

United States, as I have no doubt ere long it will, I have too much reason to fear that all the religious periodicals, those popes of modern constitution, would be the first to oppose it and strive to put it down. It was so in England. The religious periodicals shewed ten times more enmity and violence against it than the others. They seemed to have an instinctive feeling that if the voice of the Spirit were again permitted in the church, their craft would be spoiled, and their lording it over "the religious world" be put an end to. It was for permitting the voice of the spirit in the church of which he was pastor in London, that the London Presbytery to which he belonged, conspired against Mr. Irving, and expelled him from among them, and locked the house against him in which his church worshipped. They instituted a mock trial; and when he attempted to appeal to God's word they denied him the privilege, deciding that he must abide by what certain standards had said, and be silent where they had not spoken. They selected witnesses from the respectable of his flock, men who had spoken as the spirit gave them utterance. These men on oath deposed, that they never had spoken in the congregation of their own mere mind, but as they knew they were moved thereto by a supernatural power, which power they verily believed to be the Divine Spirit, both from the accordance of the things spoken with the written Word, and from the "love, joy, peace" the moving power wrought in their souls. This was the only evidence given: but the court trampled it under their feet, and acted upon their *predetermination to expel Mr. Irving*. They treated the fact of speaking by the Spirit as a thing not to be tolerated at all, as a thing in itself too incredible to be believed, and the witnesses either as lunatics or perjured wretches—as men not to be believed on their most solemn oath: and a more glaring mockery of all the forms of justice—a more gross insult to the common sense of honest men was never perpetrated. Mr. Irving was chased out of their society as if he had been a monster: but his church, consisting of about eight hundred communicants, followed their tried and faithful pastor. This was just before a communion. His flock met as usual; but the doors were locked against them. They sought temporary refuge in various other houses of worship; but none would open to them. Mr. Irving at length found shelter in the *Rotunda*, by the kindness of an *Infiel*; and the next house in which his flock found shelter was the identical room in which Benjamin West painted and exhibited his great painting of Christ rejected by the Chief Priests & Elders.—The same enmity to the truth displayed itself