

Q. 120. How is it tyrannical?

A. The nun, or sister, is at the entire disposal of the superiors—abbess and “priesthood”—and obliged to render implicit, blind obedience.

Q. 121. How is it unscriptural?

A. We are taught in the Bible that we should do our duty in our various stations and conditions, but we nowhere read of the conventual system. The system of convents was borrowed from the pagans, who had their vestal virgins. It is not of Christian origin.

Q. 122. How is it unconstitutional?

A. It is contrary to the principles of the British Constitution, and of liberty, that British subjects be allowed to take vows of perpetual surrender of their liberty, or that institutions for such purposes be permitted in our land.

Q. 123. Would the mere inspection of nunneries render them less unconstitutional?

A. No; while nunneries exist at all, the unconstitutional vows of perpetual celibacy and seclusion, with all their attendant evils, would still continue. The system is fundamentally bad. The evil is incurable. Nunneries should therefore be abolished.

#### Virgin Mary-worship.

Q. 124. Is there any Scriptural authority for praying to or worshipping the Virgin Mary?

A. No. The worship of any other than God is condemned. In the Acts of the Apostles the Virgin Mary is mentioned but once, and once only in the Epistles, then as a mere woman. There is not a single instance of prayer being offered to her.

Q. 125. Is Virgin Mary-worship opposed to any saying of the Virgin Mary herself?

A. Yes, strongly. The Virgin Mary speaks of God as her Saviour. Now, if she were not a sinner she would not need a Saviour.

Luke i. 46, 47. And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
(47) And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour