

Third Commandment (second precept of the Jesuits).—"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."—Ex., xx., 7.

An oath is an invocation of the Divine Name to attest the truth.

"One is not bound by an oath given in a promise of marriage to a young lady, rich, healthy, a virgin, and of good reputation, if she falls into poverty, sickness, infamy, or fornication. Surely these misfortunes must release a man, because a simple promise does not oblige in this case." (Gury.) "The promissory oath does not oblige: 1st, when it cannot be kept without incurring grave damages, &c." (Marotte.) Such doctrines find no sanction from the Scriptures or the conscience of an honourable man.

"What are the signs of a true possession by the devil?"

Answer—"The principal are: 1st, speaking a language not known before; 2nd, divulging secret and strange things; 3rd, obeying the purely internal orders of the priest; 4th, experiencing greater suffering or greater tranquillity by the devil when ignorantly touching sacred things."

"Is one held by a vow if he doubts that he has pronounced a vow or only a simple proposition; or that there has been sufficient deliberation?"

Answer—"No; but if, when pronouncing, he