussion, I will submit them to your thoughtful consideration:

The greatest stroke upon the Reformed Churches is to come; and the time of the utter ruin of the Soc. of Friends shall be when they think themselves secure." One of our friends said, "What his general apprehension was concerning a very great persecution he affirmed, That a very great persecution would fall upon the Protestant Churches of Christ, which will be long under a sharper persecution than ever." Therefore, he took you to be not found in the outer court, but a worshipper in the temple, before the altar; for Christ will send forth angels to smite his name; and call them out of his people; and the persecutions which he will send out to be trodden down of the Gentiles. The first stroke is the formal Christian whose religion consists in forming the outward duties of Christianity, without having an inward life and power of faith uniting him to Christ; and these God will leave to be trodden down and cast away by the Gentiles." But the worshippers within the temple, and before the altar, God will hide in the holiness of his sanctuary, and give them a new window of his wings—this shall be one great difference between the last and all the other preceding persecutions." For the latter, the most eminent and spiritual ministers and members did generally suffer most and were most violent fallen upon. But in this last persecution, these who are preserved by God, as I seed to partake of that which shall immediately follow, and come upon the Church, shall be hid in the ark which shall be over us. For as it shall be the trumpet to it, that shall be the great storm, so shall be the trumpet to it, that shall be the great storm of them all, and shall only take away the great hypocrites and formal professors; but the true believers shall be preserved till the calamity be over."

BACTERIAL CHARACTER—AN EXTRACT

the foundation of every thing admirable in ministerial
 life, is true and unaffected piety. It is the power
 and successfully the power of God to enlighten the
 mind, and to give it a true and holy principle, and
 its vital influence upon his own soul. "How can
 we be others with a taste for heavenly things if he have
 no relish for these things himself." God may sometimes
 give a man to life by the *bona* of a *deed prophetic*. He may
 give us his own word, and make it a *theological* salvation, even
 if it falls from the unpolished lips of an ungodly man.
 When Noah arose from his wine he uttered a true
 religion. The prescription of Elisha cured the Syrian
 king, through Gehazi. There may be elated among
 the people of God. If his *prophetic* way of work-
 ing is seldom opposed to the labor of ungodly, multi-
 tudes attended with such a *theological* contrary, they
 will bring discredit on religion, and show enures in
 the way of the souls of men. *2nd*, and *3rd*.

CATHOLICS

From the Xenos Reformer.

There are now six hundred and fifty-six Catholic churches in the United States, and one million five hundred and communicants. They report an increase of hundred thousand in the year 1842. It is said there 1200 members in the town of Dayton, Ohio.

The object of the Catholic effort is, to unite all Christians in one body, the tendency of Protestant partition is to divide. The Catholicism is to be a universal religion to include the Catholics in their duty, and to demand that all Catholics should imitate the protestants in their duty for reformation. The Catholics and Protestants are right in some things, neither is right in all things. There is now a virtual union between the Prussian King and Rome, and Great Britain, the last great Protestant power, is rapidly verging into the same relation. Done, and the stairway is completed, for the Pope's