

Facts.

You ask a Catholic where he gets his authority for Catholicism and he will say: "Christ said to Peter, 'Thou art Peter and upon this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.'"

Did Christ mean Peter as the rock upon which his church was to be built? I rather think not, for the 4th verse following where Christ spoke of the church, he rebukes Peter and says: "Get thee behind me Satan, etc.," which is very plain evidence that the gates of hell had prevailed against Peter in a very short time after our Lord had spoken to his disciples about his church.

But their claim is about as secure in regard to that part of scripture as it is in all the rest. True, Romanists use the name of "Catholic" which was at one time a holy and pure name, but which their manipulations have brought down to a mere by-word. How they can have the hardihood to claim what they do for their faith, is a poser, for if they have the least bit of common sense or reason they would see fraud written all over the face of it.

They cry "Rome, holy Rome!" when if they would take their Bible and turn to the 17th chapter of Revelation, they could see a divine picture drawn of the filthy power they worship so devoutly.

"Mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." Scripture calls Rome the harlot of the Tiber, and well calls it so, for is it not a fact?

The pope claims to be the vicar of Christ. Leo X blasphemously styled himself "the lion of the tribe of Judah." Leo XII allowed himself to be called "The Lord, our God." Pope Martin X called himself "the most holy and happy, who is the arbiter of heaven and the Lord of the earth, the successor of Peter, the anointed of the Lord, the master of the universe, the father of kings, the light of the world."

The Bible says he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, which Catholicism has done, as history will prove.

They have assumed infallibility, which belongs only to God. They profess to forgive sin, which belongs only to God. And they go beyond God in pretending to loose whole nations from their oath of allegiance to their kings, when such kings do not please them, and they go against God when they give indulgences for sin. This, in my opinion, is the worst of all blasphemies.

THE INQUIRY.

No computation can reach the number who have been put to death, in different ways on account of opposing the corruption of the church of Rome.

A million of poor Waldenses perished in France; 900,000 orthodox christians were slain in less than thirty years after the institution of the order of jesuits. The Duke of Alva boasted of having put to death in the Netherlands 36,000 by the hand of the common executioner, in a few years. The inquisition destroyed by various tortures 150,000 within thirty years.

These are a few specimens of their holy (?) modes of worship, and one's soul recoils with horror when the fiendishness of their acts are brought to light.

Are we to eternally live under the blighting curse of Romanism? Are we to eternally harbor the serpent which only awaits its time to dart forth its poisonous fangs and fasten itself upon slumbering America? Are we to suffer our children to grow up with that

curled influence ever near them? Why will not Americans be warned? "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" so far as Catholicism is concerned.

But Americans will see in the near future just what attitude Romanism has toward her institutions, and will fulfill or help to fulfill the divine mandate which says: "The beast (Catholicism) will be destroyed to the end, and his body given to the burning flame."

ANTI-ROMAN.

OMAHA, Jan. 21, 1892.—MR. EDITOR: It is but a few months since we were informed, by the newspapers, that pilgrims were flocking to Treves by the thousands to see the "holy coat." To be sure, a coat made 1850 years ago would be a curiosity and something that is not seen every day; but if you will allow me a little space, I will give your readers a list of relics which, if they could be exhibited today in Treves, would draw pilgrims by the millions, and I believe that the "holy coat" would not be "in it" any longer.

In the "Ephemerides du pays de Montbelliard" is found the article containing this list of relics, and the following is almost a verbatim translation of the article:

"On the seventh day of February, 1522, the canons of Saint Mainmœuf of Montbelliard made a new inventory of the relics kept in their collegial church. Most of these relics had been brought from Asia by the Counts of Montbelliard on their return from the crusades. These relics were exhibited for the veneration of the faithful, each year, on the morning of the feast of circumcision, and great indulgence and pardon was promised to all who should visit them with true devotion. Here is the detail of the inventory:

- 1st. A portion of the body of St. Mainmœuf preserved in a magnificent silver casket.
- 2nd. A vial containing milk of the holy virgin.
- 3rd. Hairs of the holy virgin, and some of Mary Magdalene's.
- 4th. A stone upon which Jesus sat.
- 5th. A piece of the true cross.
- 6th. A fragment of stone from the sepulcher.
- 7th. A piece of the stone upon which John Baptist was beheaded.
- 8th. One of the stones used at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.
- 9th. The manger that served as a cradle for Jesus Christ.
- 10th. Earth from the field where Adam was formed.
- 11th. A remnant of bread from the last supper of the Saviour with his Disciples."

Now, Mr. Editor, you may talk about your "holy coat," but for antiquity and sacredness, give us those eleven relics. You may ask, Where are they now? Have they been exhibited during this century, or have they been lost or destroyed? The author of the "Ephemerides" is silent upon those points, but it is very probable that for at least two centuries they have not been exhibited in Montbelliard, for the great majority of the people of that city and of the surrounding country became Protestants while under the government of the House of Wurtemberg. In 1524, Prince Ulrich of Wurtemberg introduced Protestantism in this, his principality, where he sent Farrel to preach the Reformation.

In Encyclopaedia Britannica will be found a good description of Montbelliard, but for those of your readers who may not have easy access to Britannica, and who may wish to know

where, and what that city is, the following information may prove interesting for them:

Montbelliard (anciently called Mompelgard) is a very old city of eastern France, situated about sixteen miles west of Switzerland, sixteen miles south-west of Belfort and forty miles north-east of Beranscon. It is the chief city of an arrondissement and of a canton, both bearing its name. It was once a strongly fortified city whose walls were twenty feet in height; it had ten doors, a strong citadel and a castle.

After belonging to the Burgundians and Franks, Montbelliard was, by the treaty of Verdun, in 843, added to Lorraine. In the eleventh century it became the capital of a countship which formed part of the second kingdom of Burgundy and latterly of the German empire. From the end of the fourteenth century until 1793, it belonged to the House of Wurtemberg. It resisted the attacks of Charles the Bold, King Louis XII and the Duke of Guise, but was taken in 1676 by Marshall Luxembourg.

In 1677, the walls, bastions, towers and citadel were razed by the French, the castle alone being spared. It stands today as strong and solid as the rock upon which it was built centuries ago. The city has now a population of about ten thousand, the great majority being Protestants of the Lutheran faith. In this city, in 1769, was born George Cuvier, the great naturalist and creator of the science of paleontology. To his memory a fine bronze statue has been erected in front of the City hall, and but a few feet from the house in which he was born.

The city possesses a fine museum of natural history and antiquities, and a Protestant Normal school. The industries are numerous and the city has a large trade with Switzerland. In one

of its suburbs (Sainte Suzanne) is found the great manufactory of Music-Boxes of L'Pee Brothers, the largest of its kind in the world. A READER.

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