

spirits, sinking in the idea of the possibility, or probability, of the old Catholic church being the right one after all, than a hearty tirade against those 'Infidel Romanists,' for, of course, they *must* be wrong, or the whole world besides would not abuse them in so dreadful a manner. We have said that Protestantism had some pet subjects of which it was particularly fond—some stereotype jokes in fact which it could not afford to lose, for they constitute a very large portion of the stock in trade of Journalists and Sermonizers. Amongst these, HOLY WATER (start not reader at the awful announcement) occupies a distinguished place. HOLY WATER, not in liquid, but metaphorical drops, is constantly thrown in our face by Protestants. HOLY WATER seasons many an insipid discourse, and enlivens many a dull article, and furnishes a theme for many a stupid correspondent.

It would be hard to find what is called a *religious* Journal in this or the neighbouring countries which is not filled with frothy declamation, pretended facts, and virulent invectives against the Catholic religion in general. The Jews who crucified, and who still deny our Saviour, escape very well. The many-wived Mormon, with his blasphemous and immoral creed, is seldom noticed in anger, and when he is, on rare occasions, he is handled with the tenderest of kid gloves. The ranter, who 'hollers' after the Saviour, and who roars in a key so terrific that it would make the 'Bulls of Bashan' themselves quake with fear, is most mercifully dealt with by those tender-hearted Samaritans who conduct the spiritual press. In a word, all manner of dissent from the opinions or dogmas of the writers and preachers of the day, is borne with the most edifying resignation, with one solitary and remarkable exception, and this exception is the most ancient church in the world. The Protestant newspaper and pulpit, though differing from other papers and other pulpits of the same name, on other points, agree most wonderfully in this. For, what we have said of the pulpit, we may also predicate of the newspaper. Its pages would be stale, flat, and unprofitable,