HEADLESS CHURCHES.

At the Protestant Episcopai Church of St. John the Brangelist, New York, on last Stunday morn g. Dr. L. Costa delivered a disc aurse on the surprema authority of the Church, from "the Church which is His Bod.," (Eph., 1.

22.)
The Doctor's dispourse was as fol-The Doctor's discourse was as follows:—There being only one God and one religion, the Church must be the teacher of that one religion, having emple authority because Christ is her hadd. The Body takes his sishit from the Hadd What was a new less human body? Simply a thing for the undertaker to bury. A headless church also was a corpse, and the land is full of these cadavers to-duy. Christiess, headless religion abounds It runs the gamut from Calvanism to Scontanian and thence on to spiritualism and of these cadavers to-d.ty. Christeese, headless religion abounds It runs the gamut from Cadvanism to Socialanism, and thence on to spiritualism and panthelsm. Anything will do duty with most sects for Christianity, except Christianity. Men who do not even believe .n God ack us to consider from Christians. Sceptical ingenuity is taxed to the utmost to find substitutes, not only for the Head of the Church, but for the Church herself. They tell us, with Dean Farrar, that the Bible, through the aid of the Spirit, will give all essential truth; yet, by this process men, with the distinguishing that what is essential with one is more sential with another.

THE BIBLE CANNOT BE A DE-

ed Dean, find that nothing is essential with one is non-ressential with another.

THE BIBLE CANNOT BE A DEFINER.

The Bible alone, though a priceless treasure, can never serve the individual as a definer. It is the office of the Church to define and teach the meaning of the Bible. Through the general councils we have the Church interpretations, chiefly expressed in the ancient creeds. Yet zealots would forcupen us in place of the Church Cathole the headless Church. They ask us to take our instruction from any and every corpse. The land is full of these dead bodies, which, in all decency, should be buried from sight. Frivate judgment furnishes as many judgments as there are men and women in the world; it is puerile for those who delfy individual opinion to pretend to believe in any church. God and mammon, eyo and the Church, cannot exist together. The Church must be everything or no. Ling, and with sectarian bodies in our country it is nothing except the butt of ridicule. The soner these religioustes stop pretending to believe is any church and return from the voile church business, the better it wall be for the world.

ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR A CHURCH THAT SPEAKS WITH

CHURCH THAT SPEAKS WITH AUHORITY.

The Bible, then, cannot be a definer. We read it reverently for the confirmation of what has already been defined, and to establish ourselves in the faith once delivered to the saints. What the world needs to-day is the Church that speaks with authority, the Church that knows the truth and does not fear tell it; the Church that, under no infidel plea illustrated by Matthew Article's "Sweet Reasonableness," will tolerate untruth, attempting to fill the world with her own emptiness. If a religious organization does not know what the truth is, it of course cannot condemn untruth; but in that case, if there is no prospect of improvement—and there certainly is none—had it no better retire from the church busiand there certainly is none—had it not better retire from the church busi-ness? On this principle, at a con-servative estimate nearly one hundred and forty American denominations would pass. The Church must have her true place in the world or no place at all. There can be no compromise between the Church and the world. at all. There can be no beneficiaries between the Church and the world. The infallible Christ must speak through the Church. The Head must central the Body. The great general councils must be recognized, the ancient creeds honoured and all Christians must rally to their support none universal body. Otherwise disintegration will do its work upon every organisation that refuses allegiance to the central thought.

UNCERTAINTY THE PREVAILING CHARACTERISTIC OF PROTES-TANTISM.

TANTISM.

Sooffers may mock, but only at last to show the fate of sooffers. To say that uncertainty must be the prevailing cheracteristic of Christianity is to say that Christ organized His Church and rent it forth into the world like some ship sent to sea without bullast, rudder, or compass. As a matter of fact, too, there is hardly a single private judgment religion that pretends to have commander or helmsman. Everybody on board is helmsman, and we all know how they steer. People do hot seem to know the place of the Bible in religion.

Bible in religion.

THE CHURCH GAVE US THE BIBLE; THE BIBLE DID NOT GIVE US THE CHURCH.

BLE: THE BIBLE DID NOT GIVE US THE CHURCH.

After giving the Bible the Church did not abandon her authority, but was more and more emphatic in her claims, as was the Government of the United States after writing the Constitution. Church authority is the ching we need to recognize in this day; Christ speaking through His Church. The same Holy Ghost that helped the Church writes the New Testament presided in the great councils, and is ready to implie the Church connells to-day. To say that a divided Christianity is invitable, shuilar to a guif as broad as that between Gehemma and Paradise, is deny the power of Christ, thus rendering His Body headless. This is that practical atheism in the foul slough of which secturianism is wallowing togensed by men of the best intolligence all over the land, who are asking for

authoritative religion, and are rapidly coming to believe that they can have what they want.

