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"SPEAK UNTO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, THAT THEY GO FORWARD."—*Isaiah* xiv., 15.

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Religious Intelligence.

NOTES ON ROMANISM.

I. INVOCATION OF SAINTS.—Introduced in the 4th Century. God forbids it.—See thou do it not; I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God.—*Rev.* xix. 10. See also *1 John* ii. 1; *1 Tim.* ii. 5; *1 Cor.* viii. 6.

II. WORSHIP OF IMAGES.—Introduced in the year 787. The popes Gregory II., Gregory III., and Zachary, opposed this sin. Pope Constantine I. deposed the Greek Emperor Philip, in the year 713, and put out his eyes for setting up images in churches. Gregory III. excommunicated the Emperor Leo IV. for this crime. The present Pope, Pius Nonus, unlike some of his predecessors, approves of idolatry, and has issued a rescript to the Bishop and clergy of Rimini, authorizing them to ornament with a crown of gold a manufactured winking image of the Virgin Mary, and to honour and venerate with much piety and devotion, the said image, on the 15th of August, the day of her supposed assumption. God forbids this sin, saying—“Neither shalt thou set up any image which the Lord thy God hateth.” *Deut.* xvi. 22. See also *Exod.* xx. 4-5; *Cor.* vi. 16; *John* v. 21.

III. INFALLIBILITY OF THE CHURCH.—Introduced in the year 1067 by the Second Council of Nice. Popes and councils contradict each other, and Romanists cannot agree about the seat of this infallibility. Some place it in the Pope, others in a General Council, and some in the Pope and a General Council. The doctrine is not revealed in the Scriptures. God says—“Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God.”—*1 John* iv. 1. See also *1 Thess.* v. 21; *Rom.* xi. 20-22.

Note.—After Stephen V., there was so much contention in the election of Pope Comus; that, in the short space of nine years, there were no less than nine Popes; each succeeded in poisoning his predecessor in the Papedom.

IV. CELIBACY OF THE CLERGY.—Introduced in the year 1190. God forbids it.—“A Bishop must be blameless, the husband of one wife.”—*1 Tim.* iii. 2. “Marriage is honorable in all.”—*Heb.* xiii. 4. See also *1 Cor.* ix. 5; *Matt.* viii. 14; *1 Tim.* iv. 3.

V. TRANSUBSTANTIATION.—Introduced in 1215 by the fourth Council of Lateran. It contradicts our sight, our taste, our smell, and the Scriptures.—The Holy Spirit says—“As often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.”—*1 Cor.* xi. 26. See also *Luke* xviii. 19; and *Matt.* xxvi. 29.

VI. AGRICULTURAL CONFESION.—Introduced in 1215. God says—“Confess your faults one to another.”—*James* v. 16; but he does not say any where, confess to a priest. See also *Ezra* x. 11; *Dan.* ix. 4, 20; *Luke* xv. 18, 19; *1 John* i. 8, 9.

VII. SUPREMACY OF THE POPE.—Introduced in 1215 by the Council of Lateran.—Phocas murdered his master the Emperor, and Pope Boniface supported him in his treason, for which Phocas in return conferred the title of Universal Bishop on the Pope. Hence the origin of Papal

Supremacy. God forbids it.—“But be not ye called Rabbis; for one is your master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren.” *Matthew* xxiii. 8. See also *Acts* viii. 14; 2: 2; *2 Cor.* xi. 5; *xii.* 11, *Galatians* ii. 11; *Acts* xv. 13; 19.

VIII. SALE OF INDULGENCES.—Introduced in the 12th Century. The traffic was excessively scandalous in the 16th Century. In the pardons sold by Tetzel the following words are used—“I absolve thee from all thy sins and transgressions, how enormous soever they may be.” God forbids it.—“Who can forgive sins but God only?” *Mark* ii. 7. See also *Jeremiah* i. 20; *Isaiah* xlii. 25; *Luke* v. 21.

IX. SERVICE IN LATIN.—Introduced in the year 1915. Strange! there never was a decree of Council in favour of this practice; but the fourth of Lateran decreed that divine service should be in the vulgar tongue of every nation. The Apostle Paul says in *1 Cor.* xvi. 14, 16-23—“If I pray in an unknown tongue, my understanding is unfruitful.” Prayer in an unknown tongue is inconsistent with reason, as it is ordained for the improvement of our souls, and an increase of grace.

X. WITHHOLDING THE CUP FROM THE LAITY.—Introduced in the year 1415 by the Council of Constance. God forbids it.—“He took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of it.”—*Matt.* xxvi. 27; *Luke* xxvi. 27; *1 Cor.* xi. 26.—In the Church of Rome, the cup is not given even to priests unless they abdicate.

XI. PURGATORY.—Introduced in 1439. This doctrine is not often mentioned in the Bible; but God says, “The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth from all sin.”—*John* i. 17; *Rev.* xvi. 13; *Heb.* ix. 12.

XII. MARIOLATRY; OR, THE WORSHIP OF THE VIRGIN MARY.—In the year 1558, St. Bonaventure substituted the name of the Virgin for that of God throughout the Psalms. In Scripture no mention is made of worship to her; but she, on the contrary, worshipped Christ, saying, “My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.” *Luke* i. 47. Romanists offer more prayers to her than to Almighty God; and thus commit the greatest idolatry.

XIII. SEVEN SACRAMENTS.—Introduced as an article of faith in the year 1547, by the Council of Trent. Peter Lombard, a Schoolman of the 12th Century, first mentioned Seven Sacraments. Our Lord instituted only two, Baptism and the Lord's Supper. See *Matt.* xviii. 19; *Luke* xxii. 14-20.

XIV. APOCRYPHAL BOOKS.—The Church of Rome, only in the year 1546 admitted these books into the Sacred Canon of the Council of Trent. They are rejected by the Greek Church, and by the Jews, whose Canon is the same as ours.

XV. PRIESTLY INTENTION.—This new error was only established in the year 1548, at Trent. It is grossly absurd. For instance—If the priest does not intend to baptize, the infant remains a heathen; or, if the intention fail in the celebration of matrimony, the parties, according to the Church of Rome, who fancy themselves married, are living in fornication.

XVI. VENIAL AND MORTAL SINS.—Introduced in 1563 by the council of Trent. The Bible draws no such distinction. God says—“The soul that sinneth, it shall die.” *Ezek.* xviii. 4. See also *Rom.* vi. 23; *Gal.* iii. 10; *James* iii. 2; *James* ii. 10; *1 John* iii. 4.

XVII. SACRIFICE OF THE MASS FOR THE DEAD.—Introduced in the 15th Century, and determined as an article of Faith by the Council of Trent. It is contrary to Scripture, for “Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many.” See *Heb.* ix. 22-28; vii. vii. 26, 27; and x. 14.—“For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”—*Gal.* iii. 13; *1 John* i. 1, 2.

XVIII. MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.—Convents and Monasteries have no authority in Scripture, for God says—“Ye are the light of the world; a city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”—*Matt.* v. 14, 15.

XIX. INSUFFICIENCY OF THE SCRIPTURES AS A RULE OF FAITH.—Romanists add Tradition to the Bible as a Rule of faith; but God forbids this addition, saying—“In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.” *Matt.* vii. 7. To the law add to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” *Isa.* viii. 20. See also *1 Tim.* iii. 16, 17; *Isa.* xxxiv. 16.