

From the True Tablet.

A TREATISE ON MODERN GEOGRAPHY, in which are presented, under distinct heads, the Natural Features, Productions, Zoology, and History of the various Countries throughout the World, with the Religion and Character of their Inhabitants: also Copious Tables, showing the comparative sizes of Islands and Lakes, lengths of Rivers, heights of Mountains, &c.; with an Appendix containing the Elements of Astronomy, Problems on the Use of the Globes, Directions for the Construction of Maps, and a Pronouncing Vocabulary. By the Brothers of the Christian Schools. Dublin, William Powell, 98, Thomas-Street: England, by all the Catholic Booksellers.

We have given this long title at length from the first page of the above work, because, on inspection, we find that it is fully justified by the contents that follow after it. The Treatise is all that it promises, and a great deal more than (looking at the way in which such promises are usually kept) one would be inclined to imagine at first sight. It has been a common complaint and outcry amongst Catholics, and we have ever done what lay in our power to swell the outcry, that there is an utter and shameful want of elementary books for the education of all Children—not merely the children of the poor, but of the rich and poor alike. At the time when their young minds are most sensible of impression from outward objects, events, and persons, there has been hardly an alternative other than that of keeping all children ignorant, or teaching them heresy and lies. That terrible alternative, we are delighted to say, is in a fair way of removal altogether by the admirable Christian Brothers, whose work we have placed at the head of this article. What they are now giving us is not heresy and falsehood, is not neutral books which would suit equally for Catholic and Protestant parents; but decided Catholic books, about which there can be no mistake: books which recognize the fact that the greatest matter of interest in this world and in every part of it, great and small, is the Catholic Church—its actual existence and condition where it is—its possible existence, or its absence where it is not. Not merely have the Christian Brothers done this; they have really bestowed a great deal of pains, to explore the recent works in every department of science and literature, to make their book a correct picture in little of what the world is known to contain in the year 1842; in other words, to bring down their statement to the latest date. We have really been astonished at the minute care which they seem to have shown in making their book complete in this respect; and, indeed, they have brought together such a mass of information, *de omnibus rebus*, that we have been both delighted and instructed on our own personal account in turning over their welcome pages. Not but that we have discovered here and there little matters which might, in our judgment, be improved. In fact, in books that are so purely abridgments, where so much has to be said in so few words, and where there is so little room for modifying the inaccuracy of all general assertions, it is almost impossible to avoid mistakes. But as we wish to be honest as well as friend-

ly critics, we will just mention one such inaccuracy to illustrate our meaning. In the account of the United States it is said, that "A national system of education has been recently established, but it is of such a nature that Catholics cannot conscientiously avail themselves of its advantages." This is accurate enough, perhaps for practical purposes; and to give the exact truth would perhaps have led the compilers into too great a multiplicity of details. The fact is, however, that there is not one system that can be called national; but a variety of systems; as many systems as there are states. The system, in short, are state systems, and they vary a good deal in the advantages they hold out to Catholics. Perhaps this may be thought hypercritical, and we are afraid we are getting into too censorious a vein. Let us add, that we have been particularly delighted to find under the head "Solar System," a detailed account of Galileo, and a refutation of the ordinary story about his persecution. Thank God, we have at last got a school-book in which that monstrous and impossible lie does not find a place. The full manner, too, in which the compilers have treated of the United Kingdom, and the mass of information they have brought together about our own islands, is very praiseworthy. In conclusion, we can say most truly that this is a book which, both by its contents and its price, ought to be in the hands of every Catholic child in the three kingdoms and the colonies—in fact, wherever the English tongue is spoken.

A CATHOLIC INTERMENT AT GRANTHAM.—On Sunday evening, the 21st of August, a very interesting ceremony took place in the above town. A poor man had died on Friday the 19th, and to his remains were allotted the honor of being the first interred in the new Catholic Cemetery adjoining the town. At seven o'clock, on the evening of the above-named Sunday, the funeral procession was seen moving in neat and solemn order through the principal street, and the Rev. W. Gubbins, accompanied by a cross bearer and two acolytes, with crucible and holy water, went forth to meet it and so convey it to the church. Having the sin read the prescribed prayer, the procession left the church, still accompanied by the officiating clergyman and his youthful assistants, and bent its way to the cemetery. It being the first time for the last 300 years that such a sight was seen to pass through the streets of Grantham, numbers of people were attracted by the novelty thereof, so that when it reached the cemetery the place was densely crowded. There the remaining portion of the prayers was read, and the grave sprinkled with holy water and incensed; which, being completed, the rev. gentleman delivered a short but very impressive discourse. In one part of it he alluded in touching language to the nature of the ceremonial which they had just witnessed, the very same which had attended their beloved forefathers to their final resting-places when England was Catholic and happy. During all the time the people were very attentive, and

behaved in an edifying manner. May they learn still more, to appreciate the beauty and the corresponding beneficial results of Catholic truth and Catholic practice.—*Cor.*

