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The Waldensian Martyr.

A Waldensian pedler, named Romeyer, having occasion to pass through Draguignan, in France, was arrested on the charge of being a "Lutheran," in 1558. After various private interrogatories, in which he made no secret whatever of his religious faith, the tribunal of Draguignan assembled for his trial. An Observantine monk on the preceding day celebrated a mass to the Holy Ghost, "in order," as he said, "that the Holy Ghost might inspire the judges to condemn the cursed Lutheran to the flames." But his mass did not produce the effect he desired; for a young advocate, addressing the tribunal, pointed out that Romeyer had been guilty of no legal offence; that he had neither preached nor dogmatized in France; that he was a foreigner; was only occupied in Provence with his trade; and that justice, instead of condemning, ought to protect him. The whole bar supported this argument. The judges were half of them for an acquittal, half for condemnation, and the prisoner was relegated to his dungeon.

Upon the decision of the judges being made known, the Observantine monk, who had made a sort of personal

matter of the case, and who saw the credit of his masses and his prayers singularly compromised in public opinion by this result of the trial, had the bells of his monastery rung, harangued the mob who assembled at the sound, and insisted that good Catholics should not permit an infamous heretic, a Lutheran, an accursed soul, to pollute with impunity the devout town of Draguignan with his presence. Having thus excited the populace, the worthy monk proceeded to the official and consuls of the town, representing that their honor was concerned in preserving intact the excellent reputation of their dear city; and then, all together, followed by the infuriated mob, went to the magistrates, vociferating that unless they condemned the heretic to be burnt alive, they themselves would denounce them to the parliament, the king, the pope, and to all the powers of the earth, to procure their destruction. Such is the religious fervor of Popery!

The lieutenant of the king, who at this time was the representative, in each district, of the administration, invoked the respect due to judicial forms, which ought not to be set aside, even against a heretic. "Kill him! kill him!" cried the people. "Burn him!"