

ruler; and that a declaration signed by all the priests and young Jesuits of all the colleges in the kingdom, was transmitted to the French Chancellor, in which they condemned as pernicious and execrable any doctrine to the contrary to be found in the works of any person whatsoever.

On other points of ethics also on which individual members of the Society have been accused of unsound principles, the defence presents the same argument, namely, that none of the censured doctrines were peculiar to the order, or shared in by all its members. "I am persuaded," says Leibnitz, the most universal scholar of his day, "that the Jesuits were often calumniated, and that opinions that never entered their minds have often been imputed to them."

As shewing the nature of the assassinations charged to the instigation of the Jesuits and the character of the evidence adduced against them, *Chastel's attempt on the life of Henry IV. of France* may be cited as a fair example. Ten years prior to the time of the attempt Chastel had attended for some months a Jesuit College, and this paltry detail was made the sole pretext for instituting the enquiry by which its enemies hoped to inculpate the Order. "The Huguenots and Freethinkers," says the historian Dupleix, "launched a thousand curses against the Jesuits, but neither proof nor presumption could be extorted from the assassin by the violence of the torture." Torture could wring from him only their exoneration, and the King, scorning the idea of their complicity, bequeathed to them, by will, his heart as a last proof of the tender affection which drew from him the avowal "I have loved you since I have known you." That in this day the Jesuits should be believed to have had any part in the iniquities in which their enemies laboured to incriminate them, is indeed to be regretted. It can only be taken as evidential either of excessive credulity or little reflection.

It is obvious from any examination of the causes which led to their ultimate expulsion from France, Spain and Portugal, that motives of states craft alone, of an unworthy kind, and the evidence of untrustworthy and disreputable agents of their enemies were permitted to decide the matter. This will be shown in succeeding papers.

WHO IS ST. JOSEPH ?

At the first glance this may appear a strange question to put in a Catholic periodical, but if we accept the opinion of one who, from his high position in the Church, may be considered good authority, it is not an improper one.

In the Introduction to a work on St. Joseph, to which I intend to refer, the Archbishop of Cashel says: "There is perhaps no saint in the calendar of whom less is generally known than St. Joseph. One out of every ten thousand otherwise well-informed Catholics could not tell you anything concerning him beyond the fact, that he was the reputed father of our Lord, and the husband of our Blessed Lady; that he is supposed to have been a carpenter by trade, and that he contributed as such to the support of our Divine Saviour during a considerable portion of his life."

It is not my intention to treat here of the life, privileges and power of the foster father of our Lord; such an attempt would be beyond my power, and exceed the limits of a newspaper article. I merely wish, at the beginning of this month of March, which is set apart by Catholic piety for his special honour, to draw the attention of such of your readers as may desire to know more about him, to two works published within a comparatively recent period.

Although differing in extent and manner of treatment, they both contain a vast amount of information on the subject, and are well calculated to inspire devotion.

The first is the work I have already mentioned, and has for author the Very Reverend Archdeacon Kinane, of the Diocese of Cashel. Like the Abbe Roux, who a short time ago set the literary world of France ablaze with his "thoughts," Archdeacon Kinane has amidst the laborious duties of an extensive country parish, found time to

provide for the English-speaking Catholic public, several standard devotional works, which have been circulated by the ten thousands in the original, and translated into the French, German and Italian languages. Of this, his last book—"St. Joseph, his life, his virtues, his privileges, his power, a month of March in his honour," it is only necessary to say that it has merited the highest expressions of approval from the chief pastors of most of the Dioceses of Great Britain and Ireland. One extract from Archbishop Croke will suffice. He says that, "whilst, because of its simple structure and consecutiveness, it is admirably adapted to the humble capacity of the poor and unlettered, it will be found, at the same time, to be well reasoned throughout and convincing." The book is published by Gill & Son, of Dublin, at 2/6, and the Catholic Publication Society of New York offer it at 90 cents.

The other book or booklet rather, is of more modest appearance, and intended chiefly for circulation amongst the poor. It is by the Bishop of Salford—a member of the Vaughan family—that old English Catholic family that has supported the Church with so many zealous Bishops and priests—and is one of a series of valuable little manuals, which he has published for distribution amongst his people. The Catholic Truth Society, of London, have charge of it now and publish it at the small sum of one penny—a price which places it within the reach of our charitable and other parochial associations, who should endeavour to circulate it. The title is similar to the one that heads this article, and as the introduction contains a very complete and concise answer to the question, I am tempted to quote it:

WHO IS ST. JOSEPH ?

- "He is the adopted father of the God-Man.—ST. LUKE.
- He is the most faithful coadjutor of the Incarnation.—Sr. BERNARD.
- He is one whose office belongs to the order of the Hypostatic Union.—SUAREZ.
- He is the Lord and Master of the Holy Family.—Sr. BERNARDINE.
- He is the only one found worthy among men to be the spouse of Mary.—ST. GREGORY.
- He is the consolator of Mary in her sorrows and trials.—ST. BERNARD.
- He is the man more beloved by Jesus and Mary than all other creatures.—ST. ISIDORE.
- He is the third person of the earthly Trinity.—GERSON.
- He is more an angel than a man in conduct.—C. à LAPIDE.
- He is the model of priests and superiors.—ALBERTUS MAGNUS.
- He is the master of prayer, and of the interior life.—ST. TERESA.
- He is the guardian of chastity, and the honour of virginity.—ST. AUGUSTINE.
- He is the patron of a happy death.—ST. ALPHONSUS.
- He is the patron of the Catholic Church.—DECREE OF THE SACRED CONGREGATION OF RITES.

Canadians have an additional motive in honouring St. Joseph, in the fact that he was the first patron chosen for this country. The Annals of the Ursulines of Quebec relate that this choice was sanctioned by Pope Urban VIII., and was ratified in the most solemn manner by the lay and clerical authorities and the people on the 19th March, 1637. All the inhabitants in the vicinity of Quebec attended there to take part in the celebration which was commenced on the eve of the Feast by a grand display of fire-works, such as had never been seen before in the country, and greatly amazed the savages.

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Hearts that are great are always lone,
They never will manifest their best;
Their greatest greatness is unknown—
Earth knows a little—God the rest.

—Father Ryan.

At a recent meeting of the Catholic Union of Great Britain, Dr. St. George Mivart delivered a notable address, in which he appealed to Catholic laymen to address themselves more earnestly and in greater numbers to the pursuit of scientific studies.