

A CONVERSION.

AN EPISCOPAL RECTOR JOINS THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNION—
THE STORY OF HIS DOUBTS, TRIALS, AND TRIBULATIONS.

Baltimore Gazette.

The Rev. Edward Winslow Gilliam, late Protestant Episcopal clergyman and Rector of Clinton Church, who, in January last, resigned his charge on account of certain theological doubts, and announced his intention of becoming a Roman Catholic. Mr. Gilliam went to St. Mary's on the 11th inst. to obtain rest from doubts of the most conflicting and torturing nature which assailed him as to the truth of the teachings of the Protestant Episcopal Church. These doubts were brought about by reading Episcopal books, and covered a period of eight years. In an interview with a *Gazette* representative at St. Mary's Mr. Gilliam gave a short history of his life, and the causes which resulted in his defection from the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was born in Oxford, N C, and is the son of Dr. James Gilliam, and nephew of Judge Gilliam, both of Oxford. He was educated in the town of his birth until he became 17 or 18 years of age, when he was sent to the University of North Carolina where he graduated. He then returned to Oxford, wher he studied law under his uncle, Judge Gilliam, but not liking the profession, renounced it, and entered upon a study of theology and divinity for the Episcopal ministry under Bishop Atkinson, of North Carolina. All his family are consistent Episcopalians. He was ordained by Bishop Atkinson, in 1863, and was given the charge of a church. Shortly afterwards he married. He went from one charge to another in North Carolina, but his ministry was not confined to that state. He filled several churches in Texas on the Red River, and in 1878 or 1879 returned to North Carolina and took charge of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Clinton. He gave general satisfaction wherever he went, and until 1874 or 1875 he was a sound theologian and a strict believer in the tenets of the Church in which he was ordained. "About that time, however," to continue in his own words, "I began to doubt the soundness of my faith. I was a close student of Crammer's life, and read with the utmost care and studded Brown's thirty-nine articles, from which Crammer and I conceived that the Roman Catholic Church alone possessed the rightful power to interpret the meaning of the