

passed from the Institute of the Society of Jesus to the state of secular priests, are men of education and good character, they may grant to them, or refuse, at their discretion, permission to hear confession and preach, and without this authorization, given in writing, not one of them shall be able to exercise these functions. However, the bishops or local ordinaries shall never **grant** this permission, with respect to outsiders, to those who shall live in houses or colleges previously belonging to the Society, and consequently we forbid them to preach or administer to outsiders the sacrament of penance, even as Gregory X., our predecessor, forbade it in the General Council above mentioned. Especially do we hereby hold the bishops responsible for the execution of all these measures, advising them constantly to bear in mind the strict account that they one day must render to God of the sheep committed to their care, and the terrible judgment with which the Judge of the living and the dead threatens those who rule over others.

Further, if among those who were members of the Society, there be found some who were entrusted with the education of the young, or who exercised the functions of professors in different colleges and schools, it is our will that they be absolutely *degraded from all direction, administration, or authority and forbidden* to continue in these functions, unless there be hope that they may do useful work, and unless they seem to be far removed from all these discussions, and from all those points of doctrine, the laxity and futility of which only occasion and engender inconveniences and fatal contestations; and we order that these functions be forever *interdicted* to those who could not strenuously endeavor to preserve peace in the schools and public tranquillity, and that if any such were actually in charge they should be deprived of them.

As to the missions, it is our will that they be equally included in all that we have enacted concerning the suppression of the Society, and we reserve to ourselves the faculty of taking the proper measures for effecting the conversion of the infidels, in the easiest and surest way, and for causing all disputes to cease.

Now, after having *totally annulled and abrogated*, as aforesaid, all the privileges and statutes of this order, we declare all those of its members, who will have left their houses and colleges, and taken the position of secular clerks, to be fit for, and capable of, obtaining, conformably to the decrees of the Holy Canons and Apostolic Constitution, any kind of benefice, whether simple or with the cure of souls, office, dig-

nity, personat and others, from which they would have been absolutely excluded in the Society by the brief of Gregory XIII., issued September 10, 1584, which begins by these words: *Satis superque*.

We further allow them to receive retribution for the celebration of mass, which also, was forbidden them and to enjoy all those gratuities and favours of which they were forever deprived as regular clerks of the Society of Jesus.

We likewise abrogate all the permissions they had obtained from the general and the other superiors, in virtue of privileges granted by sovereign Pontiffs, such as those of reading heretical books, and others, prohibited and condemned by the Holy See; *of not observing fast days and not abstaining from forbidden meats on these same days; of advancing or retarding the hours fixed for reciting the Breviary* and all others of the same kind, which we forbid them to avail themselves of in future under the heaviest penalties; for, our intention is that, like secular priests, they shall live in accordance with the common rule.

After the publication of this brief, we forbid any person soever, to dare to suspend the execution of it, even under color, title or pretext, of demand, appeal, recourse, declaration or consultation of any doubts that might arise, or any other pretext foreseen or unforeseen; for it is our will that the *suppression and abrogation of the whole Society as well as of all its officers, should from this moment and immediately, fully and entirely take effect*, in the form and manner that we have herein above prescribed, under penalty of major excommunication, ipso facto, and reserved to us and the Popes our successors, of who-soever should dare to place the slightest obstacle, impediment, or delay in the way of the execution of this present brief.

Further, we command, and in virtue of holy obedience, we forbid all and every regular and secular ecclesiastic, whatever be their grade, dignity, quality or condition, and especially those who have hitherto belonged to the Society and were members of it, to oppose this suppression, to attack it, to write against it, or even to speak about it, or its cause or its motives, or about the institute, the rules, the constitution, and the discipline of the extinct Society, or any other thing relative to this matter without express permission from the Sovereign Pontiff. We forbid all and every one, under penalty also of excommunication, reserved to us and our successors, to dare to attack and insult, on account of this suppression, either in secret or in public, *viva voce* or in writing, by disputes, inju-