

INTOLERANCE AND CRIME.

The Roman Catholic Church undoubtedly presents its best side in Protestant lands. It is held in check by the predominant Protestant feeling, and advances its cause rather by policy than by force. It adapts itself to environment with marvellous skill, and takes the hue of its surroundings. In the midst of Protestant populations it talks of toleration.

Put this Church in other lands and place it in other conditions, and what do we hear? Intolerance of all other faith, suppression of the missions of other Churches, indifference to all efforts for freedom and stern opposition to education and enlightenment of the masses. Sometimes dark and terrible crimes illustrate the intensity of the feeling which controls many of the devotees of this Church. In this year of grace Protestant missionaries have been slain simply because they preached the gospel. The following letter from a Presbyterian missionary in Mexico, received very lately, shows what instrumentalities are employed there. He says:

"The Jesuits never recognize defeat, and so they have been slowly and surely laying again the foundations of their undermined power in Mexico. The secular and mission press are frequent in season and out of season calling attention to their violations of well-known laws, but still these 'black crows,' as they are suggestively called, remain among us and work their secret will.

"It is well, how incredible to an American man or woman, I had almost said Catholic or Protestant, the power these men have over the women of Mexico. It is only equalled by the tenacity with which they oppose, and where possible thwart, all efforts to uplift, liberate and enlighten the gentler sex. Only yesterday a pronounced liberal, a man of culture and influence, who has, in spite of all opprobrium, helped Protestantism in Toluca, said to me that his wife was under the absolute control of the priests, to whom she would, from a sense of duty, betray his most secret communications to her. The intrigues of these ruthless fiends destroyed his home and domestic happiness.

"Dr. Greene, in his last visit to Tabasco, made arrangements for the opening of a day-school in Paraiso, where we have a

flourishing congregation. A young lady, well fitted for the position, Miss Clotilde Balcazar, was sent to the town, and in due time the school was opened under most promising auspices.

"Before her arrival, however, the enemies of the undertaking made no secret of their determination to break up the school if possible, and even went so far as to say that it would not continue a week. That these were no idle threats the sequel has proved all too sadly. Jesuitism bore its perfect fruit.

"A week had hardly passed when the young teacher, formerly a picture of health, began to show symptoms of disease which speedily developed into insanity. Her pastor, Rev. Mariano Olivera, took her, as soon as she could be moved with safety, to San Jaun Bautista, where her physician, after a careful examination, pronounced the case one of poisoning. He at once began to apply the proper remedies, and some slight hope was entertained that reason may, in time, be restored.

"Because of certain circumstances, together with the boasts above mentioned, suspicion at once fastened on the Jesuits in Paraiso, and popular indignation rose to a dangerous pitch even among more fair minded Catholics; and the affair transpiring about the time for the national celebration, public sentiment on our side was strong enough to turn the day of festivity into one of mourning.

"This morning's paper states that a number of arrests have been made, and that the matter will be investigated by the proper authorities. The affair is doubly sad for the difficulty it causes in carrying on the education of women in Tabasco. It is not unnatural to suppose that it will prove difficult to find another willing to risk a like fate."—*Phil. Pres.*

PROTESTANTS IN THE CAROLINE ISLANDS.
—The correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs from Madrid that the Government are so convinced the recent troubles arose in consequence of religious persecutions, that it has ordered that only those who are convicted of actually murdering any Spaniards shall be punished. The authorities will check the zeal of the monks, and allow the Protestants complete liberty. The indemnity demanded by the American Government for the missionaries will be paid.