

## MISSIONS TO NON-CATHOLICS.

Rev. Walter Elliott, of the Paulists, has been giving missions for the benefit of non Catholics in the diocese of Detroit during the past year and is now about to begin in Ohio. In a letter to the *New York World* he talks of his purposes and hopes:

To the Editor of the *World*.

"Some of our Protestant friends show alarm at the Catholic missionary movements now taking shape in this country. Millions of money, they say, are being poured into the South to catch the blacks and the very Government of the United States is being prostituted to aid in Catholicizing the Indians. So, too, with recent attempts to secure an audience for Catholic lecturers. Rome is going to assail the very citadel of Bible Christianity in this Protestant land.

"Well, there is more truth in this than is always the case with Protestant forebodings, though neither money nor governments are concerned in the matter. The Catholic Church is going, without the shadow of a doubt, to explain to the non-Catholic public the higher life of religion as enjoyed in her fold. Catholics have the true development of man's nature committed to them, both to practice and to preach. All that there is of the noble ideals of the Gospel are commonplaces to instructed Catholics, easily believed without fear of doubt, intelligibly communicated to the earnest inquirer.

"And here is where a mistake is often made. The perfect organization of the Church is thought to be the object of its existence, whereas it is a means to an end. The external magnificence of our Church is an outward representation of the inward life of God, which inspires its members, a divinely-ordained means for elevating men's souls to perfect union with the Deity in an order of existence quite above and beyond all purely natural effort.

"We want to prove this. We want to show the vital force of Catholicity. The spiritual and moral good of mankind, taken one by one and personally, is the aim of Catholicity—an aim which she can attain by unrivalled instrumentalities. And having settled our American household in a fair state of order, we are bound by every law of charity and duty to address 'our brethren who are separated from us on account of disagreement concerning the Christian faith,' to use Pope Leo's words to the Catholic Summer School.

"The Catholic religion can make men more virtuous and holy, can extend virtue and holiness over larger areas of humanity, can lift the soul into higher regions of clear contemplation of the Deity, can better teach the mind as well as guide the conduct of men—can, in a word, fit men for heaven infinitely better than any or all the Christian societies separated from Him, and this lofty claim we are in a position to prove.

"The very stumbling-blocks of our Protestant friends often become their stepping-stones to the Church's door. For example: In my many lectures to Protestants last winter and spring, I was often asked, 'Why do you not turn the drunkards and adulterers and other open sinners out of your Church?' And when I answered that by keeping them mixed up with the faithful Christians, we realized their conversion more certainly, I met with hearty approval. Excluded from the Sacraments on account of his sin, the Catholic sinner is still present in church, still listens to God's word, still feels ashamed by contrast, no less than by the admonitions of his conscience. Pity for the sinner is a note of Christ's following, and it is better practised in Catholicity than elsewhere.

"So, too, with regard to the teaching authority of the Church. Viewed as religious tyranny at first glance,

further acquaintance shows it to be the only certain security of belief, and hence of righteousness, and the Church offers in it a refuge for weak spirits and a criterion of certitude for strong ones.

"Our methods of reaching non-Catholics are those of the Apostles. We shall ask our countrymen to hear us about the inner witness of the spirit joined to the unity of the same spirit in the bond of Catholic peace. It is not in splendid ceremonies and edifices, processions and institutions that Catholicity consists or most promptly acts, but in the synthesis of the divine action within our hearts, with the same divine action in the brotherhood of the Christian Church. If we can show a higher form of prayer and we claim the highest we have a right to a hearing from the prayerful Protestants. If we can show a union with Christ which is similar to His own union with His Father, then we have a standpoint superior to all this is the Catholic doctrine of the Eucharist: 'As I live by the Father so he that eateth Me shall live by Me.' Herein is the triumph of Eucharistic faith.