SINGING FOR THE MILLION.—Under this title, a popular, we might say a national system of singing, has been introduced into England by Herr Mainzer, who, after having taught thousands of the French and Prussian people, arrived about eighteen months back in London; since which period the demands for his services have spread with such surprising rapidity that he has left hardly a town of any note in England unvisited. The great advantages which this system possesses beyond all others, are the almost incredible ease and quickness with which a just knowledge of music and singing is attained; its enabling hundreds to be taught in one class, and thus placing its benefits within the reach of the humblest artisan, from the consequent smallness of expense. He who is justly titled the great Apostle of temperance in Ireland, whose proudest monument will be the permanent social happiness of his regenerated country.—Father Mathew, sent a request to M. Mainzer, as we have already noticed in this paper, to be supplied with teachers of his system, to instruct the Teetotallers in singing. This proceeding of Father Mathew, is a proof, how fully he estimates the solid benefits which would accrue to society from a more widely diffused musical education, and its high moral influence in refining the sentiments, in softening the passions and awakening the best feelings of our nature. In many countries of Europe, music has long been an integral portion of education, and it has been felt and acknowledged.

Music is the soul of family festivities and the delight of the social circle; it flies to its charming relaxation; "the raveled brow of care" is soothed by its innocent gait, and piety pours forth the full fervor of its praise and thanksgiving in its melodious raptures.

We are rejoiced to find that M. Mainzer has sent to our shores an agent in the person of Madame Mecovino Malone, for the diffusion of his system in this city and the vicinity. She intends opening classes in the middle of the present month, and we hope soon to see singing in unison, under her tuition, hundreds of pupils of both sexes, and all classes, for she intends to place the means of acquiring this method within the reach of the least opulent of our citizens.—*Freeman's Journal.*

The Order of Malta.—This order is now acknowledged in Modern Austria, and several other states. The Pope has granted it his special protection. Nothing, therefore, would be easier than to re-establish this illustrious order in all its former splendour, if France had not lost since the revolution of July, her influence in the Levant. Turkey, in effect, would have easily consented to make over to the order the city of Jerusalem and its dependencies. There the order would be an assured protector for the Christians in Syria; and Jerusalem would then, in all safety, receive within its walls those numerous pilgrims whom Europe formerly sent to it, and whose example would be now follow-

ed by many others.—Copied from the *Gazette du Zidi* into the *Union Catholique*.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Popery seems to be acting with considerable vigor in its extremities. In the Sandwich Islands its priests are thick on all the Islands, doing what they can to counteract the labors of Protestant missionaries, who first raised there the standard of the cross surrounded by books and schools.—*Journal of Commerce.*

We never before heard of Protestant, especially Presbyterian missionaries "raising the cross" in any country, though we know that where it was erected by others, they very zealously pulled it down, when they got the ascendancy. We suspect that in the Sandwich Islands they have even done the same, for when they banished the Catholic missionaries from the island, they tore down their chapel, and condemned their converts to labour on the public works until they should consent to attend the Protestant worship. Even women were condemned to this persecution for conscience sake, under the administration of the Rev. Mr. Bingham. It is true, the Protestant Missionaries were the first to preach the gospel, *secundum Calvinum*, in those islands, but as they preached without being sent, they laboured without success, until the arrival of the Catholic priests. It was only at the end of seven long years they were able to make a single proselyte, and he was a poor blind old man. Was he converted by reading the bible, or by the other books and schools with which the missionaries surrounded themselves?—*N. Y. Freeman's Journal.*

A BREAK.—An experimental trial was made on Wednesday, on the Brighton Railway between Brighton and Hayward's Heath, of the efficacy of a break which has been invented by Mr. Thornton, civil engineer, and one of the late contractors. The experiments were witnessed by Mr. Vignolles, Mr. Gregory, and other eminent engineers, and they were of a most satisfactory nature. A carriage going at the rate of 32 miles an hour was stopped within a hundred yards by means of this break, the strength of which can be increased to any extent, and it will, therefore, in all probability, be the means of adding another safeguard to travelling by rail.

PROGRESS OF PUSHERISM.—The following effusion appeared in the *Statesman* of Friday, Sept. 17:—"We find in the public papers an account of the laying of the foundation stone of a new Protestant church at Leeds, by the Rev. Dr. Hook, which manifests, in many particulars, symptoms of the superstitious spirit now so rapidly developing itself in various quarters of the established church. In the first place the money to build this church is given by 'a Penitent'; and the stone was laid under the altar 'in the name of a Penitent.' The church is to be called Holy Cross church, or, as it is commonly styled, St. Cross. Here, then, is a new English saint, who, we presume, will make way for that other saint who is a nail—we forget his name just now. The stone is laid 'on Holy Cross Day,' as the inscription testifies. Part of this inscription is the 14th verse of the 6th chapter of Galatians, as follows:—'God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, whereby the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.' Here, it will be observ-