

CURRENT VERSE

The West, *west* through vengeer, very quickly. It takes very little stock in sacrosanctum, whether it is put before them by a man in a surplice or by one whose sole distinguishing mark is a black coat and a white necktie. It is never to his people is out of the place in the West. And we do not mean by this the Gospel message; but a message of humanity, a message from man to man, for until this has been delivered in most cases there is little use in trying to impart other. It may mean, for a long time, that in the year of Our Lord 1907, but it is true nevertheless, that the Church has to prove its divine sanction anew in the West, before it can accomplish the work which its aims to do. It does not have to perform miracles, but it has to come to terms with the fact that it is not sympathetic with everything that is manly. It has to show that its work is something which concerns men, who are fighting the active battles of life, and not merely women who seek sympathy within its influence, or old men, who have outlived its usefulness. It is sad to notice but it is unfortunately too true, that here in the West

Diana of Poitiers. When her eldest son succeeded his father, he was absolutely under the influence of Mary Stuart, and Catherine was again ready to efface herself and bide her time. The reign of this king was short, and he, having died childless, was succeeded by his brother Charles IX., who was at that time only ten years of age. Then the spirit of Catherine asserted itself. France was at this time in an exceedingly critical condition. The Huguenots were growing rapidly in numbers and influence. The House of Guise, which favored the strengthening of the hands of the sovereign, was at the head of the Catholic party; Coligny and the Prince of Conde were the Huguenot leaders. They also represented the old feudal doctrine that the powers of the crown were subject to restriction at the hands of the nobles. Here then was an issue of a very serious nature, inasmuch as an important political principle as well as wide religious differences separated the two parties. Catherine chose to follow a middle course, keeping herself clear of alliances with either party, and devoting all her talents to strengthening

While it is impossible to admire the character of Catherine de' Medici, the wife of one king and the mother of three others, one of whom was king of two widely-separated countries, a woman who was the ruling spirit in France at a time when religious fanaticism was at its height and the character of the French people was shaped by through perhaps the most important stage in its development, must always occupy an important place in history. Her biographers do not suggest that she was personally an evil woman, but she seems to have been the personification of the doctrine that the end justifies the means. Her absorbing passion was her love for her children, especially for the youngest, who was the most worthless of three worthless brothers. To maintain them upon the throne of France she was prepared to go to any lengths. She does not seem to have had any other aims or feelings. It is impossible to estimate the effect of her influence upon France. The death roll of the thirty years of civil war, which her policy precipitated, deprived that country of many of its ablest sons, and the bitterness of the religious wars, the results of which poisoned the national life

him a little lower than the angels, a
hast crowned him with glory and hon-
or." "A little lower than the angels,"
we only had time to think about this
when we look up to the stars at night.
Some of us have, thank God, but many
of us say, "When I am not in such a
hurry, I surely must stop and give
these things some consideration" in
sort of condescending way, as if the
stars must really feel our neglect.
A little, and we lay up that treasure for
a future occasion, along with the treas-
ures of the sunrise and the sunset.

THE STORY TELLER

or
an

"The most obtrusive and alarming features of our social life today, noticeable in this city is the lavish amount expended in pretentious houses, automobiles, personal adornment and the systematic dictation to amusement of every form. The recent remarks of the bishop of Rochester, England are in no wise inappropriate to local conditions, when he said he some-

gave him a dollar for his blamed new cathedral at Laramie!"—Bellman.

May their names NEVER DIE - the
Highlandman's toast.