

The Roman Catholic knack for prophecy

by Matthew Cserhati

Over the centuries Roman Catholics have had a peculiar knack for prophesying. Of course, not the Biblical kind, as their tradition isn't rooted in God's Word. The sad thing is that they tend to be correct when predicting calamities which just so happen to befall Protestants. These prophecies are also tightly connected and even carried out by the intrigues of the Jesuits. These prophecies also tend to be self-fulfilling, so they therefore carry no weight as divine revelation does.

One can mention certain happenings prior to and during the Great Fire of London in 1666. The Great Fire of London broke out on September 2, 1666 and burned until September 5, and destroyed much of the city. Much speculation was made as to the cause of the fire, including a terrorist attack on the part of the French and Dutch, since England was at war at the time with these two countries. Others said that it was divine retribution for England torching West Terschelling on the Frisian Islands previously. Yet others say it was due to accident, since the streets of London at that time were very narrow and highly congested, and the houses were made up of mainly timber. There was also a strong wind coming in from the sea which much facilitated the spread of the flames. Others speculate that it was yet another Papist plot to subdue England for Rome.

Some will try to play the role of Rome down, saying that it was just part of anti-Catholic sentiments which ran high in Protestant England. While such anti-Catholic sentiment is negative, it is however not without foundation, if we look back at how Rome tried to subdue England for over a century. What with the Spanish would-be conquest of England with the Grand Armada in 1588, the failed assassination attempt of King James and the destruction of Parliament on November 5, 1605. The Jesuits and their accomplices who were convicted in this plot were made saints of Rome, and November 5 made a Papist holiday (Guy Fawkes Day). Furthermore one must note how brutally Protestants were murdered under Queen Mary, just for denying the blasphemous dogma of transubstantiation. The following lines are even recorded in the lyrics of "Scotland the Brave":

“Here on my mountains while
I have serenely smiled,
When armies and empires against me were hurled,
Firm as my native rock,
I have withstood the shock,
Of England, of Denmark, **of Rome**, and the world.”

Very peculiar is the way some Roman Catholics somehow knew about the would-be fire of London. These incidents include the following:

- A French manservant made advances on an English maid, and when rebuffed, claimed that “You English maids will like the Frenchmen better when there is not a house between Temple-Bar and London Bridge”, sometime between June and October.
- An Irish Catholic was overheard at the Greyhound Inn in St. Martin's stating that there would be a “sad desolation in September”, in London.
- A local official was told in Ipswich by one William Thomson that “What will you say, if you should hear that London is burnt?”
- On August 30, 3 days before the fire, a farmer, Henry Baker by name asked one John Woodman for two bullocks. Woodman was leaving the country, and told Baker that “You are brave blades at Chippenham, you made bonfires lately for beating the Dutch, but since you delight in bonfires, you shall have your bellies full of them ere it be long”, and added that if the farmer be there for one more week, then “he should see London as sad a London as ever it was since the world began.”
- During the fire a justice testified that he had seen a man with combustible material in his pockets near the Temple.
- A doctor, John Packer, observed someone throw something into an apothecary near Old Bailey after which a plume of smoke arose.
- An old Catholic woman in Enfield on the Friday before the fire was reported as saying that there was a plot to burn the capital to ashes.
- An Irish Roman Catholic was reported to have arrived on Saturday before the fire and asked if they had heard anything of the firing of London. When he met no response he went up to town saying that “I would see London before it be quite burnt; for I shall never see it more.”
- A Catholic statistician, Captain John Graunt, who shortly before the fire had applied to become a trustee of the New River Company had arrived on September 1, turning the water supply off at Islington and taking the key along with him. The next day when the fire broke out, they were not able to find any water in the pipes in the streets.
- In Bridewell, during the fire, a man named John Stewart, along with others went into a house to help a man save his possessions. Wagons took away the man's possessions, while Stewart waited inside for them to return. While waiting he observed a little old man in white robes nearby. Suddenly, a pile of papers burst into flames on the other side of the room. When Stewart grabbed the old man by his collar, he cried out “Parce mihi, Domini!” (Spare me, Lord!). When others grabbed him, his wig and clothes

fell off, exposing his ecclesiastic clothes underneath.

- According to one incident, Monsieur Belland, the King's firework-maker described to some of his acquaintances, that his fireworks would “fly up in a pure body of flame, higher than the top of [Saint] Paul's [Cathedral], and waver in the air”. These same acquaintances saw the exact phenomenon during the fire from the Thames river, according to Belland's description, who highly suspiciously went into hiding...

The anonymous “Catholick-Christian” writer of *Pyrotechnica Loyolana, Ignatian fireworks; or the fiery Jesuits' temper and behaviour exposed to publick view* (1667) described how the Jesuits stored gunpowder and fireworks at two of their colleges in Madrid and Thonon on the shore of Lake Geneva to subdue Protestants by advancing “the art of making and casting about Fire-balls and Wild-fire to burn Houses and Cities”.

All this is understandable in the light of the hateful, demonic text of the Jesuit Oath of Induction, a part of which is quoted below:

“I do further promise and declare that I will, when opportunity presents, **make and wage relentless war**, secretly and openly, against all heretics, **Protestants** and Masons, as I am directed to do, to extirpate them from the face of the whole earth; and that I will spare neither age, sex nor condition, and that I will hang, **burn**, waste, boil, flay, strangle, and bury alive these infamous heretics; rip up the stomachs and wombs of their women, and crush their infants' heads against the walls in order to annihilate their execrable race.”

