

the books which you have transmitted to us, and which, when convenient, we will read over. In the mean time, as a token of our Penitential benevolence, receive our Apostolical Benediction, which to you beloved son we very affectionately impart.

"Given at Rome, on the Calends of April, 1778, the year of our Pontificate.

(Signed,)

PHILIP BUONAMICI.
Latin Secretary.

To our beloved Son, }
Anthony Martini, at Turin. }

"Comment on the above is unnecessary."

Cobourg, 15th Oct., 1853.

TO THE "REVEREND," THE CATHOLIC PRIEST, COBOURG:

This morning I have received from Hamilton a circular published in that city, containing what is said to be a copy of a letter from Pope Pius Sixth to the Archbishop of Florence, 1778, on the occasion of the Archbishop issuing "the Bible in the language of his country;" by which it is thought to be proved by the author or authors of this circular that it is an "utter falsehood" to affirm that the "Catholic church is hostile to the reading of the scriptures." Intending to publish the circular, and designing to offer some remarks touching its language and object, I regard it as both expedient and honest first to enquire of you whether it has been the uniform practice of the Priests and Bishops of the Roman Catholic church, since 1778, to recommend the reading of the Bible (without Notes, Annotations, or Explanations of the Fathers) to all classes: or is it a Protestant slander to affirm that the Catholics generally, in this and in all countries, are not permitted to read the Bible freely for themselves.

Respectfully,

D. OLIPHANT,
Editor Christian Banner.

To the preceding note the Priest of this town gave no response. We may all rightly enough conjecture the reason. Even the publishers of the above circular, with all their hardihood, with all their deceivableness, dare not comment on the Pope's letter to Martini and proceed to show that the translation in question was designed for the people generally, or that it was so used according to such design. "Comment on the above" they say "is unnecessary" Yes, altogether unnecessary *for them*, but every way necessary—yea, indispensable—*for us*, if we are to confide in the circular.

It requires no proof that Archbishop Martini translated and published the Bible "in the language of his country," and it is true that the Pope applauded him for his "eminent learning joined with his