

against the reprobate brothers of this holy Order, to the end that I may punish them with scratchings hard and sharp, and bitter punishments. To the praise of Christ. Amen.

*II. How Brother Leo saw a terrible vision in a dream.*

On a time, Brother Leo saw the judgment of God set forth in the vision of a dream. He saw the angels playing on trumpets and divers instruments, and calling a marvellous company together in a meadow. And on the one side of the meadow was set a ladder all vermeil that reached from earth to heaven; and on the other side of the meadow was set another ladder all white that was let down from heaven to earth. On the top of the vermeil ladder appeared Christ, like a Lord offended and exceeding wroth. And S. Francis was some steps below near to Christ; and he went further down the ladder, and with a loud voice and great fervour spake and called out: "Come, my brothers, come boldly, fear not; come, draw nigh unto the Lord, for He calleth you." At the voice of S. Francis the brothers came, and began to climb up the vermeil ladder with great confidence. When all had clomb thereon, one fell from the third step, another from the fourth, and others from the fifth and sixth; and all fell down one after the other, so that none remained upon the ladder. S. Francis being moved to compassion at so great a downfall