

Bologna, which dignity, when he had kept it a while, he resigned it in the time of Innocent the X<sup>th</sup>.

Although there be matches of marriage between the two families of Colonna and Barbarini, yet there is no great friendship between them for private interesses. Don Carlo Colonna, brother to the Cardinal, treacherously killed Don Gregorio Gaetano, brother to the Duke of Sermoneta,\* for which he was condemned to death by Urban the VIII. But, for the Cardinal's sake, he was not only reprieved, but also, to defend him from the revenge of the Gaetanos' malice, he was first made a Benedictine monk; and afterwards an Archbishop *in partibus infidelium* [a fine Roman trick, to protect a murtherer!—to make him a titular Bishop or Archbishop in a kingdom where he hath nothing to do, having no authority there; and this shall be his security in Italy.

He is of the Spanish faction. The picture is very like him. J. B. 1672.]

## XV.

JOANN. BAPTISTA TIT. S. PETRI AD VINCULA S. R. E. PR'BR.  
CARD. PALLOTTUS PICENUS. XIX NOVEMB. MDCXXIX.

La Statera de'  
Porporati. [No.  
xxv. p. 131.]

He is of a worthy family of Calderola, in the Marca of Ancona, and nephew to the late Cardinal Palotto; who is, as his uncle was, a great enemy to thieves. He is very well as to goods of fortune—his uncle leaving him good inheritances.

He put himself into the prelature, and was employed in several charges by Urban the VIII., and, in particular, he was by him made Governor of Rome, in which office he carried himself with great decorum, and satisfaction to the people, being just and severe, to

\* The enmity between these great families dates from the pontificate of Boniface VIII. (Benedict Gaetani), A.D. 1294.

the displeasure of the Pope's nephews;\* as for instance:—In the time of Carnival [a month or so before Lent, when all Italy seem to be mad, J. B.†] a proclamation is usually made for several orders of that time; whereof one was, that no woman should wear any mask or be in mascarade in the Curso, under pain of being sent to prison, and to be there whipt, and other punishment reserved to the Governor. Notwithstanding this order, the famous courtesan (or whore) Checa Buffona was often seen mascaraded in the Curso, and was warned to be gone and come no more; but she would not obey. Upon which Palotto, being angry, presently sent her to prison, and ordered her to be publicly whipt about the city, and, to hinder all recommendations for her by friends, he retired, and gave order that nobody should come to him in two hours, for which time he locked himself up in his study; in which time a gentleman came to him from Cardinal Antonio, the Pope's domineering nephew (whose courtizan among the rest she was‡). This gentleman made a great deal of stir and noise until the two hours were past, and then he did his message—which was, an order from Cardinal Antonio to him to set Checa Buffona at liberty. To which Palotto answered, his eminence was *Patron*, and it should be done so soon as justice was done. But, when the Governor's order for her release came to the prison, Checa had already been whipt, which Antonio hearing, for madness he stamped his foot upon the ground, and grievously threatened revenge; which danger Palotto foreseeing, went and told all the business to his uncle the Pope, who commended him for what he had done. But yet he, knowing Antonio's revengeful spirit, would take away the occasion, and prevent the inconvenience that might follow; and therefore removed Palotto, and sent him his Collector-general into the kingdom of Portogall; where he, staying

\* "Faceva poco conto delli nepoti di sua Beatitudine."

† A learned German Jesuit professor in the Collegio Romano said to the editor in the beginning of Lent, "Die Narrenzeit ist vortüber!"

‡ Vide art. xii. [J. B.] [See the *Statera*, p. 118.]

some months, took upon him, to maintain some ecclesiastical jurisdiction, to excommunicate all the King's Council at Lisbon, which was the cause that he was fain to make his escape out of a window, and, to salve himself, to fly privately to Rome.

At his return he was for several respects promoted to a Cardinal's cap. The first was, to put him out of the danger of Antonio's revenge; the second was, for his merits—his Holiness knowing him to be a man of great parts and knowledge. But Antonio was still a thorn in his side, doing him all the displeasures he could, especially in the difference he had with the General of the Augustines, whom Palotto thought to chastise and mortify for many faults that he had committed. But Antonio protected and defended him, and, in spite of Palotto, procured an apostolic order to confirm him in the generalship vii. years longer.

He is very papable, and esteemed worthy by all, especially the princes that know his virtue and qualities, being a man of an angelical life; and Rome would be glad to see him Pope, to pull down the pride of the Barberini. Innocent the X<sup>th</sup> now reigning hath a great regard for him, though his kindred care not for him, because he speaketh his mind freely of them to the Pope. One day the Pope asked him what the city of Rome thought or said of him? To whom Palotto answered, "Most Holy Father, the city and everybody murmur extraordinarily to see you led away so by your sister-in-law Donna Olimpia, and she should be, as it were, perpetually at court." To whom the Pope answered, "We will remedy it." Donna Olympia coming a while after to court, the Pope told her what Palotto had said to him, and therefore he desired her to abstain from coming so often to the Apostolic pallace. Upon this, Donna Olympia took such a hatred against Palotto, that upon all occasions she affronted him to his face;\* which Palotto seeing, he asked leave to retire into his own country, and it was given out at

\* "Che un giorno incontrandosi insieme elli, gli chiuse in faccia la bandinella della carrozza."

the court that he was sent to visit the fortifications of Marriana and the Marca Ancona.\*

He is very affable and obliging, doing courtesies, when it is in his power, very heartily. He hath several nephews, but he is his beloved that is a student in the English College, and would certainly be the Cardinal Patrone if his uncle should come to be Pope. This Cardinal seemeth to be newter as to France or Spain; but it is thought that he is immovably for the house of Austria.

[When I went first of my four times to Rome, there were there four revoltors to the Roman Church that had been fellows of Peter-house in Cambridge with myself. The name of one of them was Mr. R. Crashaw, who was of the *Seguita* (as their term is; that is, an attendant, or one of the followers,) of this Cardinal; for which he had a salary of crowns by the month (as the custom is), but no diet. Mr. Crashaw infinitely commended his Cardinal, but complained extremely of the wickedness of those of his retinue; of which he, having the Cardinal's ear, complained to him. Upon which the Italians fell so far out with him that the Cardinal, to secure his life, was fain to put him from his service, and procuring him some small employ at the Lady's of Loretto; whither he went in pilgrimage in summer time, and, overheating himself, died in four weeks after he came thither, and it was doubtful whether he were not poisoned.†

I have seen Palotto very devout, almost to tears, when he hath been a-washing and wiping some pilgrims' feet. (J. B. 1662.) The picture is very like him.]

\* "Di Marina nella Marca."

† The death of Crashaw (well known as a poet) took place in 1650. (Chalmers's Biogr. Dictionary.)