

people, both young and old, high and low, rich and poor, bond and free, who refused to worship gods of gold, silver, brass, and iron; nay, and a strange idol he had made of a wafer-cake; by which means they murdered many thousands, if not millions of thousands, of the poor innocent saints, and servants of God, in such sort, that every street of the great city Babylon became like a mere shambles to quarter out the limbs of men, women, and children; ten, twenty, thirty, forty, an hundred, nay, two hundred thousand souls, have been sacrificed before they did give over; as witness the Irish massacre, &c. Some he caused to be burned, some to be roasted alive, some their skins flayed off, others hanged by the hair of their heads; poisoning, starving, drowning, and any other kind of death Apollyon could devise, were the poor saints and lovers of True Godliness put to, and that by such who called themselves Christians.

But, since we have brought him down very near to the days wherein we live, and also hear he is still upon his progress, wandering up and down in as eager pursuit of his hellish enterprise as ever; let us now give over, and treat of his present travels in this and other nations.

CHAPTER IV.

Showing how Peccatum, alias Sin, came into a country called Nonage, and of the strange projects he played there.

WE having brought down our history of this cruel enemy to these latter times, it is very necessary to give you some account of his present travels, and show what progress he makes among the people of this generation: And that we may do it the better we shall begin with his entering into a great, though weak country, called Nonage; he having intelligence from Apollyon, that a great number of feeble people, of a small stature, were, two or three years ago by common fate, though through much difficulty, come into this kingdom, and for a short time were to continue in this country, he was resolved to visit them. But the prince of darkness understanding that this enterprize was of great importance, and might tend very much, if well managed, to the increasing, strengthening, and enlarging of his kingdom, or otherwise, prove to the great hurt thereof, first called a council in hell, to advise what was fittest to be done at this juncture: And having held their treacherous consultations, and come to agreement, Apollyon with winged speed, repairs to Peccatum, *alias*

Sin, to suggest to him what was agreed upon, and to instruct him how to manage his affairs in the country of Nonage; whom he addressed himself to after this manner.

“Most dear and mighty Peccatum, the great lord and conqueror of the world, the envy of heaven, and chief darling of hell: Seeing thou hast been always true to our interest, and hast raised up our kingdom above all kingdoms of the earth, and made my glory, fame and grandeur to spread abroad far and near; I have some few instructions to impart to thee, of great importance upon thy entering into this country, to the end thou mayest make ready a great people for my service, and to fight under my banner: For those which I now send thee to, thou must train up from the cradle, as my great servant and beloved Emperor Mahomet doth his Janizaries, that they may be well instructed in our politics, and skilful in all stratagems of war against God, Christ and true Godliness, with all his retinue. This is the time for thee to work, and the best age of mankind to work upon: It is good to sow our seed timely, and to take possession before we are supplanted by our enemy; for it is easier to prevent a disease, than to cure it; or to keep an adversary out, than, when he is in, to get rid of him. And one thing to my joy, I will tell thee, between thee and I; A

long time ago, before any of this army entered into these parts, thou, in a great measure, didst their business for them; for as they come into these regions, they bring with them trophies of thy conquest over them: For thou didst indeed originally season and leaven their natures for me, in such sort, that they all declare as one man, whose side they resolve to take, and under whose banner they are inclined to fight. Yet nevertheless, there is much work for us to do, lest in their tender age, by means of what they call godly education, their hearts secretly should be drawn away from us, by seasoning them with grace, or such principles that will prove very destructive to our interest. Therefore, to prevent all the danger that may arise, thou must choose tutors for all this young and hopeful progeny, or have a great hand in the education of them; which, if we can work about we shall do our business effectually: But considering the divers ranks, degrees, qualities, descent or pedigree of them, thou must find out suitable tutors accordingly, but all of thine own offspring,”

Now, no sooner had Sin received his instructions, but he hasted away as on eagle's wings, and suddenly invaded the whole country of Nonage. And to the end that he might fully effect this hellish intrigue, he resolved that a great

part of the weak and feeble inhabitants should be tutored by Mrs. Ignorance; to whom Apollyon directed his speech after this sort :

Apol. My dear cousin and friend, I have a great number of pretty boys and girls for you to tutor and bring up for me in the country of Nonage : will you undertake the charge ?

Ignor. Most dread and mighty Apollyon ! you know I never yet declined any drudgery for you which lay in my power. My lord, I am ready to obey you.

Apol. I assure you, Madam, I kindly accept of all your former and later services, and cannot but acknowledge you have done strange things for the advancement of my kingdom, and greatening my power in the world.

