

## THE BIBLE FROM WITHOUT.

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Dr. John Henry Newman, in an able article reviewing the difficulties which Protestants have to overcome in holding the Bible as the only standard of appeal in matters of faith, says: "How do you know that your Bible is the Word of God? The book itself makes no such claim." The word Bible was first used by St. Chrysostom of Constantinople in the fourth century and was applied, not to our Protestant book, but to the Roman Catholic Bible, which contains many more books than ours. We will give our readers, in as short a space as possible, the opinions of the Fathers of the old Councils on the merits of the different books of the Bible.

Clement of Alexandria (born A.D. 155), who was contemporary with and had spoken to Polycarp, the disciple of John, includes the Shepherd of Hermes, the Epistle of Barnabas and the Apocalypse of Peter among the inspired works.

Irenaeus (born A.D. 120), and almost contemporary with John, omitted from the list of what in his time was considered the inspired books, the Epistle to the Hebrews, Jude, James II. and John's Epistle III.

Tertullian (born A.D. 160) denies the inspiration of the Hebrews, Jude, the Shepherd of Hermes, John II. and Peter II.

Origen (born A. D. 186) classes James, Jude, John III. as doubtful.

These are the oldest of the Fathers and they lived almost contemporary with the Apostles.