

any public expression of loyalty, and thus depriving them of their natural rights. And as if to fill up the measure of their iniquity a law is on foot this moment to rob and plunder the Irish Church, and which we well understand to be but a preparatory step to the robbery of that of England. Traitors, too at the bidding of the Papists are trying to sever the connection between Church and State, so as to open the way for a Popish Sovereign to ascend the throne, and thus hand over the country to the Pope, who is to-day so justly detested by his own people as to be guarded on his throne by foreign bayonets. On these most important subjects we shall endeavor to keep our readers posted. We clearly see the danger that threatens the very best interests of the empire, and with God's help we shall endeavor from time to time to sound the notes of alarm and give timely warn-

ing to our fellow Protestants of approaching danger.

In a word we will spare no pains to render *The Rose of Sharon Monthly* worthy, in every respect of the patronage of a Christian and intelligent public. And in addition we beg to state that we hold ourselves responsible for every line which may from time to time appear in our columns. The magazine will be published and mailed under our own direction and superintendence, so that our readers may entertain no fears but that our monthly will visit them steadily and regularly. In the name of the Lord, and looking to him for his blessing and guidance we issue the first number of *The Rose of Sharon*, and we have not the slightest doubt but that it will be duly appreciated and largely patronized by our numerous friends and by an intelligent public.

INVALIDATION OF OATHS.

THE Roman Pontiffs, unsatisfied with the sovereignty over kings and heretics, aimed, with measureless ambition, at loftier pretensions and more extensive domination. These visegods extended their usurpation into the moral world, and invaded the empire of heaven. The power of dissolving the obligation of vows, promises, oaths, and indeed all engagements, especially those injurious to the Church, and those made with the patrons of heresy, was, in daring blasphemy, arrogated by those self-styled visegerands of God. This involves the shocking maxim, that faith contrary to ecclesiastical utility may be violated with heretics. The Popedom in challenging and exercising this authority, has disturbed the relations which the Deity established in his rational creation, and grasped

at claims which tend to unhinge civil society and disorganize the moral world. Christendom, on this topic, has witnessed three variations. The early Christians, in loud indignation, disclaimed the idea of perfidy. Fidelity to contracts constituted a distinguished trait in the Christianity of antiquity. A second era commenced with the dark ages. Faithlessness, accompanied with all its foul train, entered on the extinction of literature and philosophy, and became one of the filthy elements of Romish superstition. This abomination, under the patronage of the Papacy, flourished until the rise of Protestantism. The blessed reformation formed a third era, and poured a flood of light which detected the demon of insincerity, and exposed it to the detestation of