

cal. Milner's letters, twenty-eight,  
Prove this article of our faith.

Powell says the wisest sages  
Grant the 'purest Christian ages' \*  
Were the 'three first centuries.' Then  
Our Popes must have been holy men.  
Cletus, Clement, Anacletus,  
Everistus, Anicetus,  
Telesphorus, Soter, Pius,  
Hyginus, Elutherious,  
First Alexander and Xystus,  
Victor, Fabian, and Calixtus,  
In succession all appears  
Within the first three hundred years.  
Antichrists they could not be  
In 'purest Christianity.'

By filthy language Powell hopes  
To blacken all our saintly Popes.  
Our Pontiffs were (he does presume)  
'Elected by the whores of Rome !' †  
Oh, God, thy son was crucified,  
Thy holy servants thus believ'd,  
Forgive the filthy catiffs who  
Such vile abominations spew.  
To speak truth Powell is not able,  
Must have recourse to a fable  
Of a female being elected  
Pope. He grants it is rejected ‡  
Goodnaturedly, by Protestants. ||  
Nevertheless, this Powell wants

Powell on Suc., p. 90. † *Ib.* p. 220. ‡ *Ib.* p. 229. || *Ib.* p. 229.