

And all ye choirs of angel's bright,
And all ye salate on high,
Obtain, that we some day may share
Your blissful destiny!

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Th' eternal One in Three,
Let creatures pour their endless praise
In grateful harmony!

Original.

ON MAN'S CONNECTION WITH ROT- TENESS AND THE WORM.

Futredini dixi, Pater meus es: Mater mea et Soror mea Vermibus.—JON xvii. 14.

I said to Rotteness, thou art my father; and to the Worm, ye are my mother and my sister.

It is truly humbling and mortifying for man, to think how, in his corporeal part, he is so nearly allied and of a-kin with rotteness and the worm. These, indeed, are so intimately connected with his nature in its present degraded and imperfect state, that not only after death his body is doomed to become their prey, but that even during this life, and from the very moment of his conception in his mother's womb, till that of his descent into the grave, he is continually exposed to their tormenting and destructive influence. His terrestrial frame, having once lost its immortal temper by the baneful touch of sin, became liable to corruption and dissolution; and, in order to humble him the more, who had sinned through pride, wishing to be greater and more perfect than God was pleased to make him, even like unto God himself, the mighty minister appointed to work him all this mischief, and to be the constant disturber of his quiet—the spoiler of his beauty—the underminer of his strength—and the triumphant subduer of all his might,—is nothing, for the most part, but a diminutive worm; often a mere living atom, or one of the countless animalculæ, whose imperceptible and evanescent tribes are bro't back to our view, and rendered visible by the Microscope—that window, through which we peep into another world of pigmy beings; and yet it is probable we discover among these only the largest, and most gigantic forms.

We have been enabled through this medium to ascertain that worms and animalculæ are the cause of many, perhaps of most of the distempers that afflict the human race. Of those that are epidemical, several may be traced to this origin. That of the small pox is evidently occasioned by an insect, which is seen to burrow in the skin, making its nest where the pimple is raised, and hatching there its eggs, with that degree of prolificness, and quick imparted animation, which is common to insects, and which seems to increase in proportion as they diminish in size. Their prodigiously rapid propagation where they happen to find some favorite substance to nestle in, and feed upon, accounts for all the phenomena of this loathsome disease: and perhaps in vaccinating, or inoculating against it, we but submit our bodies to the depredations of a less noxious species of insects, which change our humors, so as to render them forever after unpalatable to the others that are apt of themselves to fasten on us. The Measles, too, and the

ITCH, are probably accounted for in the same way.

We read of conquering heroes and mighty potentates, who had the world at their command, subdued themselves and humbled to the dust by the onset of such puny warriors, whose countless legions have attacked, and carried, as it were, by storm, the citadel of life—sapping and ruining it at every pore. Almighty God, in derision of all that is great, can send forth His myriads, like a formidable host, against all the nations, as he formerly did against Egypt; can make such feeble agents dash to the ground the aspiring pride of states and empires, and use them in his hand as a weighty scourge, and the dreadful instrument of his vengeance on the guilty. At one time the States of Holland were on the point of being ruined by an insect not bigger than the smallest needle. Their fleets, which had been for some time in port, were on the eve of sailing to their East India settlements, when there was observed, round every ship's bottom, a thick scum, all alive with insects; which, it was found, had so corroded the ship's bottom, as to have left it scarcely the thickness of parchment.—Had that fleet gone so to sea, it must have perished. To prevent a like occurrence, the copper bottoming of ships was invented.

The yellow fever, the plague itself, and a thousand other maladies to which mankind are exposed, may be considered, with no small degree of probability, as effects produced by some invisible, and almost infinitely multiplied *Animulculæ*; that thrive in certain atmospheres; and prey imperceptibly on that aliment, which is most congenial to them. This hypothesis seems, at any rate, to explain many singular, and hitherto unaccounted for peculiarities in such diseases.

In this manner does it happen that mites and maggots in cheese, and other substances; worms in the stomach or intestines; and, what seems one adhering tissue of a particular species, called the *tape-worm*; finding their way in their original minute and invisible state, into every secret cranny and pore; breed there, and riot and thrive upon that food, which their instinct has taught them to find out; to such a degree, as not only to become visible; but even to frighten us at times with their prodigiously swollen and enormous appearance. We know "that all nature teems with life," as our poet Thomson emphatically expresses it. In every liquid; in the smallest drop of the purest water; in the leaf of every plant; in the very centre of stones and minerals; *Animulculæ* are discovered without number, and of every shape and hue. The atmosphere is full of them. We inhale them at every breath we draw. Though wholesome in general, and conducive, perhaps even necessary to health; yet, under certain circumstances they may become of a poisonous and infectious quality; or others such may replace them; should that which expels or destroys some, happen to invite forth, and call up others; as may be the case in certain fogs and vapours arising from stagnant waters; which smite those, who breathe

