## THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

## THE FAITHLESS STEWARD.

2

It was a dark and bitter night. A night in the January of an unusually severe winter. There had been a hard frost for three weeks, and the ground was like iron. three weeks, and the ground was like iron. Nowhere had the inclemency of the season been more painfully felt than in the always bleak county of Northampton. It was about eight o'clock in the evening, the curfew bell had rung out; when a solitary traveller, who had lost his way, drew his bridle and looked round anxiously in search of shelter. The hard, black frost ind seemed to give way about noon, and the sky was overspread with clouds; but a shrill and bitter wind howled over the face of the country: and when those cloude face of the country; and when those clouds descended, it was not in genial rain, but a

deconded, it was not in gental rain, but a heavy fall of snow. The traveller had purposed to rest that night at the little town of Daventry, but he had been detained at Northampton, and evening began to fall, and the snow with it, soon after he was clear of the little

He had just crossed a wild moor with danger and difficulty, for the anow was not only drifting into the hollows, but covered hard ground to the depth of more than a hard ground to the depin of more than a foot already; and it was no sight increase of peril that it would also overspread the frozen surface of the pools and streams so common to the country, but which were not, it was probable, frozen so thick that the foc would bear a horse and its rider.

not, it was probable, if C23n 80 thick that the ice would bear a horse and its rider. Well might the traveller look round anx-iously as he dismounted, for to continue his jurney was at the risk of his life. Bordering the moor which he had just crossed was a strip of woodland. Leefless as they were, the thick branches might afford some shelter, however slight and indifferent. Beyond this, there was the chance that some of the largest trees, which were of great magnitude, might furnish a really secure shelter in its hollow trunk. trunk.

trunk. It was in vain that the eyes of the trav-eller, aching and half blinded with the enow, sought through the eddying drift for the cheerful ray of a lamp in some cottage, or that, through the howling blast, he listened with strained ear for the bark

he listened with strained ear for the bark of some watch dog. There was no resource but to adventure into the wood. This the traveller did on foot, leading his horse by the bride. The wood was less dense than he supposed— and a double row of beeches, the broad limbt of which, linked together from either ride made a canony, through which the elde, made a canopy, through which the enow had drifted so lightly that our wayfarer discovered that there was a

beaten track below. This avenue crossed the wood diagon This avenue crossed the wood disgon-ally, and was so palpably an avenue in the contrivance of which art must have assisted nature, that benighted man pressed on wards with renewed hope, con-fidently expecting that the stately colon-ade of beeches had some human habitation in maximity.

in proximity. In this expectation he was not disappointed.

pointed. After proceeding for about a quarter of a mile the path widened, the trees were more sparsely scattered, and presently the wayfarer emerged upon a wide lawn-like epace, at the upper end of which, through the rents which the wind made in the vell of snow which hung pendant between earth and sky, he perceived the walls of what seemed a dweiling of some preten

The ground was now smooth and level, and over the thick carpet of the snow the traveller led his wearled steed. He was, however, surprised as he proceeded that along the broad black front of the edifice that faced him appeared no twinking ray of light. The building he was approach-ing seemed scarcely a ruin, but assuredly ing seemed scarcely a ruiny but assuredly there was about it no sign of human habit-ation. The mystery was explained when the traveller stumbled over a gate which lay on the ground, in the interstice of which had grown up tall thistles, which shock the snow from their rank heals as they bent in the fierce blast. A few feet further and the traveler stumbled again. This time the obstruction was caused by This time the obstruction was caused by a statue which had been thrown from its pedestal. The head was knocked off; but the figure of an infant was in the sculp-tured arms; and the traveler-a devout Catholic-Immediately apprehended that the mutilated figure had been that of the "Save you, fs

banded together for the purpose of rob-

bery. It flashed like lightning, then, on the mind of O-mond that some strayed trav-eller like himself had been set upon, and was perhaps being murdered in the ruins. No man travelled unarmed in those days. Osmond drew a short, strong sword he

wore—a serviceable weapon, all unlike the slender, gentlemanly rapier—and dashed through the yawning aperture of

dashed through the yawning aperture of the dismantled doorway. The door opened into a spacious hall, on one side of which a lofty open arch-way gave ingress to the convent chapel, on the other to a cloister or perambula tory. O mond accertained this by the light of a hand lamp, which stood in a niche, from which probably the statue of the patron or founder of the convent had been torn. Some living person, then

