

uses the following language :—"I may add, that so long as I lecture on the Articles, and in so doing, necessarily treat of the Romish error of invocation of saints, so long must I refer to the intercession of saints in our behalf." Here it is very remarkable he acknowledges that the invocation of saints is a Romish error, but the intercession of saints an orthodox truth. In this enunciation he reasons from the effect to the cause, which is called an *a posteriori* argument. In medical jurisprudence the skillful physician usually assumes an *a priori* argument--that is, from cause to effect. No doubt he also takes an *a posteriori* view when he investigates the effects in order to ascertain the cause and remove the seat of the disease, knowing well that certain causes will produce certain effects, but he does not usually palliate or strengthen the cause, that the effect may become more virulent and incurable. Now, this is precisely what the learned Provost *does do*; he strengthens the cause in order to invigorate the effect. Would any one of common sense say that the Romanist would stultify himself by invoking St. Mary or St. Dominick if he were not *taught to believe* that both St. Mary and St. Dominick have power in heaven to make favourable intercession in his behalf? Would any one, even in earthly things, supplicate a favour from a patron who had either no favour to bestow or was powerless to bestow it?

This *a posteriori* view is taken by all the co-advocates of the dogma, (page 47,) some of whom enter into a spurious philosophical disquisition respecting the difference between meritorious and deprecatory intercession, to which the Provost invites particular attention; but although these authors point out the abuse of the doctrine of intercession of saints, not one of them has taken upon himself the necessary task of pointing out the order for its use. They proclaim anathemas against the use of invocation--the effect--but not one of them holds out a nostrum to eradicate and remove the cause; thus, while these

*See page 23*