lie Church. What is the high Church ritualistic movement which insists upon calling itself Catholic discards and denounces Protestantism, teaches all Catholic doctrine but the Pope's su-premacy and adopts all Catholic practices, even pretending to say Mass, which, for three hundred years they have insisted was a "blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit'—what, I repeat, is all this but an open, public confession that the so-called reformation was a failure, that Protestantism is a delusion and the teaching of the Catholic Church alone is true? The denial of the supremacy of the Pope is a mere ruse to justify their remaining where they are instead of acknowledging their fault and returning to the bosom of the holy mother from whom the ancestors so unnecessarily and so ruthlessly revolted and upon whom the traditional prejudices of education lead them to look with suspicion and distrust.

But I firmly believe that the Ritualists are doing an important work. The three thousand clergymen of the English Establishment and the constantly increasing number in this country who sympathize with this movement are teaching a great deal of Catholic doctrine and practice to a multitude that Catholic priests could never reach. As time goes on the confusion and con-tradiction of religious opinion and teaching which prevails among them, and not less among Ritualists than others, without the possibility of determining what to believe, will convince them of the necessity of having an in fallible tribunal to decide for them. This they can find only in the Catholic Church where our Lord, Himself, has placed the Chair of Peter to be the tribunal of final resort in all questions of faith and morals. They will discover that the fact of a divine revelation necessarily implies an infallible interpreter to assure us of its real meaning If our salvation depends upon our be lieving certain truths which God ha revealed, is it not absurd, on the very face of it, to suppose that He would leave it to every man's private judgment to determine for himself what those truths are? If it is necessary in temporal affairs to have a Supreme Court, can anyone give a good reason why we should not have such a tribunal in spiritual things ?

When our friends have come to realize this important truth they may be induced to candidly investigate the claim to supremacy of the successors of St. Peter in the Sec of Rome. If they do they will be surprised at the overwhelming strength of the argument, from both Scripture and tradition as well as from reason and common sense.

And, then, if by the grace of God, they are enabled to make their submission and return to the loving bosom of the dear old mother Church I venture to predict, with absolute certainty, that they will experience a peace, a joy and

tisfaction to which heretofore they ave been entire strangers. They will seel like mariners who, after a stormy and perilous voyage, have arrived at a safe and pleasant harbor. They will find themselves in a new world of which they never had any conception.

I have been fifty years a Catholic and I have never ceased to discover new beauties and attractions in the Church alone possesses, understands and incul-cates the science of the Saints. If the deluded multitude who are groping after something to satisfy their natural Science, theosophy, spiritualism, and such like, could be made practically acquainted with the magnificent eraving for a more spiritual and higher tem of the Catholic Church they would be surprised to find their highest aspirations and their deepest longings more than satisfied. The Catholic Church is the true home of the soul.

To illustrate this fact I will repeat here a circumstance of my experience, heretofore published, but many years ago. About the time when my mind was first directed to the claims of the Catholic Church I had occasion to visit New Orleans, and I naturally availed myself of every favorable opportunity to find out all I could about the Church. Among other places, I visited the Cathedral on a Sunday and there I was surprised to see an immense crowd of a miscellaneous character of which a considerable portion was made up of creoles, colored people and various nationalities. The aisles party.

"We are inclined to believe the inwere crowded, all were on their knees, venerable old negroes with white heads devoutly joining in the worship, and I noticed that the colored slaves sat in the same seats with their masters and even went to Holy Communion at the same sanctuary rail. The scene made deep impression upon my mind. This," I said, "is true Christianity. Here is a practical illustration of Catholic unity and the spirit of humility and divine charity inculcated by our Lord. Here rich and poor do really meet together for the Lord is maker of them all. Let my portion be with the true people of God."