been torn. Some living person, then, was about the ruins who must have placed

was about the ruins who must have placed the lamp there. Ourond caught it up, his first thought of robbers dispelled—more probable it was that some corrowful votaress lingered about the desolate building, where she once had hoped to end an innocent life. Osmond entered the chapel; all there was in the confusion of ruin. The altar overthrown, the anow drifting through crosses loomed up like white spectres. In the fitful fisme of the flutterin

torch was now seen a tail, dark-robed figure, flitting about the graves. "Alicia! sweet Alicia!" cried the old man, "I pray thee stay. Come back to our cottage; thou wilt die of cold this bitter night!" was in the confusion of ruin. The altar overthrown, the snow drifting through the gsp in the roof, the wind howling through the tall casements, denuded of the glass, with a fury that well-nigh quenched the feeble flicker of the lamp. There was naught living in the ruined chapel save the blind bat, which, dazzled even by the faint ray of the lamp, quitted its roost, and flapped its leathern wings in Osmond's face. He paused and looked anxiously around bim. Surely he had not been the sport

him. Surely he had not been the sport of fancy. It was a human shrick he had

Hark! comes again, echoing more dis-Hark! comes again, echoing more dis-mally now he comes within the rulned sanctuary. The sound comes, however, from the opposite direction. He turns back, he goes towards the cloister, and there he sees a tall, slender figure fit along, and out into the driving enow. It is a figure of a woman draped in a sable robe—not the habit of a nun, for that it would be trasson to wear. able word ?" ' In a solemn but indescribably piteou tone these words were uttered. "Ah, sweet heaven !" exclaimed John Osmond, "it's is a woful sight !" A woeful sight indeed it was to see that

robe—not the habit of a nun, for that it would be treason to wear. Osmond was a man in the prime of life, strong and swift of foot, and he pursued young creature couching for rest on the snow covered grave. She had scarce mow covered grave. She had scarce passed her girlhood, and the hair which escaped from beneath her damp and tattered vell rolled like the snow itself

the fugitive. As she passed from under the open arch of the cloister into what had once over her black garments. These, worn, miserable, thin, and wet through with the arch of the cloister into what had once been the convent garden, she turned her head. Then, by the pale ray of the lamp which he held, Osmond beheld a pale, snow, clung close to her wasted form. John O:mond could well believe that sweet face, very pale and wasted, and lighted by a pair of wild, dark eyes. The this poor Sister had once been remarkable for her beauty, for amid want and woe, and madness, her beauty remained with lighted by a pair of wild, dark eyes. The face of a young creature, who could scarce have passed her twenty second year, but, in strange contrast to its youth and beauty, the hair that surrounded it and swept down to the shoulders, was as white as the descending snow. In vain Osmond called upon the girl to stop, assuring her that he himself was a harmless and benighted traveller; with renewed shrieks she field before him and disappeared. her still. A face the loveliness of which might be termed angelic, with its delicately chiesled features, pearly complexion, and deep blue eyes

snow.

disappeared. The dismal cries, however, ceased sud The poor nun looked and the wildness wanished from her looks as she answered : "Home, home, at home at last! Good, The dismal criss, however, ceased sud denly, as it seemed, at no great distance. Shading the lamp with his hand from the wind, which threatened to extinguish it, Osmond was slowly making his way through the snow in the direction in which, by her footprints, he could tell that the woman had fied. worthy Barton, I know thee now. Thanks be to the sweet mercy which has freed my poor brain from the wild fancies that have so long disturbed it! I know thou wast good to me, a poor crazy creature aban-doned of her wits !"

He had not, however, taken twenty steps, when a redder and stronger light than that which he carried fisshed athwart der, as she said : "I troubled you, dear old Barton; I know I did. But when I came hither, the gloom. Then he heard an exclama-tion about his horse, which he had left tethered to the shaft of a broken column tethered to the shaft of a broken column in the porch. The next moment two men carrying torches appeared. One of them was apparently advanced in life, the other a well ballt, good humored looking young fellow, about five and twenty, was pro-bably, from the resemblance between them, the son of the elder man. Both were attired after the fashion of the better sort of negants or small farmers of these sort of peasants, or small farmers, of those

