

vails even now among the clergy of all grades—how can we resist the conviction, that even in our own country they are not all chaste? I cannot withhold from my readers the following painfully eloquent testimony of Rev. J. B. White on this subject. He was for many years a priest in Spain, and speaks what he personally knows:

“That my feelings are painfully vehement when I dwell upon this subject; that neither the freedom I have enjoyed so many years, nor the last repose of the victims, the remembrance of whom still wrings tears from my eyes, can allay bitter pangs of my youth—are proofs that my views arise from a real, painful, and protracted experience. Of monks and friars I knew comparatively little, because the vague suspicions, of which even the most pious Spanish parents cannot divest themselves, prevented my frequenting the interior of monasteries during boyhood. My own judgment, and the general disgust which the prevailing grossness and vulgarity of the regulars create in those who daily see them, kept me subsequently away from all friendly intercourse with the cowled tribes; but of the secular clergy, and the amiable life prisoners of the church of Rome, few, if any, can possess a more intimate knowledge than myself. Devoted to the ecclesiastical profession since the age of fifteen, when I received the minor orders, I lived in constant friendship with the most distinguished youths who, in my town, were preparing for the priesthood. Men of the first eminence in the church were the old friends of my family, my parents’ and my own spiritual directors. Thus I grew up, thus I continued in