Another incident occurred while I officiating as rector of St. Paul's, h has also been heretofore published but which, perhaps, will bear re-peating as an illustration of the ab-surdity of any Protestant denomination sent. At that time I was quite high church and accustomed to ring the changes on the claim that we were true Catholics—not Roman, you know. On retiring after the service I had reached the vestibule when I was met there by three Irishmen who had apparently just arrived from a journey. They approached me respectfully, tipping their hats, when one asked: "Your reverence, is this the Catholic church?" Instinctively and without time for reflection I replied: "No, my good man, this is not the Catholic church. You see that tower over there above the houses—that is the Catholic church."

The next speaker, the Rev. J. P.

Poisons accumulate in the system when the kidneys are sluggish—bloches and bad combined that this penalty will be inflicted upon some one. What answer would our Lord give, if asked to aske an oath whose penalty was having that broken off and His brains exposed to the rays of the sun?

"Those oaths are barbarous, savage and bloodthirsty, and Masonry is a conglomeration of the most intensely purelie and savage ceremonies. A boy would fight every other boy on the block if they dared call him the Most lock if they dared call him the Mo

Imagine my mortification when I had time to realize how completely and unconsciously I had simply given myself away. It was only another practical illustration of the truth of the saying of St. Augustine, that a stranger going into any town and enquiring for the Catholic Church would never be pointed to a schismatical conventicle but the place of worship of real old Catholic Church

universally recognized as such.
Well, thank God, I had the grace at last to east my lot with the favored children of holy Mother Church and to enjoy its inestimitable privileges for fifty years, and here, by the great mercy of God, I am to-day in my eightyeighth year in good health and But I am fully conscious that I am rap idly approaching the end of my journey If by this last appeal I should succeed i inducing even one en quiring soul to examine and emorace our holy rhith how happy I should be! I have vivid recollection, even to this late day, of dear old St. Paul's (where and what is it now?) its dear friends, its personal at tachments, its intimate and pleasant so cial relations, all are enshrined in my heart. If I failed in my duty to any during the ten years of my service I earnestly beg of the good and merciful God to forgive me, I pray for the repose of the souls of those who have gone before and if any of those are still living who predicted that I would discover my mistake and return, I hope this letter will convince them that they probably never made a greater mistake in their lives.

HENRY L. RICHARDS.

GIVING LIGHT ON SECRET SOCIE-TIES.

Non Catholic Ministers Attack Masonic Oaths and say they are Barbarous.

Under the auspices of the National Christian Association, an organization "giving light on the subject of secret ocieties," a convention was recently held in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of the Covenanters, Monroe street, between Throop and Sumner avenues, Brooklyn, New York. The real object of the meeting was made plain when secret societies were bitterly

attacked by two speakers.

The first of these was the Rev. F. M. Foster, pastor of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church, of Manhattan. His subject was " Lodge Oaths ' he confined himself to a discussion of the evils he sees in the oaths of the differne connned numsell to a discussion of the evils he sees in the oaths of the different orders. His arraignment was directed particularly toward the Masonic remained from 9 p. m. to 10.30 and 11

fraternity.
Mr. Foster quoted some of the Masonic oaths. He said the claim could no longer be made that people outside the organization do not know what is the organization do not know what i going on within. He dwelt particular ly upon the penalties attached to the oaths. For the third degree in Masonry, he said, the penalty for violating the oath is having the body cut in twain Other penalties were having the heart cut out, having the throat cut from ear to ear, the skull smitten off and the orain exposed to the scorching rays of

Mr. Foster considered these oaths to be barbarous. He said the oath is one of the most solemn approaches to God. The candidate, he says, takes the oath with the due schoolboy pomp and fuse and feathers. He swears to "always conceal and never reveal." He is thus swearing to a blank, which the order may fill out according to its liking. A

to take such oaths, said Mr. Foster, is the most amazing paradox in the Chris-tian life. When men bind themselves to secrecy by such horrible oaths, the presumption is that there is something She is a true mother of all classes. In her capacious and loving bosom the rich and the poor meet together on a common footing. The poor, especially, find a home and sympathy which are nowhere else to be found.