"Some expect that we shall form new societies with missionary purposes. Doubtless such things are generally the result of renewed religious life, but they are results and not causes. Organization develops latent force, it does not create it. The force of Apostolic zeal is more than latent in the Catholic Church, which palpitates with strength ever ready for expansion. But as for organization, what can equal the divine organization of the Catholic Church itself? It is not by peripatetic missionaries alone that we shall win the mind of America to Catholic holiness and truth. Every man's neighbor shall be his missionary and the ordinary clergy shall be centres of expansion.

"The routine of a good Catholic's life has but to be unveiled, and it reveals activity of sanctifying influences so potent as hardly to be dreamed of by our separated brethren. Meantime specialists will have their place in the missionary era now dawning upon us, but they shall not be a caste. Religious orders are rather a convenient form than an essential quality of the Apostolic life. The Episcopate is of divine origin. It is the Apostolic order of the Church, culminating in the Papacy. And to the Pope and Bishops is committed by exclusive right the external ordering of the fold of Christ. First in the list of Episcopal prerogatives is the promulgation of the way of life that is in Christ Jesus Our Lord.

"Hence our Protestant public may expect an entire union of effort in the noble enterprise of winning back to the one true Church, the northern nations—all work together—Bishops, priests, secular and religious, men and woman. The office of a priest is Apostolic. The vocation of the laity is Apostolic, efficacious in proportion to intelligence and virtue. The times are Apostolic, for they offer advantages in the resources of civilization which are tantamount to victory for whatever cause is right. It is an age of travel, and that means the circulation of truth incarnated in Catholic character. It is an age of liberty, and that gives religion its dearest prerogative, access to souls. It is an age of varied study, and that means a thirst which can only be slaked at fountains springing into eternal life. Those who are conscious of hatred of all error and of love of all men must hail with abounding joy the liberty, intelligence, the migratory habits, the international tendencies of these times, for they announce in trumpet tones the Divine invitation to the religious union of Christendom.

"The Catholic Church has never hesitated to condemn the cowardly error that one religion is as good as another; nevertheless, she welcomes with joy

the free decision of guileless non Catholics in her dispute with the throng of Christian dissidents who are inheritors of the great schism. Given the truth and a worthy exponent to find an auditor becomes a necessary condition of peace of mind.

"In view of all this, it is cheering to Catholics to perceive that their outside brethren are still eager for the discussion of religious questions, and not unwilling to listen to Catholic representatives.

"I believe that the struggle with infidelity has had the effect of loosening denominational bonds rather than belief in God and in Christ. That religion should be denominational is absurd, except the organism be Catholic, and the logical exercise of refuting agnosticism has helped minds to the detection of absurdities of all kinds. Religion should be Catholic in its organism, and should be international in its scope of action as well as form of government. The only serious claimant to such qualities is the Church of Rome, and it gets and continues to get the attention of the calmer minds everywhere.

"Experience proves this. I am not the only one who can state facts to verify it. Many a priest has gathered the general public of town and village into secular halls to listen to Catholic claims—has gathered these non-Catholics by simply advertising his purpose. Religion in any aspect has the first call to attention from our American sober-minded men and woman. No wonder that such a class will come to listen to a promise of the unity of truth, the perfect rest of soul in pardon of sin, the harmony of the inner Christian life with external Christian ordinances, which is a summary of the Catholic claim.

"We are not claiming the immediate conversion of this people; we are not in dreamland. Yet we are ready for sudden impulses of grace sweeping in many millions. What we look for with absolute certainty, however, is the starting of countless little streams of converts all over the country, and especially in parishes in which Catholicity is most worthy represented.

WALTER ELLIOTT.