And now, noble Peccatum, this gentlewoman, Madam Ignorance, is your child, your natural offspring, your own flesh and blood ; nay, a limb or member of your body : Therefore I charge you to help and assist her in this great work ; for I should be glad if she had the education of all the children in the whole world, I have such a veneration for her.

Sin, upon this, immediately laid about him, and indeed wonderfully succeeded in this his first attempt, by the help of the prince of darkness ; insomuch, that abundance of those poor souls, whereof none were above the age of twelve or

fourteen years, were trained up in gross ignorance, and blindness of mind, understanding little or nothing of God, Christ, or the gospel ; no, nor of their own woeful state and condition, the enemy both formerly and latterly had brought them into ; and this he effected many ways.

1. By keeping their parents, and such who were to instruct them, under the power of sottish ignorance ; so that they who should be as eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame, had no eyes to see, nor feet to go themselves.

2. He represented to many parents, the great charge of putting their offspring to school ; persuading them, they being poor and low in the world, they could not be at the cost, though they bestowed a great deal more needlessly upon clothing and feeding of them than their learning would have come to.

Now, the reason why the enemy is so greatly set against learning, is this, lest, by their attaining to the knowledge of letters, they should take to read the Holy Bible, which he dreads exceedingly, because when understood, it vanquisheth at once his darling Ignorance.

3. He endeavours to prevent their learning any pious catechism that is founded upon the authority of the Holy Scripture.

4. By hindering them as much as possible, from discoursing or asking questions about God,

Christ, and religion. Also by causing parents to be careless about, or rather against their going to church, where the word of God is truly and powerfully preached, and the sacraments duly and truly administered.

5. By taking off the children's hearts from any thing that concerns their souls, or future state; by filling their heads with vanities, toys, and trifles of a childish state.

6. By presenting to parents, who understand more than they intend to practise, the knowledge of God a dangerous thing; and that they who are most spiritually wise, were like to be most miserable in the world.

7. By persuading some, that the matters of God and religion only belonged to ministers; and that others should only mind their trades; as if the trade or calling of Godliness did not belong to all parents and children to learn; it being the main business that all mortals were sent into this world to follow.

8. By presenting the example of all generally, within door and without, abroad and at home, before their eyes; and there being little or nothing, as the poor children could see by any, either parents or companions, of a heavenly nature; but contrariwise, the evil motions and lusts of this enemy were wholly followed, who having subdued the strong, by the powerful

hand of his darling Ignorance, might and doth hereby easily invade and overcome the poor and feeble; and that, partly by the means of that evil example they have continually before their eyes.

9. By tempting them, and others much older than they, to conclude, that they shall have time and opportunity hereafter, and better advantages to learn those great things; which, the enemy tells them, are too high and sublime for their tender age to pry into, understand, or make judgment of. And thus the devilish enemy keeps some, nay, a great part of the poor inhabitants of the country or town of Nonage, wholly ignorant of those things which chiefly concern them, and in their childhood state ought to look after; lest Satan, by taking possession so early in their hearts, makes them afterwards, with much ease, to become his mere slaves and vassals. And sad it is to see what work Sin makes on little ones.

10. And lastly, Sin and the devil keep them in ignorance, by causing many of them to be trained up under a blind and soul-deceiving ministry.

But, alas! Sin hath not only this blind tutor to instruct the poor beguiled progeny, but another as bad as she, and, as you heard, of Apollyon's own choosing too, viz., one Pride, to

whom he also gave instructions of a pernicious nature, whereby some thousands of them were wholly overcome, brought under the power of this deceiver, and undone for ever. This varlet, it seems, is the natural offspring of Lucifer, and doth not a little resemble him. And sad it is, that any little ones of human race should be brought up and tutored by her; she being one that the Lord greatly hateth, and will destroy at last, all such who give themselves up to learn of her.

Now, the way that Sin takes to effect his design by this hellish incendiary, is, *First*, To stir up little ones, according as he finds their inclinations, before ten years are gone over their heads, to delight in fine clothes, and get into the newest fashion, though never so foolish and antick. And, *Secondly*, By sly suggestions, to allure their parents to please their children, and feed their natural, though unlawful and pernicious, appetites herein; and that they may fully declare they are the real slaves of Lucifer, and this his darling, they betimes send their little daughters to school, to learn to dance as Herodias did. Here they learn to deck their fingers with rings, their ears with jewels, and their necks with rich bracelets, or necklaces of gold and pearl; whereby they seem rather like little Morris-dancers, than the young offspring

of Christian people. And thus, being bravely dressed up, and the sparks of pride kindled in them, they go with stretched-out necks, and haughty hearts, that in a short time they are too high and proud to know almost any body; and no wonder, when they were never taught to know themselves.