in them, with agues, tertian and other chronic distempers, often bringing them down in a few hours from the very pinnacle of health and strength, to sickness, debility, and an untimely grave. The same may be said of the jail distemper, putrids, and all kinds of diseases arising from impure air and damps. The blood of patients in such cases appears through the microscope sometimes surcharged with animalculæ, which, circulating through the veins to every part of the system, infect and vitiate all the humours, and make at last of the whole body one resolute mass of putrefaction. Indeed, I should be apt to suspect that, wherever corruption of any kind takes place, it is the work of animalculæ.

These are not theories which I pretend to offer, but slight surmises from observation; on which it may not be impossible but future theories, from more minute investigation by others, may be built, and prove remedial to the sufferings of our kind.

But it is not on man alone that this spoiling power of animalculæ is exhibited. We discover its effects in the diseases of the animals, and in the blights of trees and vegetables it is strikingly displayed. In the year 1826, that delicious species of apple, called the Golden Pippin, was nearly destroyed all over Great Britain, by a blight peculiar to itself.

This immense profusion of vitality, and endlessly varied animation, flowing from the creative principle of life itself, seems, in the present deteriorated state of things, to have been made the complicated, penetrative, and deep searching instrument of death and destruction.

☞ All letters and remittances are to be forwarded, free of postage, to the Editor, the Very Rev. Wm. P. McDonald, Hamilton.

THE CATHOLIC.

Hamilton, G. D.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27.

PROTESTANT SISTERS OF CHARITY.

In "The Church" newspaper of the 16th inst, we find announced an institution of recent origin—the name is rather an odd one—*Protestant Sisters of Charity*!!

But it is given in contradistinction to those of the Catholic Church.

Well, then, after all, there are some good institutions in that church worth the copying after; but how pityfully inferior does the Protestant copy seem when compared with the Catholic original!

A set of poor apprenticed servant girls, employed for hire to take care of the sick in their neighbourhood! Why, the thing is good enough in itself; but to palm them upon the public as *Sisters of Charity*, they who receive the charity themselves; who labour but for their own comfort and emolument till they get husbands, and are thus at last more independently provided for;

to pass these off, as in any degree comparable with those in the Catholic church, were something more than ridiculous. To place such female paupers, and salary bribed menials in juxtaposition with ladies of the noblest birth, the most polished education, elegant manners, and the highest mental attainments; who freely renounce all worldly prospects and enjoyments, to dedicate themselves for life, from the pure love of God and of their fellow creatures to be the humble servants of the poor, the diseased, and suffering of our race; and all without fee or reward in this life; were an impudent absurdity.—The tricks of parsons, played off upon their simple ones, are numerous and surprisingly ingenious, to make their ignorant and unenquiring followers imagine that in their national establishments are to be found as perfect and holy institutions as any in the only church established by the Deity incarnate. But well are the interested aware that without such lying shifts and studied wiles, the public might come at last to know and embrace the only true religion from which they have been lod astray, and then adieu to the easy weekly provision for preacher, wife and family.

In the same number of *the Church* we find a Doctor Jortin endeavouring to prove that numbers and extent form no mark of the true church. But has this biblical doctor never read God's promise to his Gentile church, Psalm ii. 9. "Ask of me and I will give thee the nations for thine inheritance, and the ends of the earth for thy possession;" nor the Saviour's commission to his true pastors: "Go," said he, "and teach," not only England; nor merely Scotland, &c.; but "all nations"? Now is England in this Jortin's idea equal to "all nations"? But he will have the Greek church joined with his own, to make at least some show in numbers. His church however has many steps to make towards popish doctrines, before that desirable union can take place.

Success, then, to PUSEYISM and the Oxford divines!

DR. PUSEY IN DUBLIN.

In the London *Morning Post* of Monday August 23d, is the following very singular announcement, from the London Record:

"Five ladies were received on Friday morning into the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Baggot-street. There were present, Dr Murray, Rev Mr Meyler, Rev'd. Mr. O'Connell, Rev Doctor PUSEY and Family.

"An animated and very interesting conversation, touching the fundamental points of Roman Catholic doctrine, took place between the Rev. Dr Pusey and the Rev. Messrs Meyler and O'Connell."

"It would be interesting [says a *Looker On*, in the above paper] to know the nature of this conversation; but at all events it seems rather strange that clergymen of the Established Church should appear to sanction by their presence, ceremonies and doctrines in direct opposition to their own