Another very peculiar incident involves the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The behind-the-scenes involvement of the Romish church is obscured by history. However, evidence exists, which points that the priests of this church were involved in trying to cause division within the United States in the 19th century, and ultimately assassinating president Abraham Lincoln. The Romanists well knew that according to Abraham Lincoln, “A house divided cannot stand”. The papacy was the first political entity to recognize the Confederate States of America. Furthermore, 72% of the deserters of the Union army were Irish Catholics. Mary E. Surratt, John H. Surratt, J. Wilkes Booth, Dr. Samuel Mudd, and Michael O'Laughlin, the five ringleaders of the assassination plot were all Roman Catholic. A certain Father Wiget, a *Jesuit* priest was Mrs. Surratt's pastor during the rebellion, and was known for his

disloyalty. John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln was heard to shout the Latin phrase "Sic semper tyrannis!" as he jumped down from the president's booth to the stage and ran away. This phrase means "Thus always to tyrants!" in English, reminiscent of the Jesuit endeavor to subdue all non-Catholic governments.

The following is a quote from Abraham Lincoln on the Jesuits' role in the Civil War:

"This war would never have been possible without the sinister influence of the Jesuits. We owe it to Popery that we now see our land reddened with the blood of her noblest sons. Though there were great differences of opinion between the South and North, on the question of slavery, neither Jeff Davis nor any one of the leading men of the Confederacy would have dared to attack the North, had they not relied on the promise of the Jesuits, that, under the mask of Democracy, the money and the arms of the Roman Catholics, even the arms of France, were at their disposal if they would attack us."

It is clear that there was a heavy Roman Catholic involvement in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The following evidence is eye-opening as to the extent of the involvement and foreknowledge of the assassination.

A certain Father Chinquay set out to research the facts surrounding the Lincoln assassination, and had an interesting discussion with a certain Reverend F. A. Conwell (the name is real and not intended as a pun), who was informed at 6 o'clock in the afternoon in St. Joseph, Minnesota on April 14th, by a purveyor of a monastery that President Lincoln and Secretary Seward had both been assassinated (which took place 4 hours later, at 10 o'clock in the evening).

The following is an official record of this report by Conwell by notary Stephen R. Moore:

"STATE OF ILLINOIS,
COOK COUNTY.

"Reverend F. A. Conwell, being sworn deposes and says, that he is seventy-one years old; that he is a resident of North Evanston, in Cook County, State of Illinois; that he has been in the ministry for fifty-six years, and is now one of the chaplains of "Seamen's Bethel Home," in Chicago; that he

was chaplain of the First Minnesota Regiment, in the war of the rebellion. That on the 14th day of April, A.D., 1865, he was in St. Joseph, Minnesota, and reached there as early as six o'clock in the evening in company with Mr. Bennett, who, then and now, is a resident of St. Cloud, Minnesota. That on that date, there was no telegraph nearer than Minneapolis about 80 miles from St. Joseph; and there was no railroad communication nearer than Anoka, Minnesota, about 40 miles distant. That when he reached St. Joseph on the 14th day of April, 1865, one Mr. Linneman, who then kept the hotel of St. Joseph, told affiant that President Lincoln and Secretary Seward were assassinated; that it was not later than half past six o'clock on Friday, April 14th, 1865, when Mr. Linneman told me this. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Bennett came into the hotel, and I told him that Mr. Linneman said the President and Secretary Seward were assassinated; and then the same Mr. Linneman reported the same conversation to Mr. Bennett in my presence. That during that time, Mr. Linneman told me that he had charge of the friary, or college for young men, under the priests, who were studying for the priesthood at St. Joseph; that there was a number of this kind at St. Joseph at the time. Affiant says, that on Saturday morning, April 15th, 1865, he went to St. Cloud, a distance of about 10 miles, and reached there about 8 o'clock in the morning; that there was no railroad or telegraph communication to St. Cloud. When he arrived there he told Mr. Haworth, the hotelkeeper, that he had been told that President Lincoln and Secretary Seward had been assassinated, and asked if it was true. He further told Henry Clay Wait, Charles Gilman, who afterwards was Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, and Reverend Mr. Tice, the same thing, and asked them if they had any such news; and they replied that they had not heard anything of the kind.

"Affiant says that on Sunday morning, April 16th, 1865, he preached in St. Cloud, and on the way to the church, a copy of a telegram was handed to him, stating that the President and Secretary were assassinated on Friday evening at about nine o'clock. This telegram had been brought to St. Cloud by Mr. Gorton, who had reached St. Cloud by stage; and this was the first

intelligence that had reached St. Cloud of the event. Affiant says further, that, on Monday morning, April 17th, 1865, he furnished the Press, a paper of St. Paul, a statement that three hours before the event took place, he had been informed, at St. Joseph, Minnesota, that the President had been assassinated, and this was published in the Press.

(Signed) FRANCIS ASBURY CONWELL.

"Subscribed and sworn to by Francis A. Conwell, before me, a Notary Public of Kankakee County, Illinois, at Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, the 6th day of September, 1883.

STEPHEN R. MOORE

Notary Public."

It is very well interesting that the premeditated assassination of President Abraham Lincoln was well-known in Catholic priestly circles in two places so geographically distant as Washington and Minnesota.

Yet there is another peculiar incident showing how Catholics, and especially Jesuits have a knack for predicting, or rather, construing future events. By the end of the 18th century the machinations and the intrigues of the Jesuit order had become so well-known that they were even banished from Catholic countries, such as Portugal, Naples, Malta, and Parma. The Jesuit order is the one and only single Catholic order to ever have been dissolved. Pope Clement XIII was about to suppress the Jesuit order in 1769. The night before he suddenly fell ill and died. His successor, Pope Clement XIV signed a brief of dissolution in 1774. "This suppression will kill me", he is quoted as saying. Posters appeared on the palace walls of the Vatican with the letters I.S.S.S.V. – In Settembre, Sara Sede Vacante (In September the See will be vacant). Pope Clement XIV was poisoned in September 22, 1774...

References

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