

BAPTISM OF BELLS.

The *Quebec Chronicle* gives an account of an extraordinary event, which took place in that city some few weeks since, in the words following, to wit :

"The ceremony of the benediction of the new bells for St. Rochs Church, took place yesterday afternoon. Monseigneur de Sydeme officiated, and the Rev. Messire Baillargeon preached a sermon suitable to the occasion. The Church was crowded to excess, and many strangers of respectability were present. The bells, richly dressed up, were placed in the choir. The following are the names given to the bells : *First Bell*—'Marie-Annie-Judith.'—Godfather, F. X. Paradis, Esq.; godmother, Mrs. Joseph Tourangean. *Second Bell*—'Marie-Josephine-Delphine.'—Godfather, T. C. Lee, Esq.; godmother, Miss Bruneau, daughter of Judge Bruneau. *Third Bell*—'Catharine-Caroline-Elizabeth.'—Godfather, Mr. Gaspard Garneau; godmother, Mrs. J. J. Nesbitt. After the ceremony the audience was permitted to ring the bells, and we learn the amount collected on the occasion is about £200, besides the dresses of the bells, which are adapted for church ornaments, and cost nearly £100."

REMARKS.

Is it possible that such a farce as this was enacted in the far-famed and long renowned city of Quebec? This account has gone the round of the Provincial press, and not a word said on the grossness of such superstition! Can it be possible that we are living in the nineteenth century? And will a large audience, and "strangers of respectability," convene to listen to such profanity as pronouncing over *bells* the sacred name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! and that too at an expense of \$1200! Within the hearing of those chimes how many poor wretches were not in possession of sufficient clothing to protect them from even the cold dews of summer, while the bells were dressed to the tune of four hundred dollars! But I suppose they would even desecrate the word of the Lord, by referring to Solomon's temple or something else, to prove that it was scriptural to baptize bells!

Most of the sects have so much of the trappings of the old city that they dare not lift up their voices against such a gross desecration of what are usually termed the ordinances of religion. We know not, however, but that as much Bible and reason might be furnished to prove the propriety of ranting bells as unconscious babes! and the godfathers and godmothers of the bells can manifest as much parental solicitude in the one case as the other.

After the pious traditionist has had all his reasons (?) for infant baptism swept from him, he says, "Well, the bible does not say any thing *against* it!" And the Romanist can with just as much reason say, "the bible does not say that we must *not* baptize our bells, and have godfathers and godmothers for them."

Indeed the consecration of Churches and burial places, with nearly all the show of popular worship, present to the world a wretched caricature of the forms of the Jewish and Christian Churches. It is astonishing that there is not more open infidelity than there is. Men who know nothing about religion, only as they learn it through such scenes, only wait for