AN UNANSWERABLE ILLUSTR.

AN UNANNWERABLE ILLUSTRATION.

The failure of feeble religion of private Judgment now has an illustration that is simply ananywerable. I ref-r to the case of a single denomination, whose Year Book shows that in seven of the Kreatest editos in the United States, having over 500,000 imbaliants each, and containing 485 of its churches, suppried at the cost of several millions annually, during the past year, instead of a gain there has been a loss of 683 members All this, following a special effort to "evangelize" eitles by a united to the cost of the control of the control

AN INSPIRED CHURCH WANTED

the whole subject?

AN INSPIRED CHURCH WANTED

It is blie to say that understanding men object to authority in religion man object to authority in religion man object to authority in religion what they really do not want is a thousand conflicting authorities Men are as anxious for authority in religion in science, in government, or finance. In science, in government, or finance, when we come to know them we shall find that authority is what they humber of the same of the day is for the inspired Church, whose heart is the days to come.

BROAD "CHURCH FALIDERING IS DOCMED.

The "Broad Church" faltering in a double sense is doomed. The headless Church will go down to the grave. The Church to Christa lone can endure and conquer through a conquering faith. Still, in the presence of crumbling seeds and falling denominations in easies if there is really a future in store for Christianity. In answer, yee. First, however, pseudo-Christianity, already in the toils of an inex-rable revolution, must accomplish its end. Then true Christianity will stand forth in majestic power, revealing her read character. Then men will see how badly the sectarian duped them, as well as himself, and discover that there is no middle place for the foot of man between atherism and the fasth once delivered to the saints. Then they will recall the antent words, "Ariss and shine, for thy light is come," and as they contemplate the vision they will sak, in the Citquoted lines:—

"Who is the row and breast made beautiful with scars;" in her eyes a light and fire as of long pain ended.

All her how and breast made beautiful with scars; in her eyes a light and fire as of long pain ended.

In her mouth a song of the morning stars "
The answer will be:—"This is the Catholic Apostolic Church. This is the Church of th

stars ""
The answer will be:—"This is the
Catholic Apostolic Church. This is the
Church of the living God, the Pillar
and Ground of Truth."

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ARCHBISHOP KANE TO RETURN TO AMERICA.

The Rome correspondent of the Baitimore Sun, who is usually more reliable than the general run of correspondents who send items from the Vatlean to the secular journals, cables the following news, which we give for what it is worth.—

"I have the best authority for saying that Archibishop Kane will in a short

"I have the best authority for saying that Archbishop Kane will in a short time return to the United States, where he will remain for at least one year, probably two. It has been found that a man with his admirable capacity for the work of collecting funds, which was utilized to such ad antage in gathering the money required for starting the Catholic University at Washington, is now again required. At the time of his retirement from the rectorship of the university his work in this line was not quite completed.

retirement from the rectorship of the university his work in this line was not quite completed.

"Honce Cardinal Gibbons has applied to the Holv See by letter, askins, that the archbishop be allowed to return for a time to the United States and lend apain a helping hand, so as to place the university in such a condition financially that it may go on independently and without loss.

"Leo XIII. left the decision of the matter entirely to Archbishop Keane. The Pontif' is well aware of the good work that the archbishop is accomplishing in Rome by the course of excellent sermons that he as been preaching since his arrival here. He was destrous that these should continue, but in view of Cardinal Gibbons request he will allow the archbishop to return until the funds are collected. "It is probable that in the coming summer Archbishop Keane will leave Rome for the United States, to remain there, working for the university, a year or two."

of INTEREST TO FARMERS.

To the Editor of the Catholic Register:
Sir.—For the past ten years systematic efforts have been made to increase the average returns and to improve the quality of the cereals and other important farm crops grown in Canada by an ennual distribution from the Experimental Farm at Ottawa of samples of seed of the best and most promising sorts. These varieties have been first tested at the Experimental Farms and only those which have proven to be the very best have been chosen for this distribution. The samples sent out have contained three pounds each, and every precaution has been taken to have the seeds in every instance theroughly cleen and true to name, and the packages have been sent free through the mati. Those who have received such samples and grown them with care have usually had at the end of the second year enough seed to sow a large area, and in this manner careful farmers all over the Dominion have en gradually replacing any inferior and less productive sorts which they have been growing in the past with superior varieties possessing greater vigor.

By instruction of the Hon Minister

superior varieties possessing greater vigor.

By instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, another such distribution is being made this season, consisting of samples of oats, barley, spring wheat, field peas, Indian corn, and potatoes. These samples will be sent only to those who apply personally. Lists of names from societies or individuals cannot be considered, and only one sample in all can be sent to each applicant. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experiment' Farms, and may be sent out which the lists will be closed, so that all samples asked for may be sent out in good time for sowing. Parties writing will kindly mention the sort of variety they would prefer, and should the available stock of the sort asked for be exhausted, some other good variety will be sent in its place.

or be exhausted, some other goo-rarlety will be sent in its place.

WM. SAUNDERS,
Director
Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa
Pebruary 9th, 1898.

PHILANTHROPIC ABSURDITY.

PHILANTHROPIC ABSURDITY.

The Spanish correspondent of the New Bra, London, in describing the virtues of Spanish private life, saysi—"The extreme sobriety among the lower classes is very remarkable. The don enjoys life with his family, his cigaritto, and his bull-fight; but seldom indulges in excessive drinking. The kind feeling shown by the Spaniara toward his fellowment is reversed to an extreme degree in his treatment of annexis on Sunday atternoons large crowds flock to the bull-fight and enjoy the national sport. This brutal trait in the Spanish character fails to become apparent to the Spaniard himself, as will be seen by the following incledent which occurred a short time since. A bull-fight was announced to take place in the Plaza de Toros of Madrid, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to the prevention of crueity to animals. The absurdity of the case not being observed by the people, six bulls and twice that number of horses, were tortured and killed in order to raise a goodly sum to protect stray animals!

Mals!

A CANADIAN ESTIMATE OF BALFOUR.
From the Kingsten Whig.
The Catholic Register, discussing editorially the proposal of the British Government to establish two universities in Ireland, one at Belfast, and one at Dublin, one precumably for the benefit of the Protestant population, and one for the benefit of the Roman Catholic population, is in doubt as to its aim and object. The special advocate of the colleges is Mr. Balfour, the leader of the Government in the commons. He is a typical Conserva-

R. J. McGAHEY, D.D.S., L.D S.

FATHER MATURIN AS LENTEN PREACHER.

FATHER MATURIN AS LENTEN PREDACHER.

The course of Lenten sermons in the church of San Silvestro in Capite, frequented by the English and Americans in Rome, will be delivered this year by the Rev. Father Maturin. The name of this eloquent pracher is well-known in England, and his conversion from the Angilean brotherhood known as the "Cowley Fathers," to which there were the recently presched as sermon in Sant Andrea delia Valle during the Octave of the Epiphany, which was highly spoken of. He succeeds the Most Rev. Archbishop Keane, late Record of the Catholic University of Washington, who has occupied the pulpit of San Silvestro for a considerable time. The archbishop is preaching on the Sundays in January, and his cloquence and the loving and devotional nature of bis sermons, is very effective in winring hearts. There is no doubt that Archbishop Keane is one of the greates, if not the greates preacher in the English tongue to-day, Many conversions have followed his clear and admirable exposition of Catholic doctrine.

OBITUARY.

The sad and untimely death of Mrs.
J. A. McDonaid, of Lebret, Assa., on
Thursday, January 28th, at the age of
thirty-six years, is announced. The
funeral took piace on Friday, the 27th,
to the Sacred Heart cemetery at Lebret.
Mrs. McDonaid was a daughter of Mr.
Archibaid McDonaid, formerly of Lebret.
A. McDonaid, formerly of Alexandria.
One of Glengarry's old citizens, Mary
McDonaid, widow of the late Alexander
McGillis, of 15 5th Lancaster, and
daughter of the late Randal McDonaid,
assed away on Sunday, January 29th,
at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr.
Hugh Murphy, Cote des Neiges, P.Q.,
at the advanced age of 79 years. She
was the mother of fourteen children,
twe of whom survive her. She leaves
twenty-one grand-children and three
great grand-children.

Egypt is the land which the Child Jesus with Mary his Mother and St. Jeseph his foster Father made their refuge. English Catholics are now pledged to the Holy Family, and their gift ought to be a "new era." to the land of the Pharaohs.—The New

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tive, and is quite ready to break away from the traditions of his party, and to outdo the Liberials, and even the Radicals. In some departure which is calculated to win popular support. If is finding opposition to his plans, and of 1 position that it may be impossible for him to overcome. To the press he may written letters and in them can varied the whole situation. He has individuely not his scheme. It has not occurred to him that the Catholic element will not fall into line with his views. And yet he has been warned that anything which is a substitute for Home Rule, which is designed to push it into the background or divert attention from it, will be sure to fail. To the appeals of the other party he ruless has hands dramatically and protests that he is acting conscienciously, and that concer than be despired the use of his honest judgment he will go into liviate life.

FATHER MATURIN AS LENTEN

OBITUARY.

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