

## PRAYER IN COURT.

THE venerable Judge R—— relates the following incident as occurring in the course of his practice :—

He was trying a petty case, in which one of the party was not able to pay counsel fees, and undertook to plead his own cause ; but he found in the course of the trial, that the keen and adroit attorney who managed the case for the other party was too much for him in legal strategy, evidently making the worse appear the better cause. The poor man, Mr. A——, was in a state of mind bordering upon desperation when the opposing counsel closed his plea, and the case was about to be submitted to the Justice for decision.

"May it please your honor," said the man, "may I pray?"

The Judge was taken somewhat by surprise, and could only say that he saw no objection. Whereupon Mr. A—— went down upon his knees and made a fervent prayer, in which he laid the merits of the case before the Lord in a very clear and methodical statement of all the

particulars, pleading that right and justice might prevail.

"O Lord! thou knowest that the lawyer has misrepresented the facts, and thou knowest that it is so and so—" to the end of the chapter.

Arguments which he could not present in logical array to the understanding of men, he had been addressing to the Lord, being evidently better versed in praying than pettifogging.

When he rose from his knees, Esquire W——, the opposing counsel, very much exasperated by the turn the case had taken, turned to the Judge and said:

"Mr. Justice, does not the closing argument belong to me?"

To which the Judge replied:

"You can close with prayer, if you please."

Esquire W—— was in the habit of praying at home, but not seeing the propriety of connecting his prayer with his practice, wisely forbore, leaving poor A—— to win his case, as he did, by this novel mode of presenting it.

**THREATENING ANNIHILATION.**—A letter was received by the Mayor of Toronto a few days ago, and post-marked from an obscure village in Indiana, stating that a plot had been formed there to assassinate the Mayors of Toronto, London, Hamilton, Kingston, Ottawa, Quebec and Montreal. The document stated that a committee were bound under oath to undertake the murderous design, but the time was not given. The informant pledges himself to the facts, but refuses to give his name. It only forms one of a number that have been received within a year, threatening all sorts of vengeance.

☞ "Three things," said the Rev. Dr. Henry, "appeared to have been uninjured by the Fall: the song of birds, the beauty of flowers, and the smile of infancy; for it is difficult to conceive how either of these could have been more perfect had man remained holy; as if God would leave us something pure to remind us of the Paradise we have lost, and to point us to that which we shall regain."

☞ What verse in the Bible contains the whole alphabet? *Ezra vii. 21.*

☞ Which is the longest verse in the Bible? *Esther viii. 9.*