

Heads Review.
THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.
BY A PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN.

CCX.

Before we go farther, let us fix firmly in our minds what we have already noted, namely, that the prohibition of the Federal Constitution, to establish any form of religion, or to restrain the free exercise of any form (naturally, if not at variance with Christian morals), and also the prohibition of any religious test for office, apply only to the federal government. As the Supreme Court of the United States has often made plain, no restriction of the Constitution applies to a state, unless so expressed. So far as concerns the national charter, a State might set up a Catholic, or a Puritan inquisition. The thing would be impossible, of course, but by the tenor of events, not by the law of the land.

As we have seen, at the time when these federal enactments were passed, a number of the states had religious restrictions, or provisions. Massachusetts, I think until 1834, Connecticut until 1818, required every man to pay a tax to his pastor, or if he had none, to the Congregational pastor of the place. New Hampshire had the same law. Massachusetts kept Catholics out of office until 1821, New Hampshire out of the higher offices until after 1861. Several other states shut them out of the governorship until about 1830, more or less. North Carolina still excludes atheists from her legislature, and from governorship.

We see then that the federal restrictions on religious intolerance have not acted on the several states by any force of law, but purely by the force of example and influence, strengthening the general spirit of the age.

However, many Protestants, while professing to be locally acquiescent in the tolerance of the Constitution, maintain that the inclusion of Catholics in this freedom was ill-advised. Catholics, they say, owing superior allegiance to a foreign potentate, cannot be true citizens of this country. The Committee of One Hundred (if there still is such a thing) proposes to all the states to renew the old laws of Massachusetts, and shut Catholics out of every office. There is so little hope of changing the federal constitution in this direction, that they apparently leave it out of their present view.

But if the Catholics, by their very religion, can not be true citizens, why should they vote, any more than hold office? The One Hundred would doubtless allow that this exception is well taken, but would remind us that Rome was not built in a day and can not be rebuilt in a day. "Have patience," they would say, "Partial disfranchisement naturally implies all the obscene lecture courses of Margaret Shepherd, Fulton, Rodenhafer, Linton and a band of smirky preachers to whom sensationalism is life itself.

Into this paradise of spleen and ignorance came the Rev. Xavier Sutton, humble and frank as a child, filled with the wisdom of God and His saints and overflowing with a persuasive power for good that tears down all the barriers of prejudice.

In the new and beautiful St. Francis' Church, a monument to the zeal and devotion to its pastor, Father McGrath, a mission to Catholics and non-Catholics, one week to each, was closed on September 21, and the peaceful Catholics of Allison Hill district may now walk the streets without fear of coarse insults from their non-Catholic neighbors, thanks to the good offices of Father Sutton.

Night after night was the church comfortably filled (some nights crowded) to hear the doctrines of the Church explained in a manner so plain yet so eloquently expressed that none could go away without a larger and better degree of knowledge than was possessed of the senses in seeing, hearing, and speaking is far more profitable than wearing even sharp chains or hair-shirts. It ought to be our principal aim to conquer ourselves, and from day to day to go increasing in spiritual strength and perfection. But above all it is necessary to overcome our little temptations to anger, suspicion, jealousy, envy, duplicity, vanity, foolish attachments and so on, for by so doing we shall gain strength to resist more violent temptations.

A man's chief care, then, ought to be turned within himself, for a man who governs his passions is master of the world. We must either command them or be enslaved by them.

QUESTION BOX.

The question box furnished Father Sutton with a powerful weapon for spreading the light, though it also made clear the dense gross ignorance of those who loudly proclaim that Protestantism is the father and mother of education, the friend of science and the keystone of patriotism. The following are fair samples of numerous questions, all of which Father Sutton answered in a felicitous and at times mirth provoking:

"Why did Martin Luther leave the Catholic faith?"
 "Why is it that the priest dare not marry?"
 "What do the pictures on the wall mean?"
 "Why dare the people not enter the church without hats on?"

