

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY A PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN. CLXXXV.

I have cited several decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States which assume or declare that Christianity is the law of the land, in such a sense as that legislation is never to be presumed adverse to Christian principles and feelings...

The reason of this is historical. Not only was this country largely settled by "dissenters of dissent, and the Protestants of the Protestant religion," to whom the Catholic religion was an evil idolatry, worthily punished with death, but even after these feelings were somewhat mitigated...

The last decision, as we remember, is still later than that turning on the contract act. A Catholic orphanage in Washington being granted some public moneys, a suit was brought to restrain it from receiving them, on the ground that Congress is forbidden to provide for an establishment of religion.

How was it now when the Catholics, almost suddenly, appeared as a numerous and powerful body? That we will consider next.

testant soldiers or sailors would refuse the ministrations of any Protestant clergyman. The British government tries, as far as possible, to apportion its chaplaincies, respectively, according to the number of Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Wesleyans and Catholics in the army, although giving to the chaplains of the two established churches a higher standing...

There is something, after all, in what poets have sung about the soothing influences of nature. Her mother's hand smooths down all the ruffled aspects and angry asperities of human feeling and thought; and her great silence swallows up in a kind of infinite peace, as of heaven, the buzzing and stinging of that hive of hornets, where

Alas! and is it not true of us, that we must have the bitter myrror in our wine of life; and that we create cares for the luxury of fretfulness, where the world has left us in peace?

There is no harm in feeling a sense of justifiable pride when one makes a great discovery. Hence, we congratulate ourselves on the unique distinction of having found that the distinctive term of popular canonization in Ireland is that word "poor." The man who is spoken of as poor is an admired and loved man.

Reverence is the secret of all religion and happiness. Without reverence, there is no faith, no hope, nor love. Reverence is the motive of each of the commandments of Sinai—reverence of God, reverence of our neighbor, reverence of ourselves. Humility is founded on it; piety is conserved by it; purity finds in it its shield and buckler.

The "spirit of prayer," which the Apostles makes the intention for April, is a great grace, the meaning of which we should try to understand clearly, that then we may pray more earnestly for it; because, once gained, it will make life brighter and better.

Reflections. Come and keep Jesus Christ company; it is His Heart which invites thee and which promises thee the abundance of its graces if thou give it that consolation.—St. Alphonsus Liguori.

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THE MONTH OF MARY.

The approach of the month of Mary brings gladness to every heart, but to the devoted children of the Mother of God it brings a special joy. The month of flowers is rightly "Mary's month," as she was the most beautiful flower in the garden of humanity.

The pious children of the Church are busy about Mary's glory, and soon lights will be multiplied and altars decked to profusion, and her beads told and her Litany recited, and the thousand little actions of the day will be, during the coming month, all sanctified, by being performed under the blessing of Mary's name.

It will be the pleasant duty of the faithful children of Mary during the month of May to devote some time occasionally to the contemplation of her sweet character. A great writer has remarked that "it is almost beyond question that, if we only once became fully penetrated with a deep, intimate consciousness of what a glorious creation the Blessed Virgin Mary is, and how near and personal her relationship and interest towards us, there will be no wavering in the steadfastness of our service to her during these days, but rather will it come to pass that, as the moments of this time drop silently into eternity, they will bear away with them each, one after the other, the record of a higher love and a more fervent devotedness."

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THE NERVE OF

By Frank H. Spence

There had been rumo... Certainly we of the ope... ment had warnings enou... railroad life there is alw... like the soldier, with an... the same he sleeps, i... comes duty.

"You don't think me... do you, Mr. Reed?" sai... one night.

"What do you mean?... The engineers have... "Struck? What tim... "Half-past three. T... I bounded behind Bar... the depot. The superi... ready in his office talk... mechanic.

Bulletins came in fr... from various points an... tied up. Before long w... from the East End.

We crowded close a... pen flew across the e... was addressed to all t... tendents. It was sh... end of it he wrote a... saw in our office. It... railroad magnate we k... man," the president... and his words were fe... "Move the trains,"... "Move the trains... superintendent. "Y... can't be moved by p... main force."

We spent the day s... strikers. They were... Persuasion, entreaties... exhausted, and ended j... gan, except that we h... pers. The sun set w... of a wheel. The vic... was certain that w... superintendent, and m... and a wiper firm sec... came from the secor... He promised to deliv... division on time the... he asked, "Can you... Denver?"

We looked at each... eyes gravitated toward... master-mechanic.

The train-despatch... "What shall I say?"... The division chief... power was a tremen... man, with a voice... Without an instant... answer came clear... "Say 'yes'!"... Every one of us... throwing the gage of... had gone out; the di... light was on.