

Religion—he prays, and his words carry hope and consolation to the dying. Again, look and behold that identical being treading with stealthy pace his way to the commission of hideous debauchery within the precincts of an HOSPITAL.

There is no exaggeration in these contrasts. The duties of the nuns and priests have been and are such as we have ascribed to them.—Now we ask the ten thousand readers of the book, if the deeds therein alleged are not incompatible with human nature,—if any thing that is known of man's capacity for crime can render them credible? Scrutinize the annals of vice, and where will be found any thing approaching the horrors imputed in the "Disclosures," to the Roman Catholic clergy and orders of Lower Canada? Protestant historians, in dwelling on the enormities of the Catholics in the worst of times, have never charged them with the turpitudes related in this book. Luther, the violent and ruthless Luther, in justification of his attacks on the Roman Catholic church, never urged the existence of corruption so horrible. This remark applies with still greater force to his fellow-laborers and successors. At the close of the last century, and in enervated Italy, the Grand Duke of Tuscany ordered an inquiry into the state of the religious establishments within his dominions; and the result of the inquiry was, that reform was judged necessary. Ricci, bishop of Pistoia, was appointed by his sovereign to conduct and bring to a termination that reform. The life of Ricci has been writ-