"Where in the Bible do you find cards associated with Christianity? Is not encroaching gambling?"

"What is the difference between a sincere Catholic and a sincere Protestant?"

"Why do you have statues in the church?"
 "Why do Catholics want a priest so bad when sick?"

"What are convents for?"
 "Why do Catholics have lights through purgatory, and what is purgatory?"

"Why can a priest forgive sins and not heal the sick?"
 "Is it not a fact that St. Augustine denied the existence of purgatory?"

provisions made by the State. Then this would include those churches which forbid lawsuits among their members. Nay, if the government should open galleries full of wanton pictures, the churches should be prohibited if they forbid their members to frequent them. Indeed, this is far short of actual fact. In Hamburg and Bremen or Lubec I understand that a woman who wishes to enroll herself in a brothel is entitled to require of her pastor a certificate of Confirmation and Communion. Here, too, I have seen in a St. Louis law journal, where I believe at one time such women were registered, a proposal to forbid the churches to admit them out of their membership.

This was the tenor, although I will not answer for the precise terms.

Of course, if once you begin, there is no stopping. Schools, museums, drinking-shops, houses of ill fame, anything which the civil authority sees fit to patronize, it ought to be viewed as incivism for any church, or any body of men, to oppose, whether by excommunication or provable disapprobation. We can not logically stop short of Cesarianism in its most aggravated degree, of the state of things towards which they are swiftly tending in France, in which the minority, however large, is helplessly at the mercy of the governing majority when once this has settled into any course of policy. The only logical end is the renewal of the guillotine for every one who is "suspected of being suspicious."

The Tribune, long ago, (and it has well-seconded by the Independent) told the truth when it declared that it is of the very essence of Americanism that the State shall in no way guarantee the ecclesiastical standing of the citizen. Where his membership is guarded by a contract, and by fixed forms of trial, the State will see that these are observed, for she is the guardian of all contracts. Otherwise her business is to remain wholly aloof.

Could anything be more utterly alien to the American spirit and traditions than the assumption of the civil authority to decide, in any measure, the conditions of admission to the Church or exclusion from it? America knows nothing of any civil disqualification involved in excommunication, or of any civil advancement involved in being exempted from it.

CHARLES C. STARBUCK.
 Andover, Mass.

NON-CATHOLIC MISSION.

Catholic Standard and Times.

Harrisburg, September 29.—If there is a spot on the map of Pennsylvania where ignorance and bigotry have been more rampant than it ever was in the remotest hamlet of New Hampshire, that spot is Allison Hill, Harrisburg. The nursery of anti-Catholic organizations, its denizens have been the promoters of all the obscene lecture courses of Margaret Shepherd, Fulton, Rodenhafer, Linton and a band of smirky preachers to whom sensationalism is life itself.

Into this paradise of spleen and ignorance came the Rev. Xavier Sutton, humble and frank as a child, filled with the wisdom of God and His saints and overflowing with a persuasive power for good that tears down all the barriers of prejudice.

In the new and beautiful St. Francis' Church, a monument to the zeal and devotion to its pastor, Father McGrath, a mission to Catholics and non-Catholics, one week to each, was closed on September 21, and the peaceful Catholics of Allison Hill district may now walk the streets without fear of coarse insults from their non-Catholic neighbors, thanks to the good offices of Father Sutton.

Night after night was the church comfortably filled (some nights crowded) to hear the doctrines of the Church explained in a manner so plain yet so eloquently expressed that none could go away without a larger and better degree of knowledge than was possessed of the senses in seeing, hearing, and speaking is far more profitable than wearing even sharp chains or hair-shirts. It ought to be our principal aim to conquer ourselves, and from day to day to go increasing in spiritual strength and perfection. But above all it is necessary to overcome our little temptations to anger, suspicion, jealousy, envy, duplicity, vanity, foolish attachments and so on, for by so doing we shall gain strength to resist more violent temptations.

A man's chief care, then, ought to be turned within himself, for a man who governs his passions is master of the world. We must either command them or be enslaved by them.

