

horse, foot, and dragoons in their bloody campaigns against the recusants; to seize the widow's pot, and the dying poor man's only blanket; to whip and wound, to shoot, slay, and kill; to break their solemn oaths for keeping schools in their parishes, to sell, alienate and destroy the property of the Church to suffer their Parsonages to fall into ruin; to reside any where and every where, but in their own parishes; to quarter their numerous progeny on the public revenue,† nay, to be Half Pay Captains, and Parsons at the same time—receiving the money of the Church for “the cure of souls!” (and well *corned* no doubt those unfortunate souls sometimes are) and the money of the state for their *expected* services in shedding blood!

We could enumerate a long catalogue of little Protestant *Indulgences* of this nature, which would far exceed the List in the “Tax Book of the Roman Chancery,” so impudently *forged* by Protestants, but we think it unnecessary at present, as we are anxious to publish a celebrated Protestant Indulgence which was given by the Father of the Reformation himself—we mean that Apostolic man who proclaimed himself “Doctor Martin Luther,”‡ and whom we once heard an English Parson in the presence of Four hundred Protestant ladies, call “the ever Blessed, and ever-to-be-venerated Martin Luther!”

Philip, the Landgrave of Hesse, had been married for sixteen years to Christiana daughter of the Duke of Saxony, and they had several children. He was “violent and passionate unfaithful and superstitious,” according to the testimony of the Protestant historian Menzelius. He was however, not only an ardent Reformer, but an indefatigable Bible Reader. Having conceived an adulterous passion for Miss Margaret Saal, a maid of honor to his sister, he was unable to accomplish his base purposes. So this holy man lost his appetite, and fell into a gloomy fit of the dumps, and had recourse to his Bible! (like Henry VIII in a similar predicament) to ease his mind! and found out in Genesis that Lamech had *two* Wives at the same time and concluded that a “babe of grace” like himself should enjoy as many privileges as any Jew in the Old Testament, and accordingly drew up a case of conscience! to be submitted through Bucer to “Doctor Martin” himself and the other New Apostles of Wittenberg. In this Evangelical document, the love-sick libertine stated, “that he never loved his wife, that he did not marry her through inclination or love, that he had not been more than three weeks faithful to her, that he could not abstain from fornication (adultery?) nor renounce his licentious habits, unless he could get Mademoiselle Saal for his wife.” So he humbly prayed “Doctor Martin” and Philip Melancthon to grant him an *INDULGENCE*!

†The Immaculate Protestant Lord Bacon, (who as Chancellor contrasts so well with the immortal Catholic Sir Thomas More) has the impertinence to utter the following sentiment on this subject:

“A numerous married clergy, giving life to great numbers of idlers, or persons *never to work, is very dangerous to a state*, by creating mouths, without creating a suitable portion of labour at the same time.”

‡“I Doctor Martin Luther, an unworthy evangelist of our Lord J. C., do confess this article, that *faith alone without works* justifies in the sight of God, and I declare that in spite of the Emperor of the Romans, the Emperor of the Turks, Tartars and Persians, the Pope, all the Cardinals, bishops, priests, monks, nuns, kings, princes, all the world, and all the Devils, it shall stand unshaken for ever!”—*Glossa in Edict. Imper. Op. Latin, tom XX.*

For the enlightenment of “Protestant ignorance” we will print an extract or two from the Bull of Indulgence which was published in consequence, and “dated at Wittenberg the Wednesday after the Feast of St. Nicholas, 1530.”

After some preliminary remarks, “Doctor Martin” and his brother Reformers proceed in this godly fashion.—

“But if your Highness do not abstain from an impure life, because you say it is impossible for you to do so, we should wish that your Highness were in a better state before God. . . . But if your Highness be fully resolved to take another wife, we judge that it ought to be done secretly, as we have said above with respect to this Dispensation; that is to say, none but the lady herself, and a few trusty persons, obliged to secrecy under the seal of Confession (!!!) know anything of the matter.—Hence it will not be attended with any important contradiction or scandal. For it is not unusual for princes to keep mistresses: and though the *vulgar* should be so amazed (!) the more prudent would understand this “moderate method” of life (!) and would prefer it to adultery, or other brutal or foul actions.—There is no need of being much concerned for what men will say, provided all be right with conscience. . . . Your Highness hath therefore, not only the approbation of us all, in a case of necessity, but also the considerations we have made thereupon. . . . We are most ready to serve your Highness.—Signed: Martin Luther, Philip Melancthon, Martin Bucer, Anthony Corvin, Adam, John Lenigno, Justice Wintferte, Dionysius Melancthon.” A precious lot of scoundrels truly!

Poor Christiana of Saxony would have had a much better chance of justice from calumniated Rome which has always been the indomitable defender of the rights of injured woman. The weaker sex owes everything to Catholicity for its inviolable respect for the conjugal tie.

What will our English Christians say to this great Protestant Bull of Indulgences? It exposes the leading Reformers in all their true colours. But we must bring this chapter on Protestant Indulgences to a close. We will therefore omit the *Penary Indulgence* granted by the Church of England to her children, to dispense themselves from the obligation of keeping all vigils, Fast days, and Lenten mortifications as prescribed in that quaint Repertory of curiosities the Book of Common Prayer, and conclude with a very general and perpetual Indulgence from “Doctor Martin” also, in which he gives permission, as clearly as possible, to commit adultery. He has published no Tax Book to be sure. In this however, he has only made the crime cheaper. Even the restraint of a pecuniary fine is removed. We are forced for obvious reasons to give his language in the original Latin, lest the English delicacy of the “Gentlemen and Christians” should be shocked:

“Ut non est in meis viribus sim, ut vir non situm, tam nec eat etiam mei juris, utabsque muliere sim. Rursus ut in tua manu non est, ut femina non sis sienee in te est, utabsque viro degas. . . . Tertia ratio divortii est, ubi alter alteri se subduxerit, ut debitam benevolentiam persolvere nolit, aut habitare cum eo renuerit—Hic oportum est, ut maritus dicat: Si tu nolueris altera volui. Si domina noluit, adveniat ancilla!!!” Oper. Lut. Ed. Writ. tom. V. 119, 123.

And we have seen Four Hundred Protestant Ladies clapping their hands, and waving their scented mouchoirs in a perfect agony of delight when this Monster of obscenity was styled the ever Blessed, and ever to be venerated! and we sighed deeply for their “Protestant ignorance” because we felt that if the delicate creatures knew “Doctor Martin” as well as ourselves, they would shudder at his name, and loathe his memory.

Oh Protestantism, Protestantism! in what profound darkness thou enloapest thy unsuspecting dupes!

#### HELPLESS IMBECILITY OF THE “CRIMINAL.”

This poor Ignoramus in his last Editorial spends a whole column of nonsense on an expression of ours in a recent number, respecting one of the vilest of all the vile Protestant calumnies that are uttered against our Religion. When we were told that in the Catholic Church money can purchase leave to commit