The cather are the presumptive evidence that the within will not bear inspection from without or the light of the Gospel. Mr. Foster cited the case of Captain William Morgan, who was put to death for having violated his oath. A monument has been erected to his memory at Batavia, N. Y.

Two moral principles are involved in such oaths, he continued. In administering it men claim to have the powe of life and death. This is the principle on which the lynchings down South pro ceed. They either claim power, said he, or their rules are buffoonery. They are neither better nor worse than a mob that burns a negro. This is judgment as severe as true. The offense of the blood-thirsty mob is entitled to better consideration, for they think they are punishing the guilty

stitution means what it says when it talks about cutting a man in two, cut-ting out his bowels and burning them,' said Mr. Foster. "God has not made provision for a few men who call them selves Masons to execute the death penalty. The order asserts its right to take life on grounds which it refuses to make public. They are falsifying the Word of God when they administer such oaths.

"In taking those oaths a candidate surrenders his life and yields himself to the execution of the death penalty for breaking the oath. Why will he place his life as a forfeit against a trivial of-fense? He has put up what belongs to another—his life. I say if the death penalty has been inflicted upon any one in this wide world for violating his oath all the members of the order become presuming to call itself Catholic. I guilty. If I am a member of a church was officiating one Sunday in Trinity which has doctrines which destroy men, Church, the rector being temporarily ab- I am guilty. We wonder that a Chrissent. At that time I was quite high church tian man can sleep while in the Mas-

Stoddard, of Boston, had as his subject "Lodgery and Anarchy." His contention was that anarchism is the result of just such a course of training as is in-culcated by the Masonic order. The crime of Czolgosz, he said, is the out-come of instruction in just such ideas. Mr. Stoddard says the true sources of anarchism and assassination in America are the vast network of night schools spread over our country, where men are trained and drilled in mock murders and real tortures, until conscience is benumbed, and the sacredness of the law, liberty and human rights are trampled under foot. Until the secret lodges are outlawed and suppressed they will continue to yield a legitimate they have in France and every country where they have become strong and popular.—American Herald.

NON-CATHOLIC MISSIONS.

Grand Results of the Recent One in Milwaukes.

Next to the non-Catholic mission Next to the non-Catholic mission given last March at St. Elizabeth's Church, Chicago, Milwaukee ranks second with regard to immediate results. Chicago netted in five weeks 146 converts; Milwaukee in three weeks 74. This number far exceeded the most ardent nones of all those interthe most ardent nopes of all those intersted in the lectures

The attendance throughout was most ncouraging—900 to 1600 being the average, the large proportion of which (from 60 to 65 per cent.) being non-Catholics. Many non - Catholics came alone, and some Catholics had from three to five with them. The nost wise rule to intensify the zeal of ur own and make the outsiders confi-

dent of a welcome.

Of the seventy-four converts, twentyseven were baptized at the close of the three weeks. The real secret of convert making is the personal interview Besides the with the missionaries. Besides the three classes daily, 10-11 a.m., 3-4 p. n., and 7-8 p. m., non-Catholics were nvited to call at any hour of the day they might appoint for the presentation of personal difficulties and queries. Again, the third week of the inquiry class did much to win souls. The one-hour lecture of the two preceding weeks vas shortened by half, so that more time might be left for

PERSONAL TALKS

The converts were of different nationalities and religion—Norwegian, Swede, German, English and American—Jew, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Congregationalist, Dutch Reformed, non-Churched Protestants, nfidels, etc-all came in the spirit of little children to sit at the Master's feet in the kingdom of His founding.

Questions by the score were deposited daily in the question box, or sent by mail to the Cathedral rectory. In all, 245 questions were answered in the three weeks public answering, although a than 10,000 were answered private Indeed, grant that many went away from lecture or private talk unconvinced as yet of the truth of the Catholic Church, yet, at any rate, they unlearned ome old calumnies, set aside forever ome ingrained prejudices, and from de claring "the Catholic Church is false, hey advanced to the point of saying, 'Perhaps the Catholic Church is true.' The grand old Church that hitherto wa almost out of the line of vision, had been brought nearer and nearer with each succeeding visit — and many thanked the Paulists for their kindly treatment of their special difficulties.

