

to the rank of intercessors before the Eternal Throne. A spectator of the proceedings gives the following account of the solemn mockery exhibited in the consummation of the work on hand.—“The Cardinal Procurator approaching the Pope demands that the *beati* may be enrolled in the catalogue of the Saints. His Holiness replies, that in an affair of so much importance, he must have the prayers of the Church for Divine assistance. Then the Papal Singers chanted the *Kurci Eleison*, (Lord have mercy) in which the vast multitude joined. The Cardinal Procurator again advanced, and renewed his demand for the canonization *instante et instantius*. The Pope still hesitates, and begs the fervid prayers of the assembly that he may have the light and assistance of the Holy Spirit in so important a determination. Prayers were offered, and then the *Veni Creator Spiritus* was intoned and chanted by the assembly. The Cardinal makes a third and final application, in the words *instante, instantius, instantissime*, as if irritated with the Pope or the Holy Spirit; and then His Holiness replies that, ‘assisted by a ray of divine light he had determined on enrolling the *beati* in the catalogue of saints,’ and pronounced in a few moments, *Descernimus*. The intelligence is communicated to the world by the firing of cannon from St. Angelo, and the ringing of bells, and the Pope himself with his fine full voice, concludes the ceremony, by intoning the *Te Deum*, in which the vast multitude joins.”

Such is the account of this grand performance in religious jugglery, of which the intelligent devotees of the worst form of heathenism ought to be ashamed. And yet the rank and power and intellect of Romanism were there gathered from the ends of the earth! Let Protestants be thankful that their religious interests are not in the keeping of a system of theology and its teachers, which would render their salvation as uncertain as the result of a game of chess. And let them arise too in the strength of an omnipotent faith in the Gospel and its Divine Author and means, and sweep this God-dishonouring and soul-destroying delusion from the earth.

OUR BACKSLIDERS.

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The Church is the grand instrumentality appointed by God in subduing the world to the cross and sceptre of Christ; but to answer its vocation and fulfil its mission there must be centered in it all the elements and principles necessary for conquest and conservation. Let it be defective in any leading principle and wanting in any essential truth and practice and lack will cause it to halt in its progress, if it does not prove alto