

To prove Joan a Pope and whore,
 Although the 'author was obscure.'*
 Platina candidly confest,
 And Jeffery the tale did test,
 (See his Roman History) †
 And Blondell has proved it a lie.
 Bayle abandoned, refuted it
 As a fable, fiction and myth.
 This female Pope reigned, Powell says,
 'One year one month and four days.' ‡
 Jeffery, 'two years and a half.'
 See how he differs from your calf.
 Authentic authors then alive,
 The year eight hundred fifty-five,
 Prove Leo IV. (her) predecessor,
 Benedict III. (her) successor.
 The sixteen-month she-Pope has reigned
 In the three days which intervened,
 Which time most certainly leaves none
 For your fabulous she-Pope Joan.

Each page of Powell's getting worse.
 He says we 'condemn, reject, curse,' ||
 Our belov'd Protestant neighbours.
 God forgive his wicked labours.
 No man will obtain salvation
 Who uses misrepresentation.

I've read your book, and now return it,
 S——l, take my advice, and burn it !
 But if my counsel you despise,
 Read it, it will 'open *your eyes*.'

* Powell, p. 230. † Hist. Rome, p. 165. ‡ Powell, p. 230. || *Ib.* p. 308.