

heretics; that is to use the very words of Pope Innocent, in his bull to that effect, "to root out, and cause to perish the venomous adders," who presumed to believe and to worship according as they were instructed by the Word of God.

By persevering in this course for ages the Church of Rome succeeded in "wearing out" the Saints; not absolutely, for God had still witnesses for the truth on the earth; but so worn out and exterminated that they were comparatively few for a long period. What a wasting and wearing out of the Saints does this represent, during the long period of 1260 years! It has been said that persecution tends to the increase of a persecuted sect, which

may be true of moderate persecution, if there be such a thing; but not of such persevering, relentless, and savage persecution as that of the Church of Rome, especially where the inquisition was established; for it is a fact that in many places, particularly in Spain, this horrid engine of Popish tyranny prevailed to the entire extirpation of what they called heresy. The Saints of the Most High were quite worn out in these parts. No man could even think in his heart what was taught in the Word of God; for his confessor would have brought it out of him and would have sent him to the rack and the fire if he did not recant.

NOTICES.

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