

there, and her services strictly performed, so that the old congregation will scarcely feel the change. It is scarcely too much to say that more or less gradually the whole tone and character of the ministrations are likely to be as much altered as if the old and new incumbents were Priests of different communions. . . What is now taking place at Clifton—namely, the forcible substitution of Sec-tarianism under the garb of the Church, is but an example of what will infallibly take place throughout the whole country if the schemes of the Puritans be suffered to proceed unchecked."

T. W. M.

March 25, 1847.

DISGRACEFUL FORGERIES OF EXETER HALL. EXPOSURE OF SIR CULLING E. SMITH.

(From the Tablet.)

Sir C. E. Smith, as the mouthpiece of the Evangelical Alliance, has been lately making a professional tour through the Provinces calling meetings and reading for the amusement and gratification of his audiences a parody on the Lord's Prayer, which, with his characteristic hardihood of assertion, he stated had been circulated by hundreds of thousands, "with the full authority of the Church of Rome." Some account of Sir Culling's sayings at Newcastle-on-Tyne in relation to the above mentioned forged paper, taken from the Newcastle Guardian, was given in the Tablet of the 3rd instant; and we to-day give a letter which appeared in the Aberdeen Herald of the 10th, from the pen of the Rev. William Smith, of St. Mary's College, Blairs, addressed to Sir C. E. Smith, which gives the finishing blow to this new attempt of the Quixotic Baronet to pass off a glaring forgery as a genuine document. We here add the remarks of the Editor of the Herald upon the affair:—

"More Forgeries.—We beg to direct the attention of our readers to an exposure in our first page of a forged document produced and commented upon by Sir Culling E. Smith, at one of the recent Evangelical Alliance meetings. We have no admiration for Popery; but it must be bad indeed if it is worse than the dishonest means that are vainly resorted to for its suppression."

LETTER TO SIR CULLING E. SMITH, BART.

Sir—At a meeting of the Aberdeen sub-division of the Evangelical Alliance, held on Wednesday 16th June, you stated that a document, which you read to the meeting, was "circulated by hundreds of thousands in Belgium, Switzerland, France,

and other places, with the full authority of the Church of Rome."—(Banner, 15th June.) Permit me, Sir, to recall to your memory that, on the breaking up of the meeting, you were waited upon by a Catholic Priest, who requested a copy of the document, with the name and quality of your informant. Your aristocratic elegance of manners is, I understand, alike honourable to yourself, and worthy of your high connections; and I must do you the justice to say that the courtesy which marked your compliance with my request was no discredit to the acknowledged urbanity of your private life. Would that your public conduct were characterised by equal decorum! You could not, I presume, imagine that I had assumed such an attitude out of mere idle bravado. Past experience had taught you that a watchful eye was on your proceedings, and that Popery had both sagacity enough to scent out an "ingenious device," and resolution to pursue it to death. Truly, Sir, you have been at more than ordinary pains to entwine an honoured name with bastard laurels.—Your six charges against "Romanism in Italy," your disgenerous shifts when taken to task by the Catholic Institute; the utter worthlessness of your authorities; your frequent self contradictions, are still in the minds of many.—(See Tablet, 7th and 14th December, 1844; 18th of January and 1st of February, 1845.) The object of your ambition is attained; a niche in Exeter Hall awaits you, and if an inscription be wanted—"Dolus an virtus quis in hoste requirat?"—is both appropriate in its terms and venerable for its antiquity. With such pretensions to merit, you have an undoubted right to enjoy your well-earned laurels. For my part, I should be sorry to disturb your tranquillity by questioning your title. I would rather deserve your gratitude by establishing your claim on a still broader foundation. I may, perhaps, have been tardy, in coming forward to your aid. Your sense of justice, however, will not ascribe it to any indifference about your reputation, but place it to the account of those delays which, notwithstanding the great results which your amiable friend somewhat ludicrously promises you for the speed of "steamboats, railroads, and the electric telegraph," are still inseparable from distant communication.

With your permission, then, I shall now address myself to the point at issue. Has the document in question been really "circulated by hundreds of thousands in Belgium, Switzerland, France, and other places, with the full authority of the Church at Rome"? You seem, Sir, to have had the geographical chart spread out before you. On the other side of the Alps, Italy, and Sicily had already received your addresses, it was but just, that on this side, Belgium and France should share