know I did. But when I came bither, and stretched myself on our Reverend Mother's grave, she would rise up and talk to me, and bid me be of good heart, for that the pains and the trouble should soon be over. She came to me but now, dear Barton, all bright and smilling, with a chaplet of pure white lilles in her hand; and she said they were to be my crown in the gardens of the blest, where she awaits me. But now, old Barton, good and faithful servant, fare thee well ! Lay me dowal—So gently on this pillow of the cool soft snow. What sweet repose! It stops the throbbing of my fevered brain. And hark ! The songs of angels charm me to my rest!" days. They advanced rapidly when they saw Osmond with a lamp in his hand. Their anxious brows smoothed when they accosted him, for his staid, respectable appearance reassured them; for, even as he had done, they feared that some bandit had chosen the ruined convent as the scene me to my rest !" Very faintly, very feeble were the last "Save you, fair sir!" said the elder of these men to Osmond. "You have doubtless sought in this sacred place a shelter from the snow storm. Oh tell us quickly, have you seen aught of a young girl, fair and beautiful, but with hair alas, whiter

Now this Master Giles Overlog had a son, a bold and somewhat handsome boy, a few years older than Alicia de Lucy. Immediately o. his obtaining the super-vision of the fortune of the little helress, Master Overlog determined that she should be the wife of his son. With this view, the waste ground that surrounded the ruins, followed by his son and the traveller. ruins, followed by his son and the traveller. The snow storm had greatly increased, accompanied with a firece gale of wind that whithed the fraces particles like splintered glass into the faces of the party and well nigh extinguished the torch. The locality, however, was perfectly well known to the old peasant, and he presently led the way to a Gothic gate set in the wall of what had once been the cemetery of the convent. A melancholy place even when the quiet retreat from the world's strife, the convent was the abode of the living, more dismal now when the dark-ness of desolation worse than death had fallen on that unostentatious pile. Be-

during the holidays at the convent school Alicia was always invited to the notary' Ancia was always invited to the notary house, and, had she not been a child of the most amiable disposition, she would have been spoiled by the indulgence and fistery which were lavished upon her

fisticry which were lavished upon her there. Bat Alicia was not to be spoiled, neither was she to be inspired with a love of the world. Though affectionately attached to Maurice Overing, the notary's son, it was only as a sister m'ght have been, and when she was sixteen years of age, and Master Overing made know to the priorees bis project of a union between Alicia and Maurice, he had the bitter dis-appointment of being told that the young girl had resolved to devote herself to a religious life. ness of descision worse that death had fallen on that uncetentatious pile. Ba-tween double rows of sombre yews, "where heaved the turf in many a moudering beap," each marked with a simple stone cross at the head, rested the mortal re-mains of the deceased nuas. mains of the deceased huns. Snow-covered now was every mound, heavily laden with snow the dark ever green branches of the solemn yew that bent down like mourners over the dead, and, shrowded with snow, the memorial

girl had resolved to devote herself to a religious life. The tenets of Luther had by that time taken considerable root, and though Mas ter Giles Orering, knowing the temper of Henry, was far too cunning to join the ranks of the Protestants, he had a great kindness for their tenets. Though the raid on the religious houses had not yet commenced, he did not hesi-tate to load the priories with abuse, and avow his determination to retain the whole control of Alicia's property till she was of age; and that, in the interim, she should see whether the law would not prove that he had been unduly influenced. The law, however, was not then in a bitter night !" He hurried forwards with what speed was possible through the clogging snow ; but the woman waved him back, and sinking down upon one of the graves, twined his arms about the cross at its head. "Allcia, gentle lady, reverend Sizter, come with us!"

The law, however, was not then in a condition to satisfy either the malice or the avarice of Master Overing. He was compelled during Alicia's non-age to pay the accustomed stipend for her board at Cateaby, and she had completed her twenty first year to avare don her of "Sister !" exclaimed the poor wanderer as bending over her the old man sought to raise her from her mournfal resting place "Yes that is the word! Sister Mary Agnes! who calls for me, a vowed nun, by the name I bore in the sinful and miserher twenty first year to surrender her e tates. This cunning villian had, however, well

noted the signs of the times, and was not unwilling at last to let Alicia's estate become absorbed in the other property of the convent, as he thought he could fore-see a mode of obtaining it after all, with bitter reprisal on the poor priorees into the heresit

bargain. The thunder cloud burst and the storm of the Dissolution overwhelmed all the religious houses, great and small.

