

"Crucify Him"; and Barabbas—the thief and robber, is set at liberty.

If Protestantism is a righteous cause, it has no need to be propped up with such lies as are retailed by Mrs. Shepherd and others of her class. I am sure, therefore, that honorable and honest Protestants will be thankful to me for exposing her vile character and thus putting them on their guard against her calumnies, and those of others just like her.

## CHAPTER II.

### CONSECRATED PENITENCE.

I think it right to refer to a defence of Mrs. Shepherd which appeared in the Woodstock Sentinel-Review of March 28th, 1893. The letter is anonymous, so that I would not notice it were it not for the fact that the writer's reasoning might occur to others as a valid excuse for encouraging Mrs. Shepherd and believing her story. The writer says:

"Mrs. Shepherd certainly was a Roman Catholic. She does not say that she was a nun, but a 'consecrated penitent,' and spent three years in a convent in England . . . . The question still remains, are these things true?' . . . . The public have no means of gaining the information Mrs. Shepherd gives about the inner working and life of the convent, and the Roman Catholic Church, except those who have had experience like Mrs. Shepherd."

It appears to be true that Mrs. Shepherd does not now pretend to be a nun, and it would appear that even when she was in Chicago she did not pretend to be a nun; but it is certain that in Boston she did so, and that she persisted in so doing until it was proved she was a liar. She now calls herself, we are told, "a consecrated penitent." A pretty title, indeed! and what does it mean? There is no such office as this in the Houses of the Good Shepherd, though there are penitents.

The Houses of the Good Shepherd are simply Houses of Refuge where bad characters or fallen women who desire to reform, or who are supposed to have the desire to reform, are afforded the opportunity of so doing. These persons are called penitents, and to this class Mrs. Shepherd belonged. These penitents are placed under good influences and are taught trades by which they may earn a livelihood; and Mrs. Shepherd, after experiencing for three years or thereabouts the kindness of the religious ladies who had charge of the Bristol House, returns the kindness by slandering them, though they had taken care of her for so long a time.

Her new-fangled title of "consecrated penitent" is thus seen to