## Gregory the Great.

In the Middle Ages legend and history united in making Gregory the author of all and each of the church melodies, and that he made them by divine inspiration, a belief which they expressed in art by the symbol of a dove whispering in his ear, and which is a distinguished mark of that Pope in his many pictures and statues. It would require large space to follow the growth of this chant throughout Europe. Gregory established two schools for teaching it, one at the Lateran, the other near St. Peter's at the Vatican. It was to the sound of these notes that the missionaries he sent to England chanted their hymns while King Ethelbert sat awaiting them in the open air near the town of Canterbury. Charlemagne brought teachers of this music from Rome and established schools of ecclesiastical music at Metz and Soissons. And here, in this new kingdom, where a fresh and active civilization grew up, this Gregorian chant, which not only had the early Christian music in it, but which had fragments of the ancient Roman music, accompanied the services of the Church. Thus it has been deduced, and with much probability, that "the Gregorian melody forms the classical basis of our European music, and it is upon its principles that even the productions of to-day are originally founded."

## Agents Wanted

To canvass for THE CATHOLIC REGISTER. A liberal commission allowed. Write for particulars.

Two Italian ironclad warships have been ordered to Morocco in view of the disturbed situation there.

## Prince Edward Island.

Lieut. Governor Howland was present at the Alberton exhibition on Sept. 29th. After receiving addresses from J. C. Weeks on behalf of the Commissioners and Rev. Father Burke, who spoke for the people of the Western district, his Honor declared the fair open.

In his speech in reply to the address, his Honor referred to the striking progress shown by the superiority of the present fair over those of the time when it was hardly possible to have a fair at all. In the course of his address to the Lieut. Governor Father Burke paid that gentleman's character a striking tribute. We quote:

"Those of us who remember your advent to this country a little Irish boy with nothing but your two hands, and the many good qualities which usually adorn the Irish character, to clear a way for yourself in the world and support a mother and family, those of us who remember later your commercial activity and the plucky battle waged during your early political career for your own and your people's rights; those of us who have witnessed your triumphs and reverses and who now after all these years see you filling the first dignity in the land, are constrained to proclaim this, after all, a country where merit is duly recognized, and justice to all the guiding star of the state. Your striking example is before the young men of this country today, and it proclaims in unmistakable language that no matter of what class, creed or nationality the fathers owned allegiance, so long as they fulfil the conditions of good citizenship here and prepare themselves for the discharge of their duties, there is no position within the gift of Canada to which they cannot, and should not, properly aspire."

## Rudolph of Hapsburg.

The founder of a long line of Austrian sovereigns was Rudolph of Hapsburg, of whom many stories are told. One of them relates how he, when at Metz, walked out early one morning, and, being cold, entered a baker's shop to warm himself. The mistress exclaimed peevishly: "Soldiers ought not to come into poor women's houses!" "Do not be angry, good woman," replied the Emperor; "I am an old soldier, and have spent my fortune in the service of that rascal Rudolph. He suffers me to want, in spite of all the fine promises he made to his followers." "Well, you deserve it for serving that fellow," cried the woman; "do you know that I and all the bakers in the town but two have been ruined by that fine Rudolph of yours? Be off this minute, I tell you!" And, grumbling all the time, she threw a pail of water on the fire, and filled the room with smoke, so that, coughing and laughing, the Emperor was obliged to depart. Presently, when sitting down to the table, he recollected his adventure, and ordered a boar's head and a bottle of wine to be sent to the baker's wife, bidding the messenger say they were from the old soldier she had driven out of her shop. Back came the woman, very much alarmed, and asking for forgiveness. The Emperor pardoned her, on condition that she repeated all that she had said about "that rascal Rudolph," which she proceeded to do, to the great amusement of the company.

CHRONIC DERANGEMENTS OF THE STOMACH, LIVER AND BLOOD, are speedily removed by the active principle of the ingredients entering into the composition of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. These Pills act specifically on the deranged organs, stimulating to action the dormant energies of the system, thereby removing disease and renewing life and vitality to the afflicted. In this lies the great secret of the popularity of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills.

Patient: Doctor, why does whisky make my nose red?

Doctor: It's because you drink it, sir.—Life.