The villainous notary then wrought out his evil designs so successfully that he made abortive the mercy of the very com-missioners themselves, who strongly re-commended the king to spare the con-

vent of Catesby. Equally fatlle dld he manage to render the appeal of the prioress to Anne Boleyn, to whom she offered the sum of a thou-sand marks if she would prevail on Henry

to spare her convent. When the poor prioress and nuns were driven from their convents, he took part in the process, and insolently remarked that if Alicia would repent of her folly "Come home, dear child, come home !" add the man, taking in his own large and horny palms one of the little hands that was as cold and while and soft as the very and wed with his son he would settle on her a portion of the property which was now all to fall into his hands.

This proposal the young nun rejected with horror.

'Go starve, then, go starve !" said the

And starve, then, go starve !" said the hoary ruffian. And starve the poor Sisterhood literally did. The prioress died before the year was out ; the rest of the community wandered away, none either sought or cared to know where; and Alicia would have shared the fate of the Sisterhood but for the kindness of William Barton, an old servant of her father, and now the owner of a few score of cound which he which Here her reason seemed again to wan.

of a few acres of ground, which he culti-vated with the help of his son. On losing her friend the prioress, Alicia was attacked with a brain fever, which, though ene survived it, left her in a state of harmless but absolute insanity. In this condition the sole consolation of

In this condition the sole consolation of the unhappy girl was wandering about the ruius of her beloved conventual home. Her friends, the good Barton and his wife, did not oppose this fancy in fine weather, but they were necessitated to oppose it in the winter. Watch her as vigilantly as they could, however, she would escape them, as she had done on the night of her death, which was caused, no doubt, by her wandering.

HOPE FOR ENGLAND'S FUTURE.

JUNE 23, 1888.

the witness of His coming, the witness of the Incernation, the witness of the Incernation, the witness of the Day of Pentecost, can ever err in teaching the way of salvation? And if it cannot err, how can it be other than infallible, and

how can men justify their refussi to accept its testimony to the truth which was once delivered to the saints? His Eminence deduced two lessions from this consideration of the mystery of Pentecost.

The first was the necessity for special daily devotion to the Holy Ghost. Sec-cually, he asked all to remember that

ondly, he asked all to remember that their bodies were the temples of the Holy Ghost. If the body was the temple, the soul was the exact and the temple, the soul was the exact and the temple, the ought the body to be, and, above all, how holy ought the soul to be—the soul which is made to the image of God. Let them pray for sanctity. The Holy Ghost is at this moment striving with the souls of men in all the world, and He is striving most with those who. BY THE SINS OF THEIR FOREFATHERS, have been rent from the unity of the faith. And he believed that there was not on the face of the earth any people

and in the face of the earth any people calling themselves Coristians in the mids of whom He was striving more patiently, more lovingly, or more profusely, than in the midst of the English people. Three

the midst of the English people. Three hundred years ago the people of Eagland were robbed of their faith. They never gave it up; no. They fought for it, they suffered for it, they laid down their lives for it, and he believed God would not hold them guilty for the breach of unity, and the scattering of men, and the mutil-ation of faith, which they saw round about them. It might be that a ray of light was at this moment plercing into the heart and the conscience of some who

was at this moment piercing into the beart and the conscience of some who heard him. Let them follow that ray, for as the first gleam of the morning led to the light of noonday, so they who fol-lowed the first gleam of truth with fidel-ity, would stand in its noontide light in the kingdom of eternal life.

WHO OWNS THE UNITED STATES ?

Catholic Standard.

Catholic Standard. This is a serious question, for many religious denominations in this country in their official organs and public declara-tions seem to think that they own the country, have entire control of it and all who live therein, and are personally re-sponsible for its wellbeing. There is cer-

sponsible for its wellbeing. There is cer-tainly a conflict of authority on the point, as all these bodies assert their claims with

ERMON BY THE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP.

