

apertures of the broken windows, and, oh! the wreck they had made of my beautiful church! The pews were all gone! the walls were daubed with untempered mortar; in vain I looked for the pulpit, it was no where to be seen; the floor was strewed with fragments of torn and tattered black gowns, which they in their self-willed anger had destroyed! The Lord's table had, by some mighty effort, been lifted up out of the body of the church, and carried to the top of a lofty flight of steps, and left there, like a stranded vessel, *high and dry!* The Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments, where were they? They, too, had disappeared; in fact, there had been a general "turning of things upside down." I was forced to drop a tear as I silently and slowly returned to my retreat, a sadder, but not a wiser mouse.

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Then methought I laid me down in hopes to sleep, but the tears would still fall, and I could obtain no rest, although I felt wearied and worn, both in body and in mind. As I lay thus, lo! suddenly the church appeared to be filled with light far above the brightness of the sun, and there stood before me a form as of a man clothed in white raiment, so pure and dazzling in its whiteness that my eyes could not without pain gaze upon it. His countenance was transcendently beautiful, and his voice was the sweetest music my ears had ever heard.

"Friend, why weapest thou?" he said. "I weep for the sad state of my beautiful Church," I replied. "Alas! the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously, but who art thou?" "My name is John," he replied, "and I am an ambassador from the King of kings, from Him whose eyes are in every place, beholding the evil and the good; fear not, therefore; and be not weary in well-doing, for your redemption draweth nigh. But I have a message for thee." "A message, did you say?" "Even so: see, therefore, that thou fail not to deliver it. Fare you well!"

With that he handed to me a letter, and vanished from my sight.

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When I had somewhat recovered from my astonishment, I looked at it, and found it was addressed on the outside as follows:—"To the Angel of the Church of