

— *The Protestant Rule of Faith and the Roman Catholic Church.*—

By the Rev. G. M. Godts, C. SS. R. A controversial work compiled from many sources and embracing nearly all the questions discussed by Protestants and Catholics. The author says old things in a new way ; his references reveal a vast amount of preliminary reading. The following are the chief chapters of the work. I. "Is the Bible alone the Rule of Faith?" II. "The Saviour established a Church." III. "Where is that Church?" IV. "Why do some not see the Church?" V. "The consequences of a false Rule of Faith." VI. "The consequences of a true Rule of Faith." The following extract will give an idea of the way the author treats his matter. "Which is better, a good Protestant or a bad Catholic? In one way both are wrong ; you must, of course, first distinguish between the doctrine and the one who follows it. The doctrine may be very bad in itself, but men may be good, not in as much as they follow that doctrine, but apart from it. Many may be deceived by hearing the voice of sectarians alone, for these endeavor to mimic the Divine accents and to take the mask of Catholicity, as in England, where Calvinistic principles were evidently invested in rituals taken from the Catholic Church. Even now, how many Protestant ministers make Catholics believe they are Catholics? This gives to understand the good faith of many people brought up in Protestantism, and who have not in their reach the means to know the true Church to which they think they belong. But now, to answer the question, I ask : What is better, a clean piece of copper or a soiled piece of gold ? The gold is easily cleaned, but the copper remains copper. The Catholic, dying in mortal sin, will be lost just like the one dying with a mortal sin against Faith ; but, during life, it is far easier for one who is in the right way to be converted from a momentary offence than for one who is not in the right way to come to it. The foolish virgins and the wise were likewise asleep, but it was far easier for those who had oil in their lamps to light them than for the others to go and get oil. 'The corruption of the best is the worst,' particularly when there is an abuse of grace, but God evidently helps those who always, in their heart, wish sincerely for Him, His truth and His Church." We regret that so many traces of a foreign idiom are distinguishable in this otherwise excellent little work. But even these blemishes will be overlooked once it is known that English is not the reverend author's mother tongue. (Brandon, Mau., E. L. Christie, 180 pp.)