came, He came through the Incarnate Son. If the Son had not been incarnate, and died, and redeemed the world-then, so far as we know, He would not have come. He came through the merits of our Lord. When our Divine Master, after He rose from the dead, breathed on His Apostles and said, "Receive ye the Holy Gnost," He did a symbolical action where-by He taught us that the coming of the Holy Ghost was in virtue of His merits. And that is the point which distinguishes the Catholic faith from ALL FORMS OF MUTILATED CHRISTIANITY. SERMON BY THE CLEDINAL ARCHBISHOF. At the Pro-Cathedral, Kensington, on Sunday last, High Mass was sung by His Lordship the Bishop of Amycla. His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop assisted at the Mass and preached. His Eminence took for his text the words, "I will atk the Father, and He shall send you another Paraclete, so the shall send you another Paraclete, and He shall send you and the shall be in you." His Eminence said that the Holy Ghost came, first, as the Illuminator; secondly, as Sanctifer; and thirdly, as the Author of all unity-for without Him there is none. The fire was the symbol of His Illumination. He is the fountain of light, and though for three years the Aposties had been taught by the Son of God Hiroself, He had not taught them all things for He said, "I have many things to say unto you, but you cannot bear them now; nevertheless, when the Paraclete is come, the Spirit of Truth, He will teach you all things." They had received illumination to know the ever Biessed Trinity and the mystery of the Incarnation—two natures united in one Person—and the mystery of the mysti-cal body of Carist, that is, the Church of God in its soul and in its body—the mys-tery never revealed—no, and never oreated until the Day of Pentecost. And therefore in our baptismal profesion of faith we say, "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Catholic faith from ALL FORMS OF MUTILATED CHRISTIANITY. Furthermore, He came to create the myre-tical body of Christ. He created it by these three unites : He united all the members of Christ with their Diving Head members of Christ with their Divine Head in heaven—He united them with one another on earth, and He united Himself with that body by a perpetual indwelling, dependent only on the Divine will, so that the words of St. Paul are literally true, "He is the Head over the Caurch, which is his body." There is one more truth. How can the life of the Church be other than imperishable and iodefectible if that life be Divine, with a Divine Person dwelling in it? The pro-Durine Person dwelling in it? The pro-mise that the gates of hell shall not pre-vall against the Church is founded on the fact that the life within it is indefectible, because it is Divine. Secondly, how can the unity of the Church ever be dissolved if it be if it be if it be THE OUTWARD MANIFESTATION, and the necessary product of the intrinsic and invisible unity springing from the Spirit of Truth, who dwelt in it and guides it always? Thirdly, how is it possible that any one who believes in the Day of Pentecost can for one instant be-lieve that the Church, the body of Christ, the witness of His coming the witness of

created until the Day of Pentecost. And therefore in our baptismal profession of faith we say, "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the Commun-ion of Saints," because both the Holy Catholic Church and the Communion of Catholic Church and the Communion of Saints are the consequence, the effect, the product, and the creation of the Holy Ghost Himself. Moreover, He is the fountain of all sanctivy; the fire is the symbol of purification. It melts and purges all the metals of the earth, and takes away all the dross. And He is

THE FOUNTAIN OF CHARITY also. Without charity there can be no unity. Wherever unity had been broken charity had been broken, and wherever charity reigns unity is the product and the reward. This is the first chice of the charity reighs unity is the product and the reward. This is the first chice of the Holy Ghost—the Illumina'or. Secondly, he is the Sanctifier. There was never a created soul born into this world with whom the Holy Ghost had not striven with patience and with love to draw back its will and heart to the law of God. Every member of Christ is at the same time made a temple of the Holy Ghost, and His soul is the sanctury of the in dwelling of the Sanctifier. Thirdly, and lastly, He is the author of all unity. Without Him there is none. First of all He descended and became the spiritual life of all those upon whom the tongues of fire set. They became partakers of one life. As the soul is the life of the body, God the Holy Ghost is the life of the soul. And having one life

God the Holy Ghost is the life of the soul. And having one life THEY BECAME ONE BODY. Their separate personalities were united and merged, as it were, in the individu-ality and personality of one visible body. On the Day of Pentecost the Apostles were united to their Divine Head in hea-ven. And because they were one body, and under one head, and had one life, they had one mind, one intellect, one illumination; and because they had ONE ILLUMINATED INTELLECT.