"Who grants indulgences?"

This week Father Sutton has opened a two weeks' mission in the Church of the Sacred Heart, South Harrisburg, and the little church is crowded nightly, many of the entranced auditors being mill hands, to whom this mission is indeed a blessing, not because they are worse than their neighbors, but because they have lacked opportunities to hear the truth expounded.

The expansion of Catholicity in and about Harrisburg dates from the first mission of Father Sutton given in the pro Cathedral here a few years ago. Then we had two places of worship and now we have four, with a mission church in Mechanicsville and another starting in Marysville. Indeed, the only growth of Catholicity in twenty years in and about Harrisburg dates from the time our present Bishop Shanahan assumed charge of the diocese and with proper administrative zeal began the work of Catholic and non-Catholic missions.

G. M. S.

FIVE-MINUTES SERMON.

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost.

HOW TO BE MASTERS OF OURSELVES.

"Many walk of whom I have told you often (and now tell you weeping) that they are masters of all God's creation, and in destruction whose God is in their belly; and whose glory is their shame; who mind earthly things" (Paul in 1 Thes.

Sensuality is the bane of man's existence. The dominion of the passions over reason is the source of his greatest misery. "Every passion," says St. Ambrose, "is a slavery," because it subjects man to an unjust and tyrannous bondage.

The present, or at least the ultimate, happiness of the creature is wrecked unless he resists the attacks of sensuality and frees himself from the control of the passions. The Spirit of God and the spirit of the world, the flesh, and the devil cannot exist together in the soul. Whoever seeks to serve at once God and mammon is of those "whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is their shame;" who are "the enemies of the Cross of Christ," because they strive to destroy a fundamental principle of the Christian religion, namely, self-denial.

"We must live in this world," says St. Francis of Sales, "as if our spirits were in heaven and our bodies in the tomb. We must live a dying life, and die a living and a life-giving death in the life of our King and most sweet Saviour! This we do by self-denial.

Yet the very word—self-denial—fills the mind of some with terror, with thoughts of longfasts and of scourgings, of mental suffering and of bodily misery.

These are "they who mind earthly things." They cannot appreciate the necessity of self-denial because they are insensitive to spiritual things. The world is the region of the senses. They love their bodies and serve them with fidelity, they devote their time to the study of how they can get the most pleasure out of life, and they wander along through their probation wondering why they find so little comfort for their pains.

Self-denial does not consist in mere bodily mortifications. Fasting and other corporal austerities are but means by which the animal man is brought into subjection. The real end of self-denial is that the soul may be the master of the man. St. John of the Cross tells us "that there is great reason to lament the ignorance of some who burden themselves with indiscretions and with many other disorderly exercises of their own self-will, putting all their confidence in such acts and believing that they become saints by means of them. If they would but use half the same diligence in mortifying their unruly appetites and passions they would make more advancement in a single month than in many whole years with all other exercises."

"Be assured," says St. Francis of Sales, "that the mortification of the senses in seeing, hearing, and speaking should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for the fate of the treasures he had guarded through three long years, in battle and in pyramids, in hunger and thirst and nakedness. He was with his regiment which had to touch his pulse from time to time to be assured that he lived. With the morning the bleeding ceased, and he was able to swallow medicine and nourishment, and in another day he was allowed to say a few words. Soon he asked for the ragged jacket which, according to rule, had been placed under his pillow, and took from the lining a silver watch, and then a \$100 United States bank note given to our eyes. It must have been worth \$1,000 in Confederate money, and that a poor soldier should own so much at this crisis of our fate was indeed a marvel.

I took charge of his treasures till he could tell me his history and say what should be done with them when death, which was inevitable, come to him. It was evident that he had fallen into a rapid decline, though relieved from the fear of immediate death. Fever and

cough and those terrible night sweats had reduced this stalwart form to emaciation. Patient and uncomplaining, he had but one anxiety, and this was for