

**DONALD AND THE CATHOLIC NOBLEMAN.**

A Scotch nobleman, of the Roman Catholic persuasion, lived a very retired life, and left his affairs very much in the hands of others. One of his tenants, named Donald, rented a farm upon which his forefathers had lived above two hundred years.—The lease by which he held was, on the point of expiring, and the steward refused to allow Donald a renewal, wishing to give it to a friend of his own. Poor Donald tried every argument in his power with the steward, but in vain. At length he determined to make his case known to his lordship himself; but at the castle he was refused, the steward having given orders that he should not be admitted.

Donald, almost in despair, resolved on a bold measure. He climbed over the garden wall, and entered a private door, made his way unobserved towards the apartment of the nobleman. As he drew near and heard his lordship's voice engaged in prayer; and waiting till he should conclude, distinctly heard him pleading earnestly with the Virgin Mary and St Francis to intercede with the Father and Son in his behalf.

After the voice ceased Donald gently knocked at the door, was admitted, and made his case known to the nobleman, who greatly moved by his tale, assured him that his lease should be renewed, and himself and family protected from the resentment of the steward. Donald poured forth his earnest and artless thanks, and was about to take leave, when a feeling of anxiety for the generous nobleman took possession of him thus:

"My Lord, I have been a bold man, but you have forgiven me, and saved me and my family from ruin; I would again be a bold man, and say something farther, if I have your permission.

"Well, Donald, speak out," said the nobleman.

"My lord," replied Donald, "as I stood waiting at your door I heard you praying with great earnestness to the Virgin Mary and St. Francis; you seemed to be very unhappy. Now, my lord, forgive me, but I cannot help thinking that the Virgin Mary and St. Francis will do you but little good. I had been a ruined man if I had trusted to your servants; but I came direct to your lordship, and you heard me. Now if you would but leave the Virgin Mary and St. Francis, who I am convinced will do no more for you than your steward would for me, and just go direct to the Lord Jesus himself and pray to him for what you need, he will hear you and grant the desires of your heart; for he has said in his word, 'Him that cometh to ME I will in no wise cast out.'

**THE DEATH-BED OF CHARLES IX. OF FRANCE.**

—It is said that the solitary hours of Charles the IX. of France were rendered horrible by the repetition of the shrieks and cries which had assailed his ear during the massacre of St. Bartholomew.

The massacre of St. Bartholomew lasted seven days, during which time more than 5,000 persons were slain in Paris, and from 40 to 50,000 in the country. During the execution, the King betrayed neither pity nor remorse, but fired with his long gun at the poor fugitives across the river; and on viewing the body of Coligny on a gibbet, he exulted with a fiendish malignity. In early life, this monster had been noted for his cruelty, nothing gave him greater pleasure than cutting off the heads of asses and pigs with a single blow from his couteau de casse. After the massacre, he is said to have contracted a singularly wild expression of feature, and to have slept little, and waked in agonies. He attributed his thirst for human blood to the circumstance of his mother having at an early period of his life familiarized his mind with the brutal sport of hunting bullocks, and with all kinds of cruelty. It is recorded that, when dying, he actually sweated blood.

Lowliness of mind is not a flower that grows in the field of nature, but is planted by the finger of God in a renewed heart, and learned of the lowly Jesus.

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