

a fish. It also contains many other profane things. Who is so blind as not to see for what objects this (*sacred*) "history" of Tobias is required?

"48. How did Judith *save* the people of Judea?"

This Judith, whose history is given in the Apocryphal book which bears her name, is set forth as being very devout and obtaining divine aid in answer to an impious prayer for success in her plot for "saving the people of Judea," which she executes *by unscrupulous deceit, notorious lying, by acting the part of a lewd woman, and by the ASSASSINATION of Holofernes*. For these crimes the priesthood blessed her and declared God to be pleased with her diabolical deed.

A viler case than this cannot be found on record for inculcating the seductive doctrine, that "the end justifies the means."

There are several other questions evidently intended to be answered from some of the most fabulous portions of the Apocrypha.*

The Superintendent boastingly affirms that "no one can deny the value of the Books of Maccabees in a historical point of view." Let the following illustrate the historical value to the R. Catholics of this so called *sacred* history:—"And when he (Judas Maccabens) had made a gathering throughout the company of two thousand drachms of silver, he sent it to Jerusalem to offer a sin-offering; * * * for if he had not hoped that they that were slain should have risen again, it had been superfluous and vain to pray for the dead, * * * whereupon he made a reconciliation for the dead that they might be delivered from sin."

The sixth verse of the first chapter of the first book contains this gross historical error.

"Wherefore he (Alexander the Great) called his servants, such as were honorable, and had been brought up with him from his youth, and parted his kingdom among them, while he was yet alive."

Equally incorrect are statements in regard to the Kingdom of Eumenes, Alexander Balas, Jeremiah, Nehemiah's building the second Temple and Altar, Persepolis, &c., &c.

Not only so, but will the Hon. Mr. Superintendent, or any of his *inspirators*, undertake to verify the chronological status assigned to some of them in the order of questions in the programme?

Some of these books are of value as ancient writings, but in many parts, they are fabulous, and contrary to the oracles of God.

The internal evidence alone, is such that it was quite unnecessary for the author of the Maccabees, to state that there was no prophet in his day and his apology for not having written a better story, reads oddly in the light of modern R. Catholic deutero-canonicalism.

As to the Protestant members of the Council, the Hon. Superintendent may rest assured that due attention will be given to them, whenever they undertake to justify their sins of omission.

Richmond, C. E., 15th April, 1865.

* It is thus evident that the programme of Scripture questions, contemplates making every Protestant candidate for teaching, *nolens volens*, in violation of his conscience, pass examination in the Apocrypha, as it is incorporated in the Roman Catholic Douay version as a part of the Old Testament.