ons inLUMINATED INTELLECT, they had one heart, for the Holy Ghost is the charity of God, and "the love of God was poured out into their hearts." Why is the visible Church one in all the world? Is it because unity was a law laid down like the ten Commandments? Is the law like the ten Commandments? Is the law of unity a mere precept-even though a Divine precept? Is it only an external unity, and does the external unity create the internal unit? No; directly the reverse. It is the internal unity which creates the external, visible, intrinsic unity. The Spirit of God has had from the beginning a universal office to illu-minate and sanctify individuals one by one. But that was not His full and com-plete office for which he came into the world. He came for another purpose. oppose it in the winter. Watch her as vigilantly as they could, however, she would escape them, as she had done on the night of her death, which in the inclement winter. Such was the short, sad story of Allcia do not the short, sad story of Allcia Her came to came for another purpose. On the short, sad story of Allcia Her came to came for another purpose. On the short, sad story of Allcia Her came to came for another purpose. On the short, sad story of Allcia Her came to came the short, sad story of Allcia

equal dogmatiem, and yet there are some people, a few millions perhaps, who would object to being considered chattels of the His voice. From that day to whole of these denominations united, and THE UNITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH has been indissoluble. Branches may broken from the tree, provinces may a great many million who would object to be considered the property of any one denomination in particular.

JUNE 23, 1888.

## CATHOLICS OF S

BY THE REV. ÆNEAS M'DO LL. D, F. R. S,

> PART II. FROM THE EXTINCTION O

ARCHY IN 1603, TILL MENT OF BISHOPS, VIC. IN 1694. At the time of Mr. Ball to Scotland, (1650) the t Covenant was at its heigh to 1650, the reign of terro reged with redoubled fury of the defeat and death of trose. It was, however, Cromwell won the batt became master of the No guished the terrible Coven be supposed, the number the Catholics were consider the Catholics were consider by such a long and exter cution. Many who had fi reconciled to the Church by tyne. Of this number w of Huntley, in whose hour feet chiefly resided. ' Meanwhile Mr. Leile Berne in the presention

Rome in the prosecution of work which he had in c not, however, without op from excessive caution, ot ested motives, opposed h were not wanting amon orders parties who look importance of their societ of religion. Their influence mount among the Catho would be greatly diminish mission came to be the ized. The Congregation which was recently esta more favorable view of th Leslie, relying on their i before them a detailed state of affairs in Scotland to the cardinals his own of his friends regard which had militated, hith efficiency of the mission the means by which it w might be removed. I appointing a bishop was earnestly insisted on. Propaganda had already ence in the managemen countries, to see and reco of the agent's application desired, however, could be obtained, so formidabl tion to his proposals. D in a hurry. It was only of negotiation that it was mission should be reg under a Prefect. But, obtained that the Pref bishop. On Father Balls were conferred very although not so compl had petitioned for. T not forgotten ; 500 crow allotted to ten missionar done in 1663, from white commencement of the Father Ballantyne and much gratified by thi partial, success. It appe a day of prosperity had the Catholics of Scotlan Three years more of

the zealous Prefect was, by the Marchioness of to France in order to profession of one of community of nuns. ] he embarked for Diepp an Ostend crusier, and were made prisoners. taken before the Go Father Ballantyne infor that he was a Catholic mediately set at liberty ger, Lord Conway, seel ignorant of the cause Father Ballanty ne was ened to denounce him return to Rye, unless h liberated. The Prefect the matter, and Conw his liberty in some o

formation at Rye, whi of Father Ballantyne a soon as he landed in 1

sent to London and in Thurlow, Secretary of

his prompt liberation

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penalties and admitte priest on a journey believed him and gave

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Secretary often visited ledged that he was patience and courteous

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Such were the laws o

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honour at Paris. By

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Father Ballantyne

Being p

Cromwell.

Written for CATHOLIC

Madonna and Child.

A heavy sigh broke from the bosom of the wayfarer as, dimly through the white glare of the snow, he perceived yawning the black arch of a dismantled doorway.

"Ah !" he exclaimed, "I mind me now Somewhere in this district stood the nun mery of Catesby; so cruelly suppressed by our vile king some three years since. Oh, beneficient Lord, look Thou with a pitying eye on the affliction of the children of Thy Church in this unhappy land!" As the travaller caused smalking and

As the traveller ceased speaking, and, sadly leaning on the crupper of his tired horse, looked up at the dismantled door-way, a female shriek, long, loud and piercing, smote his ear. It was a cry ex-pressive of the extremity of exactly pressive of the extremity of anguish, and was reverbarated in dismal echoes by the dismantied halls of the nunnery and the dark arches of the surrounding woods. Our traveller a burgess of Nottingham,

