

against tempests and lightning, against dangers from fire and flood and earthquake, against war and pestilence and famine. The bell is then anointed on the outside in seven distinct places with holy oil, on the inside in four distinct places with sacred chrism, calling upon the angels of God, when that bells sounds forth, to come to our assistance and scatter our spiritual enemies, calling upon all creatures to join at the sound of that bell in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God. Then the bell is filled with the odor of sweet incense, and the prayers and psalms are renewed. It is prayed that the sound of this Christian bell, in all its efficacy, may be equal to the grandest wonders recorded in Scripture,—equal to the trumpets of the Levites, when the walls and towers of Jericho fell prostrate to the earth; equal to the prayer and sacrifice of Samuel, when a tempest burst forth and scattered the Philistines; equal to the sacred presence of Christ, when arising from slumber, he commanded the angry waves to be still, and silenced the storm. Bells thus blessed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, are destined by their majestic voices to call the faithful, as children to the House of their Heavenly Father, to gather them around the altar of the Living God, that they may there publicly, and with one heart, pray, worship and adore.

It is in the various Catholic countries of the Continent, especially in France, Spain, Italy, and Austria, that Bells play a great part. Their cheering sounds are heard very frequently on Sundays and festival days, filling the air with solemn and majestic harmony with a sort of superhuman music, of celestial melody which makes one feel as nearer to heaven and breathe a higher and purer atmosphere. In those countries