

through the instrumentality of Hoyt, Dr. Brownlee, Bourne, Slocum, and others of the same stamp. I allude to the fictitious "Disclosures" of the notorious Maria Monk, who, as the *Philadelphia Times*, of July 28th, 1849, remarks: "Since the publication of her book, has 'plunged into every excess of female iniquity,' and only finished her criminal career—whilst an inmate of the New York Prison, September 8th, 1849—when she was summoned before the tribunal of God. The slander was hatched by a Protestant clique at New York, and was nourished by their abettors, who imported it into Canada, and thought to make it show signs of life, by endeavoring to cause the girl's mother to perjure herself. In this they failed, for the mother swore, before W. Robertson, Justice of Peace, on the 24th October, 1835, that her daughter 'was frequently deranged in her head; that 'when at the age of seven years she broke a slate pencil in her head; 'that since that time her mental faculties were deranged, and by 'times much more than at other times; that as to the history that 'she had been in a nunnery, it was a fabrication, for she was never in 'a nunnery; that at one time she wished to obtain a place in a nunnery for her, but without success.'" It is a satisfaction for all lovers of truth to know that, though a Protestant New York paper, with its *clique* writers, invented and propagated this Protestant slander, the Protestant papers of Montreal defended the reputation of the Catholic clergy. The respectable journals of New York exposed the true character of the "awful disclosures,"—especially the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, whose editor, Col. W. L. Stone, came expressly from New York to test the truth or falsehood of Maria Monk's publication, and who, as he remarked to one of the nuns of the Hotel Dieu, "Should be satisfied with nothing short of a minute examination of any and every part of the Institution." He with his friends "were most actively engaged for about three hours," in examining the buildings, until they satisfied themselves that the "Awful Disclosures" contained a tissue of calumnies. "The result is," said the Colonel, "the most thorough conviction that Maria Monk is an 'arrant impostor—that she never was a nun, and was never within 'the walls of the cloister of the Hotel Dieu, and consequently that 'her disclosures are wholly and unequivocally, from beginning to end, 'untrue.'" When the charges were first made against the priests and nuns, they were, as we learn from the *Montreal Gazette*, condemned, in the strongest terms, by the whole Protestant Press of Lower Canada. I will not trespass any further on the patience of the reader than to furnish the following extracts from a writer in the *Franklin Repository*. He says, "I was fortunate enough to meet at a friend's 'house, a very intelligent Presbyterian clergyman, the Rev. Mr. 'Eason, the pastor of Maria Monk's mother. He expressed to me 'his astonishment at learning that there were many Protestants in the 'United States who believed the statements of Maria Monk. 'Charges so monstrous, said he, should not be credited without a 'reck of evidence. He further declared that there were no Protestants

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