John Osmond by name, involuntarily drew his breath with a gasp at that borrid cry. A superstitious person might have referred that sound, so unearthly and appalling to a supernatural cause, and supposed that it proceeded from the wail ing spirit of some one of the poor nuns, so many of whom had, throughout the country, died of want when turned by th atrocious monarch from their holy and happy homes. Such was not the case of John Osmond,

happy homes. Such was not the case of John Osmond, as practical a man and steady a tradesman as any member of the corporation before or after his own time. From human lips that woll ery proceeded—that he knew. That it might be a note of warning of danger to himself, as well as of anguish to the unbarry nerson who uttared it he hissed saints! In these will the means. Oh,

social order. Not only were the members of the various religious communities in-volved in the most dire distress, but for you beyond your deserving, I must for you beyond your deserving, I must for you beyond your deserving, I must in unmerable persons among the trading as well as the agricultural classes, whose industry had been employed by the re-ligious establishments, were deprived of the result of this was not only an alarm-ing increase in the ranks of the poor, but in the numbers of idle, dissolute men, who

than mine own? "I have seen such a person," answered "I have seen such a person," answered Osmond. "Her voice of distress drew me into this sacred pile. I would have offered her aid, but she fied before me like one demented."

"Alack! she is demented!" said the old "Good sir, canst thou tell which man. way she went?'

"Yonder, as I think," said Osmond, in-dicating with his hand the direction in which the girl had fled

"Alas, alas," exclaimed the old man, with a sigh. "She will surely die, poor lamb, of the cold this bitter winter. This is the third night within the week that she hath escaped us.

"Who is this unhappy young person and what brings her to this ruined place?" inquired Osmond.

inquired Osmond. The old man looked at him doubtfully. "Do you know, good sin," he said, "that this was not long since a nunnery, which His Grace the King thought fit to suppress !

"A graceless act !" replied Ozmond, sternly. "Old man, if thou was a friend to any of the poor nuns, fear not to say sternly.

changer to himself, as wen as of anguish to the unhappy person who uttered it, he also knew. The destruction of the convents and monasteries had done much to damage social order. Not only were the members of the various religious communities in the social order.

very faintly, very feeble were the last words uttered, but with a musical chime in the melancholy accents. John Osmond, with the old man Barton and his son, stood by in dread silence. A shadow, darker than that of the night, was settling down on the sweet face. The blue eyes closed; lower, lower sank the head from the old man's supporting

arms upon the pillow of snow spread upon the grave of the last Prioress of Catesby, the Reverend Mother whom Alicia de Lacy had so dearly loved. The lips were closed and silent now; not a sound save the soft patter of the enow and the hissing of the torch in the

white flakes. The shimmering and sickly light even

of the torch did not injure the heavenly serenity of the smile that had settled

about those pale, set lips. Reverentially and tenderly, as though she were still in life, did old Barton draw the tattered vell over the pale face, and raise the wasted form in his strong arms. "She is dead, Gilbert !" he said, address-

ing his son; "but we will take her home, and thy mother will robe her, to share the last bed of the good Prioress to morrow." \* \* \* \* \* \*

The story of Alicia de Lacy was short and simple, as it was sad. Heiress of con-siderable property in her native country, she had been left an orphan at an early age, under the care of the Prioress of Catesby, a near relative of her mother. The position of the prioress, however, as a religious, forbade her to execute the duties

of a guardian in pecuniary matters. In a moral sense, she was the best of guardians to the little orphau girl; for well she made up to her the care and tender-ness of the mother whom she had lost. The stewardship of Alicia's property was vested in one Giles Overing, a notary of Northampton, and a most faithless ste-ward he proved. It was the ambition of this man to rank with the landed gentry. The time was a ripe one to furnish a cun-

de Lacy, told to the worthy burgess, John Osmond, by an aged white-haired priest, who had been confessor to the

Convent. Osmond had accepted the proffered hospitality of the good Barton, and accom-panied him and his son home with their mournful burden of the dead nun.

Osmond was a well to do, as well as worthy man, and at his cost Alicia was laid beside her friend the prioress, in a fashion befitting her condition as a landed heiress not that of an outcast nun.

Osmond remained in the neighborhood attend the funeral, as a mourner, along

with the good Bortons. It was the second day after Alicia's death. A sharp, clear frost had succeeded death. A sharp, clear frost had succeeded the snow storm. The air was crisp, the sky an intenee and cloudless blue; the long icicles pendant on the convent ruins shone with the varied tints of the opal; the hear frost on the dark yews glittered as though the dark boughs of the yews had been thickly sprinkled with dismonds. Some of the better class of the inhabi-tants of Cateshy, hearing of the benery. tants of Catesby, hearing of the benevo-lence of the stranger, Osmond, joined the

funeral train. Few among the poorer class were absent. None among the poor but grieved for the ruin of the religious houses.

