

assistance of Pepin against the Lombard King Astolphus, and since that time, A. D., 755, they have been its only recognized and legitimate rulers. Were it not for their influence time and again, Rome, like its ancient rival, Carthage would have been but an unpeopled waste.

#### PROTEST NO. 2.

We protest against the usurpation of weaker states legitimately and justly governed by stronger powers, as we would protest against the forcible and unjust seizure of the property and lands of private individuals.

#### REMARKS.

Therefore we protest against Victor Emanuel's seizure of Rome, for, if he, at the head of his Piedmontese soldiers, had a right to invade the Kingdom of Naples, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, and all the minor Principalities of Italy, and in fine the States of the Church, that he might make the Italian peninsula one kingdom; then with equal justice, would the United States, in order to make one grand Republic of the North American Continent, have a right to invade and annex to themselves the Dominion of Canada, British North America and Mexico? Then, too, would any power in Europe, if it felt strong enough, have a right to invade England, and carry amongst its happy people war and all its dreadful consequences.

#### PROTEST NO. 3.

We also protest against the false opinions of certain public writers, who affirm that public men and political events are not to be judged

by the standard of right and wrong, as applicable to individuals.

#### REMARKS.

There is one supreme tribunal, before which all the great and small must appear, Dignity will be no safeguard, power no shield of defence. All will be judged with respect to private and public acts, by the same unchanging principles of moral rectitude. The doctrine of right and wrong is the eternal law of God, manifested to us by enlightened reason and confirmed by the teachings of the Holy Scripture and the Church. Every man holding a public position will be held as accountable for his votes and acts in the councils of the Government, as is the juror by his oath to give a just decision, and any infringement of right and justice will call punishment on the head of him who will violate God's law.

#### PROTEST NO. 4.

We protest against the caricaturing and bringing into disrepute the sacred person of the Sovereign Pontiff, our holy Father, and religious rites and ceremonies the Œcumenical Council and its grave debates.

#### REMARKS.

What time has not been spent, what talent profligated to the work of undermining the respect and honor due to the Sovereign Pontiff. Every engine of communication has been put in motion. In pamphlets, in news and illustrated papers, truth has been sacrificed. But the work has been overdone. Few now, except the very illiterate, or those who are strangers to the events of the day, give credence to the absurd stories propagated through them.