

rible roaring Lion. If we take his Calendar, we must needs go into the church when he rings us in." Kepler however did not fail to see, and to say, that the Papal Reformation of the Calendar was a vast improvement.

Kepler, as court-astronomer, was of course required to provide such observations of the heavens as were requisite for the calculations of the Astrologers. That he considered Astrology to be valuable only as the nurse of Astronomy, he did not hesitate to reveal. He wrote a work with a title of which the following is the best translation which I can give: "*Tertius interveniens*; or, A Warning to certain *Theologi, Medici, Philosophi*, that while they reasonably reject star-gazing superstition, they do not throw away the kernel with the shell.³ 1610." In this he says, "You over-clever Philosophers blame this Daughter of Astronomy more than is reasonable. Do you not know that she must maintain her mother with her charms? How many men would be able to make Astronomy their business, if men did not cherish the hope to read the Future in the skies?"

Were the Papal Edicts against the Copernican System repealed?

ADMIRAL SMYTH, in his *Cycle of Celestial Objects*, vol. i. p. 65, says—"At length, in 1818, the voice of truth was so prevailing that Pius VII. repealed the edicts against the Copernican system, and thus, in the emphatic words of Cardinal Toriozzi, 'wiped off this scandal from the Church.'"

A like story is referred to by Sir Francis Palgrave, in his entertaining and instructive fiction, *The Merchant and the Friar*.

Having made inquiry of persons most likely to be well informed on this subject, I have not been able to learn that there is any further foundation for these statements than this: In 1818, on the revisal of the *Index Expurgatorius*, Galileo's writings were, after some opposition, expunged from that Catalogue.

Monsignor Marino Marini, an eminent Roman Prelate, had addressed to the *Romana Accademia di Archeologia*, certain historico-critical Memoirs, which he published in 1850, with the title *Galileo e l'Inquisizione*. In these, he confirms the conclusion which, I think, almost

³ The German passage involves a curious image, borrowed, I suppose, from some odd story: "dass sie mit billiger Verwerfung des sternguckerischen Aberglaubens das Kind nicht mit dem Bade ausschütten." "That they do not throw away the child along with the dirty water of his bath."