

tions had been made to entertain them. However it is thought probable that the excursion has not been altogether abandoned, but will be held in July 1899.

Complaints have recently been heard from certain quarters because of the fact that the Holy Father has tried to mediate between the United States and Spain. The people who make these complaints have not enough humanity in their natures to see that it is the duty of every true Christian to do all he can to prevent the dreadful bloodshed which war occasions. But if they were to refer to facts of history they would find that the Popes have more than once acted as arbiters between Catholic and Protestant nations, and their judgments have never been objected to as unjust no matter which nation benefited by the decision.

The following figures which are taken from the *Catholic News* should serve as an inviting morsel to some of those writers whose original views on the "Decay of Rome" are so often brought before the public. Notwithstanding all the difficulties with which she has had to contend, the Catholic Church still retains her noble qualities, not the least important of which is her *catholicity*. This table gives the number of Catholics for each century since the advent of Christianity :

Century.	No. of Catholics.
First .....	500,000
Second.....	2,000,000
Third.....	5,000,000
Fourth.....	10,000,000
Fifth.....	15,000,000
Sixth.....	20,000,000
Seventh.....	25,000,000
Eighth.....	30,000,000
Ninth.....	40,000,000
Tenth.....	56,000,000

Century.	No. of Catholics.
Eleventh.....	70,000,000
Twelfth.....	80,000,000
Thirteenth.....	85,000,000
Fourteenth.....	90,000,000
Fifteenth.....	100,000,000
Sixteenth.....	125,000,000
Seventeenth.....	185,000,000
Eighteenth.....	250,000,000
Nineteenth.....	280,000,000

The advocates of godless schools should ponder over the words of Mr. Seeley in the *Educational Review*. The writer places the number of Protestant children in the United States as over 19,000,000, while the number who attend the Sunday-schools is only 10,890,092, or about one half the total. Mr. Seeley continues thus : " The meaning of these figures is simply overwhelming. More than one-half of the children in this Christian land receive practically no religious instruction ! For but few parents who fail to send their children to Sunday-schools are careful about the religious training of their children in the home. Even this feature does not show all of the truth. It seems to admit that the fifty per cent who attend Sunday-school are receiving proper religious instruction : but every one knows that this cannot be granted. With less than one hour instruction per week, with irregular attendance, with lack of study on the part of the children, and with so many untrained teachers, is it any wonder that even among those who attend Sunday-school, there is still a woeful ignorance of the Bible ? "

We often hear it said, especially by those who are strangers to the perfection of the English tongue, that the ordinary ideas of philosophy cannot be expressed in the English language. However it is a grievous fallacy to assert that our language is