Many of the non-Catholics who the first few lectures greeted the mi aries at the door with a stiff cold bow, in a few days felt quite at home in a Catholic church, and the impressive face was now smiling. Others who, at the outset, sat sullenly all during the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, were soon under the influence of Christ's blessing kneeling reverently-yes, some kneeling in adoration, the grace of faith having been vouchsafed to

TOUCHING INCIDENTS. Many were the touching incidents during the mission. Here one who had made the first great step to the Church during a non-Catholic mission given by Pather Conway in St. Peter's Catho-dral, Richmond, last November, now came asking for baptism, once his difficulties concerning Papal infallibility and the real presence were settled. Again, a soul with a tale of sorrow. glad of the certainty of the cleansing of his sins which alone the sacraments of the Church could give; a third, with heart as pure as the little infant, fol-lowing Christ more steadfastly than many of our own because corresponding to the slightest graces given; a fourth, won by the striking fact of Catholic unity; a fifth, declaring, "Why, yours undoubtedly is the original Church. We are only coming back," etc.

Many a soul, indeed, is now thanking God for the grace of conversion, who, perhaps, without this special season of grace, might have waited long outside the fold or have lived in it for years to ome, borne down with the burden of

The Catholic people of Milwaukee will not forget this mission which with God's blessing, has done more ef fective and lasting good than any other mission ever given in the history of the city, having felt their hearts burn within them as they heard of the many non-

Poisons accumulate in the system who had be

Catholics returning to the one fold of the One Shepherd, and promised before the altar to remember in their daily prayers the work of the non-Catholic apostolate, which, with the commendation of our Holy Father and the ican hierarchy, is now being blessed with such abundant fruits.

> Profane Altars. From the London Catholic Times

In "Why I left the Church of Scotland," the work just published by William Hodge & Co., of Glasgow and Edinburgh, for Mr. John M. Charleson, till recently minister of Thornliebank there is a passage which we strongly re commend Ritualists who imitate Catho lic practices to read and ponder on. Mr. Charleson had been struggling to wards the light of Catholic truth. had studied the Fathers and been cor vinced that in a unanimous voice directed his steps towards the Catholic Church. With not less carnestness he questioned history, and its teaching was to the same effect. He turned to the Papal claims, examined them, and considered them reasonable. As convictions grew upon him they gave color to his ritual. But one day, reading the works of St. Cyprian, he was struck as with a thunderbolt. That holy Bishop. in the early days of persecution—the first half of the third century—de nounced Marcian, the Novatian her and in doing so used these words
"He had attempted to erect a profan altar, and to set up an adulterous throne, and to offer sacrilegious sacri fice opposed to the true priest." If thought Mr. Charleson, schism makes the altar profane, and the Bishop's rule excluding Catholies who came un-attended was most rigidly enforced—a for the Blessed Sacrament to be instead a sacrilegious sacrifice, then what was he doing outside the Catholic Church mitting this terrible profanity became a Catholic. The word And he became a Catholic. of St. Cyprian, which conveyed such a tremendous warning to him, should impress the same lesson on the mind of

> LITTLE ANGIE. An Angel's Visit and the Tired Priest's Sick Call.

cany a minister who sets up an altar

BY MARY T. WAGGAMAN. Father John closed the door of his rather John closed the door of his study and sank into a chair before the fire. It had been a a hard day with him, and he was weary, body and soul. Without the wind shrieked, the storm

"Daddy wants you," piped a little roice at the young priest's side, and he urned, startled, to find he was no A child, a tiny, fair-haired girl, and followed him.

