

of the house, behold, ye shall break into it; and if he hold fast to his table, or his bed, or his jug, or his spoon, or anything which is his, ye shall smite him with your truncheon very grievously, and carry him away to the dungeon, and give him the bread of affliction, and the water of affliction for six months. until he repent,

15. So the churchwardens went their way, and they took with them a brother, whose name was Phlegon, which was the beadle of the church; and he was arrayed in scarlet apparel for glory and for beauty, and he had a cocked hat upon his head. and a staff like unto a weaver's beam in his hand.

16. And they came unto the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and he looked forth from his window. and commanded the damsel to make fast the door against the Nazarenes.

17. Now the brother whose name was Phlegon was a very fat man; and he ran unto the door in the greatness of his strength, and smote it with his side till it opened, and they entered in.

18. And the churchwardens said unto Silvanus that they were sorry exceedingly, but that such was the law, that the Apostolic Church must needs be supported by the goods of them that believed not, and moreover that the Jews and the idolaters might come unto the church if they chose.

19. So Phlegon looked up to heaven, and seized upon the table, and

upon the jug of the ruler, as Paul had commanded; upon his silver spoon also, and upon the spoon of his wife which he had given her.

20. And Silvanus held fast with his hand upon the table. Then Phlegon sighed, and took him by the beard and smote him upon the head, so that he fell upon the earth; and his wife and his little daughter lifted up their voices and wept.

21. Then the churchwardens and the beadle took the bed, and the table, and the jug, and the spoons of Silvanus, and they departed unto the market place, mourning over his unbelief, and sold them unto them which passed by, and payment was made

22. Then they returned, and told Paul, and Gaius the dean, and Peter, and Nicholas, and Martin, and Sanctus, and Tertullianus, the priests; and they rejoiced greatly, and all the saints which were with them, at that which was done.

23. And great fear came upon the slaves, and upon the heathen, and upon the Jews, and they paid the rate of twopence in the pound, and all men glorified the power of the Church and of the Apostles.

24. And Paul gave a parish with light duty and a living in Macedonia, unto the sons of the churchwardens; and they gave unto Phlegon the beadle, soup for the comfort of his body, and blankets, and an allotment at Christmas, for the zeal which he showed.

#### CHURCH ROBBERY.

High church robbery of the goods and chattels of christians who repudiate the authority of "THE LESSER BABYLON" is taking place every day in England. We could fill our pages with cases of this kind, marked by the most revolting cruelty and injustice. We mention only *two*. On the 2d October, 1848, in the County Court, the Lord de Saumerez, Vicar of Huggate, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, appeared as the plaintiff in an action for the recovery of *four pence*, alleged to be due by a Labourer residing in his parish for Easter Offerings!! The *Bucks Gazette* also tells us that a few months ago, "John Simonds, of Mursley Bucks, an honest and industrious man, was brought to gaol at Aylesbury, in custody of a police constable, and committed

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