And then, presently upon this, in comes Madam Wanton, to teach them other rare inventions viz. how to make set-faces, to cringe a-la mode de France, the sober smile, the quaintest dialect; to humour discourse well; to cast amorous glances, read love romances, and frequent play-houses; and also to provide store of rare, though obscene draughts or pictures.

But to proceed: Indulgence and Fond-love as it appears, have their charge and instructions from the prince of darkness, to tutor divers of them: And this the enemy effects through great subtilty, by infusing the base seed into their hearts; of which those two varlets, Indulgence and Fond-love, were begot. Now those parents in whom they bear sway, are taught, to indulge their children in all manner of vices and evil courses. Such dear and tender love, or rather hatred, they have towards their poor offspring, that great faults and filthy enormities are winked at; and they must not be struck, nor hardly frowned on, by any means. Besides, should

they whip, or severely chastise them, and they die soon after, how would it wound their consciences? It is no matter what becomes of their souls, they are not troubled about such matters. Their great care is to see that they are well fed, though it be like lambs for the slaughter, and bravely clothed, and pampered up in those ways they naturally love. And though they should lie, curse, swear, and break the Lord's day, and play when they should attend on God's word, or read the Holy Bible, it must, with a gentle reproof, or none at all, be passed by; remembering when they were at their age they did the like themselves. The fond father dares not tell the child's fault to his mother; nor the fond mother to the father, lest he be angry; and to save his child's soul from hell, sends his head to the wall, or rather with discretion, wisely chastiseth him with a smarting rod till the blood comes. Alas! these seem to be the worst tutors of all, because they lay in fuel for every hurtful and devouring fire, or prompt on and nourish every cursed vice; and so lay open a door for whole legions of devils to enter together, and make miserable slaughter of their poor undone progeny. These bring the parents to shame, the family to beggary, the child to the gallows, and his soul to hell.

Nay, these two bloody monsters, Indulgence

and Fond-Love, let in another destructive tutor, who taught them to lie, dissemble, and equivocate; so that in a short time there was no believing hardly a word the poor children spoke. For having told two or three notorious lies, and escaped with a little chiding, without correction, they grew very impudent and vile, not caring what they said to excuse themselves, when taken in other faults. And not only Hate-Truth, but Stubborn and Self-Will also, by this very means, come to be their tutors also, to help Apollyon to make a perfect conquest over them and gave Sin full possession: For hereby they became very rebellious, contradicting their parents, making mouths at them, not regarding what they commanded them to do, unless in a good mood, but would pout and be sullen, or else crossly answer them again, and strive to have the last word.

And thus, by the temptations of Sin, together with the natural evil disposition of their own hearts, and assistance of these cursed tutors, Apollyon gave them wings to fly whithersoever their unbounded, stubborn, and self-pleasing wills led them, till they became fit inhabitants for the city Sensuality.

But the enemy seeing many of the young progeny in the country of Nonage were of a base, poor, and ignoble race and pedigree, their

parents not knowing well how to live themselves, without pilfering and stealing ; one Lightfingers was let in, who became tutor to this sort, and some others also, who were sent to her from Pride, Wanton, Indulgence, and Fond-love, whom she taught the art of thievery. *First*, How to rob orchards, to pull quills out of the wings of poor geese, to milk cows, &c. Afterwards, when they became good proficient in their alphabet, they learned harder lessons ; as how to rob their parents, masters, and mistresses ; and at last the art of cheating, and picking of pockets, yea, and of locks too. And to the end they may perform this with the more dexterity, they are quickly brought acquainted with the chief master of that society, and learn the cant terms used by the whole corporation of thieves and beggars. Now, these being little of stature, are useful to the company, because they can get in at windows, and other places where the old thieves cannot enter ; and also, because of their tender age, they are not suspected ; or if taken, are like, upon that account, to have more pity showed them ; so that having great encouragement, in a little time they become perfect masters of this hellish craft, and thereby are quite overcome by this bloody enemy.

