

clared that this Church should never fail—that the gates of Hell should never prevail against it, and that He would send to the Apostles and their successors *for ever* the Holy Spirit, who would bring to their recollection all things whatsoever He taught them, and who would *abide with them for ever*. Hence it follows, according to your statement, that although the Church failed under the promises of the Trinity, it recovered under the providential interference of one man who seduced a Nun from a convent; another man who abducted another man's wife; a third man who read his recantation three times on his oath; a fourth man who murdered five wives; a fifth individual (a woman) who signed an act of parliament consigning the throne of England to her future illegitimate offspring (if she should have any), and thus with her own hand this head of your Church, called by God, published to coming times an act of infamy unknown in the records of either ancient or modern times.

This, gentlemen, is the common topic of your sermons, speeches, and orations in all your churches; it is the basis of your present position; it is the pretext of all your Bible societies; it is the apology for your most outrageous insult of the Catholics of Ireland; it is the thesis you defend at Exeter Hall, the mainspring by which you collect tens of thousands to convert the Catholics of Ireland, and it is the stereotyped, overgrown lie on which Protestantism lives in this country. This monstrous religious epic, well told and sanctimoniously declaimed, cannot fail to move (I willingly admit) most honourable minds and religious English hearts to subscribe hundreds of thousands of pounds to maintain this most stupifying gigantic fabrication—the huge dodge—this stupendous humbug, to pay troops of designing Missionaries, hundreds of scant Biblemen, threadbare, lemon-coloured Soupers, to deluge the country with misstatements and discords; to publish the grossest slander on the discipline and doctrine of the Catholic Church, to poison the breast of the landlord, to arm the red hand of the nightly assassin, to convert the poor-law into persecution and the poor-house into a hell, to engender social animosity, to turn Ireland into a battle-field of public hatred, and, if not stopped in time here and on the *Continent*, perhaps very soon to endanger the stability of the throne of England. With this statement on your lips, can anything be more ludicrous than to hear you speak of 'the doctrines you believe,' as if any one man in Ireland who knows your system pays the slightest regard to any opinion of yours in religion? No confidence can be placed