

are not to be perused in the Sunday schools alone, but also studied as a class book in the public schools.

At last Protestants admit the necessity of religious teaching in the public schools. Religion is not alone for the private life, to be imbibed only at the Church or by the fireside. The schools are also to be its fountainhead. But here again comes a difficulty. In express terms, the would-be reformers declare that the Bible instruction is to be strictly non-sectarian. We think we understand their meaning. The right of private judgement and the absence of positive dogmatical tenets, outside the belief in God and faith in the Redeemer (with perhaps a denial of His divinity), constitute the minimum doctrine that can be taught with a profession of Christianity. The inculcation of these meagre religious principles, which are held by most Protestants, is commonly looked upon as non-sectarian teaching. If this is so no religious body, with firm doctrinal convictions, far from lending support can even sympathize with the movement.

How, then, can be averted the ruin of the nation's morals and healthy religious belief? The only effectual means is the establishment in practice of denominational teaching. The Catholic Church has always recognized this important fact. In the words of Father Pace, of the Catholic University of Washington "she holds that the supreme destiny of man is not to be attained in this life; that he is destined for a higher and supernatural purpose, and that purpose is the sharing of divine life. . . . Catholic education is that physical and intellectual, moral and religious instruction shall not be separated. All the forms of education must work together for the upbuilding of character and the elevation of moral virtue." The Church also holds that this end can be effected only by teachers entirely in sympathy with the faith of the child.

There is nothing more noble, more fraught with earnest belief in man's superior destiny, than the sacrificing efforts, made by the Catholics of the Republic for the maintenance of their parochial schools. In New York alone they have nearly five million dollars invested in school buildings, wherein "are educated nearly 42,000 pupils at an annual cost of \$350,000." This is but one example of