The procession was nearing the convent cemetery when, clattering along the iron road, which was slippery as glass, came a horseman with two attendants. He came

suddenly upon the funeral train, and his horse was startled. The coffin was directly before the fiery animal. It swerved, reared, and threw its rider, whose skull was fractured by a large

flintstone. The coffin of Alicia de Lacy was carried directly over the spot from which the man

was lifted up quite dead, and that man was the notary, Giles Overing !

divorced from their authority, but it has remained the same in personal identity from that day to this hour. On the Day The Methodists have recently held a General Conference in New York City, and the Bishops in their address used "we," "us" and "our" with great case and freedom. We have taken the liberty of inserting the word "Methodist" in the following passage, to show the modest assumption of these gentlemen. They assemble as Methodists, and of course use the pronoun as Methodists, so that our Interpolation is justifiable :

interpolation is justifiable: "The increasing multitude of Roman-ists coming to our Methodist shores to share our Methodist privileges and to rear their families under the influence of our Methodist institutions have claims upon us Methodists for instruction, and for special efforts for leading them into the purer light of our Methodist Gospel, which claims we Methodists have never fully appreciated. As an ecclesiastical political power, Romanism forces herself upon the attention of all patriotic and evangelical thinkers, who know her his-tory and appreciate her greatness and her evangelical thinkers, who know her his-tory and appreciate her greatness and her spirit, as a menace to our Methodist liberties and a snare to our Methodist peo-ple; and yet the millions born within her pale and baptized at her altars are entitled to our Methodist sympathy and need our Methodist ministrations. We Methodist Bishops therefore ask your Methodist attention to the problem of evangelizing the Romanists in this country.'

Now, if the Methodist had done a little oit in the days of the American Revolution to establish the liberties of all the people in the land, and thrown their weight on the side of national independence as Catholics did, they might claim a hare with their fellow cltizens; but in view of what they did then, and what Catholics did then, is there not a little too much of this "We, Us & Co." business?

Avoid the use of calomel for billous work-to redeem the world-so when He ascended into Heaven, the Holy Ghost, co-equal with the Father and the Son, and to accomplish it until He should come again. There is another truth. When He ascended into Heaven, the Holy Ghost, co-equal with the Father and the Son,

sented him with a reached Scotland with haps, and resided in Marchioness of Hunt During the absence tyne, one of the small priests, Mr. Crighton prospect of worldly form to the Kirk. severe blow to the on this return, visite and by his powerful him back to the fold. penitent and signed to be sent to the other for distributio lics. He was in de time and in six w Ballantyne's return this life in sentimen In little more th

of Pentecost the Holy Ghost came as He had never come before ; He came person ally. One of the greatest saints and doctors of the Eastern Church, writing in the fifth century, says that on the day of Pentecost it was not only the unction that was poured out, but the Anointed Himself came. It was a personal coming.

In the same century St. Augustine wrote "It was not the odor of the balsam which was poured out on the Day of Penteceet it was the substance of the baleam itself." How is it that men can read the Holy Scriptures and not perceive this truth i Our Lord said, "I will ask the Father and He will send you another Paraclete." Why another ? It means this: I have been your Paraclete hitherto: but it is expedien for you that I go away; but I will ask the Father, and He shall send you another Paraclete, and He shall abide with you for ever. I am going, He shall never go. And it is to be noted that the words in the original as they were written by St. John have all the distinct and incom-

municable marks of personality: "He shall abide with you. The world shall not know Him, but ye shall know Him." The Holy Ghost is not spoken of as

The Holy Ghost is not spoken of as A POWER, AN INFLUENCE, OR AN AGENCY; but He is spoken of as a Person—"another Paraclete." And, further, the world will not receive Him; because the natural man not receive film; because the notation may or the animal man, "perceiveth not the things of the Spirit of God"—they are "foolishness unto Him," and for this reason: they are "spiritually examined and discerned," and because the world can neither see nor handle the Holy Ghost, it does not believe in Him. Well, the first does not believe in Him. Well, the first truth to be laid to heart is this : as the Son came, a Divine Person, co-equal with 3the Father and Holy Ghost, came for a special