



"Germany's doom foretold"

The boycotting of Ulster's Protestant businessmen reveals the Roman Catholic Church's persecuting spirit and confirms the analysis of the Rev John McDonald, of Mr A. J. Ferris, of F Turgenot and others. In his book *Romanism Analyzed*, published by the Scottish Reformation Society in 1888, the Rev. John McDonald poses and then answers the following question: "What forms does Rome's persecuting spirit take in Protestant countries?" Another form of persecution is boycotting, which though modern in name is not modern in origin in the Romish Church. It was devised by the Third Council of Lateran in 1179, and sanctioned by Pope Alexander III; the terms of the canon were: "We prohibit all men, under pain of anathema, from admitting them (heretics) into their houses, or allowing them to subsist on their lands, or giving them any assistance, or even transacting any business, as buying or selling with them". (page 364)

The reader will be struck by the similarity between the text of the canon quoted by Rev. McDonald above and the experience of Bishop Ferns in 1612 quoted earlier in this essay. A. J. Ferris, in Part 11 of his book *The Book of Revelation*, a simple explanation and survey published in 1940 and drawing heavily on the earlier work by E B Elliot, *Horae Apocalyptae* notes the following: Verse 17 (of Chapter 13 of the Book of Revelation) tells us that none might buy or sell save that he has the mark of the beast, that is unless he obeyed the rites and ceremonies of the church with its Latin prayers etc.

This prophecy is a direct reference to the well known practice of the Church of Rome called EXCOMMUNICATION, the result of which in the economic sphere was like the modern boycott. (page 3 1) This review of present attitudes is, I believe, correct.

Unfortunately, Reformed leaders are reluctant to inquire too deeply into the sufferings of ordinary Protestants in Northern Ireland right now. Such persecution does not appear before our eyes because "the rulers of the darkness of this world" control what we imagine we are "free" to view on the television screen. In the late twentieth century if the event is not on the screen, the event may as well not be happening. Reality is edited out, truth is distorted. Who does not worship the "image of the beast"? Does the Roman Catholic boycott of Protestant shops and businesses in Benburb, Castleterg, Dungannon, Dungiven, Pomeroy, Portglenone and Lisnaskea, and other forms of abuse and victimization, help us to understand what "the image of the beast" is? By a remarkable providence a book, newly published in the United States and entitled Graven Bread, comes to our aid by answering the question, what is the "image of the beast". Written by Timothy F. Kauffman, the full

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Refer also to <https://www.newstatesman.com/society/2008/06/pamphlet-party-anti-rubbish>