

peaceful settlement. With the ferocity of tigers they fell upon their victims. No person was spared upon whom they could lay their hands. In their beds, in flight, in prayers for mercy, they were slaughtered. About nine hundred persons were slain. According to Mendoza, the priest who accompanied Melendez as chaplain, the Spaniards did not lose a man. A few of the men were hanged upon trees and over their bodies was placed the inscription :

NOT AS FRENCHMEN, BUT AS LUTHERANS.

The women and children were butchered. None escaped except a few who found a hiding-place in the forest. Thus the sun of the first Lutheran settlement went down in blood. The priest, Mendoza, says : " the Holy Spirit enlightened the understanding of Melendez, to enable him to gain so great a victory." God save the mark ! That was a glorious Roman Catholic victory. And the spirit of the Roman Catholic Church is always the same.

The first body of Lutherans to come to America after this butchery, arrived from Holland in 1621. Then came the Swedes, in 1637, and made their settlement on Delaware Bay. In 1642, the Rev. John Campanius, the first Lutheran minister, arrived and dwelt among them. Many Germans followed. In 1742 came Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, the great organ-