"Daddy is dying," she continued, fixing a pair of wistful blue eyes on his

ce. "He wants the priest."
"Who is Daddy, and where is he?" asked Father John, roused from all

asked Father John, roused from all langor by the call of duty.

"At No. 4 Long's court, in the garret," answered the little one.

"You are a brave little girl to venture out in such a storm. What is

"Angie," she answered, softly.
"Sit down by the fire, Angie, and get warm. I will be ready to go with you in a moment," and Father John passed into his little chapel to make. reparation for his sick call. But then he re-entered the room, the little essenger was gone. Anxiously he arried into the street, thinking to nd her without, but he was met by a wild swirl of wind and sleet, in which all trace of his tiny visitor was lost. The priest struggled on through the storm to his goal—a wretched heap of cookeries tottering to their fall—in one

of the lowest purlieus of the town.
"There ain't no dying man here," was the surly answer to his inquiries a

That I must see for myself," said Father John, taking the smoking lamp from the wall, and pressing up the rotten staircase.

"In the name of God, is there any ne here?" he asked, as he reached the ow-pitched dark garret under the leaking roof.
"Aye, aye," cried a feeble voice

Aye, aye, cried a feeble voice from a pile of rags in the corner. "I am here dying—dying alone. God be praised, it is a priest! Och, Father, who was it brought you to me in this divided as "" divil's den !

'My child, is it?" sobbed the dying n. "Shure, Father, I have no child; ne darlin' little Angie died six month

And Father John thought of his little blue-eyed visitant, and a strange sweet awe thrilled his soul. He felt heaven had been very near to him that night. -Catholic Home Annual.

Plain Talk From a Bishop

From the London Catholic Times. A bold utterance, which will, we trust, find a hearing from all for whose benefit it was intended, was that of the Right Rev. Dr. Bilsborrow, at the meetig of the Manchester Council of the eiety of St. Vincent de Paul. The Bishop, in terms which left no room doubt or question, pointed to what he properly called the great evil of Cath-

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Stomach Troubles

olic society in this country. In effect His Lordship said:

"You wealthy Catholics—at least a very large proportion of you—think you can save your souls whilst following out mere epicurean ideas. Your motto seems to be: 'Eat, drink and be merry, and reduce religious duties to a minimum. You avoid contact with poverty, live in comfortable suburban houses, and seek pleasures not only or six days of the week, but often or seven. Do you know that in the big cities there is flowing a great tide of life, and that there your presence is needed? The waves of religious indifference are washing away the the young. What are you doing to help them? Have you no practical sympathy for them? The miseries of sympathy for them? The miseries of the poor are trying to flesh and blood. Why are you not offering solace, if not tendering assistance? Youths, who are as yet without experience in life are surrounded by temptations. Why have you not held out to them the friendly hand which they require? You are afraid your respectability would suffer! away with your respectability. What we want is genuine Christianity. This, our readers will agree, is an ex cellent sermon, and we are sure it will cause some useful heart-searching.

Miles Standish Probably a Catholic.

From "Christmastide Long Age." by Dr. B. F. DeCosta, in December Donahoe's. On May 11, 1659, the Legislature of Massachusetts passed a law, obliging men to labor on Christmas Day and inflieting a fine upon all who might ob-serve the feast. At this time there were a few Episcopalians who desired conscientiously to keep the festival. Some who substantially were contract laborers brought over for service irrespective of their religious or, oftener religious tendencies, claimed the holi days according to their custom in the old world. Besides the men of the Bay were perpetually haunted by the idea that Jesuits were abroad in disguise. It is quite true that there were Catholics who did not deem it prudent to resecretly as best they might. secretly as best they might. Indeed there are strong reasons for holding that Miles Standish, the fighting captain of Plymouth Colony, was really a Catholic. He did not belong to the Plymouth "Church" and seems to have been connected with an old Catholic family in England. He was valued by the people of Plymouth on account of his invincible courage and his fighting qualities, of which the colonists stood

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