The last tutor Apollyon chooses for the young progeny in the state or country of Nonage, is

his beloved, though erroneous and blasphemous, daughter Misbelief, *alias* False-faith ; and indeed there are not a few of them that are educated by her, by reason their parents were utterly drawn aside from the true faith, or ancient religion, and fled into the byeways of schism, heresy, and error, their poor offspring are trained up in the same destructive and pernicious ways ; so that they hardly hold, or are established in one fundamental principle of the true religion, by which means they become Papists, Atheists, Ranters, Arians, Socinians, Quakers, Shakers, and Muggletonians. Thus, and by divers other ways and subtle devices, doth Apollyon and Sin invade, with their mighty force and militia of hell, the poor, weak, and feeble inhabitants of the country of Nonage, till at last they come generally under the education and tutoring of one Hate-good, who teaches them all her hellish mysteries ; as to condemn all godly counsel and instructions ; nay, and to scoff, reproach, and jeer at all who are truly religious ; and not only to deride and flout at them, but to loll out their tongues, and point at them, and also to make and sing profane and filthy songs of them. But by the providence of God, two grave matrons of good parentage, being cast in among them, one called Civility, the other Modesty, both of the town of

Morality, who took the charge and care of tutoring some of them, brought them up under very good discipline, according to their light and knowledge. But these, I hear too, when they came into Youthshire, were utterly corrupted, spoiled, and overcome by the power and policy of this bloody monster.

Yet as God would have it, there were a few honourable and high-born worthies, who were sent on purpose by the Prince of Light, to tutor some few of this young progeny, or else the enemy had made a perfect and complete conquest of them all. Their names were Christiana, True-Zeal, God-Fear, Special-Grace, Sobriety, Temperance, and Prudence.

But Sin has got tutors for most of them so soon, and so corrupted them, that they were gone out of the country or state of Nonage, and had took up arms for Apollyon, before these good and virtuous ladies came. I think it may not be amiss here, to give you two or three instances of some that worsted and overcame this hellish tyrant.

One Mary Warren, born in May, 1651, aged ten years, had a blessed work of grace upon her, and gave clear evidence of a victory she had got over Sin and Satan. Some asking her whether she was willing to die? She replied, Aye, very willing, for then I shall sin no more;

for I know that Christ's blood hath made satisfaction for my sins.

At another time, in her sickness, she said, that Satan stood at her left side, and God was on her right, and opened the gates of heaven for her; and Satan, saith she, shall not hurt me, though he sought to devour me like a roaring lion. Whether I live or die, it will be well with me; God is satisfied through his Son Jesus Christ, "for he hath washed my sins away in his blood."

Another child, about eleven years old, as she was praying to this effect, that she might not look for any thing to rest on, or trust upon for justification, whereby to stand righteous before God, but only in Jesus Christ alone, who died for her at Jerusalem, and rose again the third day for her justification.

When prayer was ended, she told her father, now I believe in Christ, and am not afraid to die.

Behold faith in a babe makes the enemy fly.

Another poor child that went a-begging from door to door, who lived in the parish of Newington Butts: This boy was a very monster of wickedness, for he would call filthy names, curse and swear; yet a gracious man, out of pity, took him as his own, and put him to be educated by a godly woman; and it is wonderful to

hear what power this poor child got over sin and his master Apollyon ; for in a little time she taught him to pray fervently, and to seek after the knowledge of Jesus Christ : And he proved so good a proficient, that he, with much abhorrence cried out on himself, not only for his swearing, lying, and other evil vices he had been guilty of, but also was in great horror for the sin of his nature, and vileness of his heart. And he did not only pray much himself, with strong cries and tears, but begged the prayers of others for him : and at last though filled full of doubts about his eternal estate, he came to take a little hold of that promise, " Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." But O ! how did this poor boy admire and bless God for the least hopes, and at last came to great satisfaction of his interest in Christ, and victory over his cursed enemies, Sin and Satan ; and remained in a holy and pious frame, being filled with inward joy until he died. I could give you several other examples ; but because some are not easily brought to believe such things, I will say no more.

Yet, notwithstanding, though some few of this poor progeny in the state of nonage were thus enabled, by good education, and the grace of God, to vanquish the cursed enemy, yet what fearful slaughter and spoil did he make of the

rest, raging, raving, and roaring about like a hungry and greedy lion, rending and tearing them in pieces, not showing any pity, nor in the least regarding their tender age ; so that in every town and city may be seen the sad examples of his conquest and merciless cruelty, by their ignorance, pride, lying, swearing, stubbornness, rebellion, and all other evil habits sin has infused into them ; so that we may say, with sorrowful hearts, the country of Nonage is subdued, and brought under the power and kingdom of the prince of darkness. Most parents bring up their children to enlarge his territories.

CHAPTER V.

Showing how Tyrant Sin, in his progress travelled into Youthshire ; and of the fearful conquest and slaughter he made there.

AFTER Sin had actually subdued the country of Nonage, like a cruel and blood-thirsty tyrant that delights in nothing but rapine and murder, he greedily follows his prey ; and therefore with great speed, and no less fury (Apollyon being enraged at the loss he sustained, in not having