

civil institutions were subject to the control of the papal legate, or even of the Pope himself. "In matters of discipline," we are told, "the Irish boldly stood by the customs of their ancestors against the tyrannical encroachments of Rome, while in faith and morals they refused to acknowledge any authoritative standard but the written Word of God. They maintained and practiced the free and unrestricted use of the Holy Scriptures, inculcated the efficacy of the sacrifice and intercession of Christ without any intermixture of the superstitions of the dark ages; celebrated divine service in a variety of forms, and were governed by a hierarchy composed of married men, who acknowledged no allegiance to any power except to their respective princes."—*Falloon's History of Ireland*, pages, 145-146. What a glorious picture for Father Damen to contemplate in connection with his ancient church, which, he says, "was always and everywhere the same."

Spelman mentions his having a Psalter written about the middle of the 8th Century, with a prayer annexed to many of the Psalms, and that there were *one hundred and seventy-one* such prayers in the book, yet not one of them was addressed to the Blessed Virgin, the Apostles, or any of the Saints.—*Dalrymple's Collec. for Scotland*, page 248. Another specimen of Fa-