

of them said: 'Oh, I am tired of preaching. There must come moments when these ladies feel the necessity of a spiritual life, and they have not found it in mere pulpit discourses and choir-singing. They have Catholic relations, but I do not know that their minds have ever been drawn to the Church where there is that supernatural blessing so essential to humanity journeying to eternity, the Real Presence and the adorable Sacrifice of the Mass. How many are there who, like these gifted ladies, are nominally Protestant, but really nothing in a religious sense.'

A Disrespectful Posture.

A critic in one of our Catholic papers, in a rather sarcastic mood, tells how some people kneel in church. The writer says that "kneeling in church has become quite an art. The method in vogue in dozens of cases is a kind of loll; a spread-eagling of one's self in a ridiculous manner. There is absolutely no necessity of anyone's seeking support from the seats; there is no need of spreading the elbows out on the back of the seats in front so as to compass as much space as possible. The seats are not there for use while kneeling; a bench is put there for that purpose. There is no necessity of our measuring our elbow reach. There are plenty more suitable places for such gymnastic exercises. A 'respectful posture on bended knees,' which is the attitude of prayer, does not call for any such lazy and indifferent looking stretching. Kneel up straight! resting the hands on the pew in front if necessary. There is no one so weak as to find this posture difficult. We are in church but a very short time during Mass, and the kneeling portion of that time is infinitesimal."

Leo XIII. tells the world in his encyclical that "it is rather ignorance than ill-will," which keeps multitudes away from Jesus Christ. There are many who study humanity and the natural world; few who study the Son of God. The first step, then, is to substitute knowledge for ignorance, so that He may no longer be despised or rejected because He is unknown. We conjure all Christians throughout the world to strive all they can to know their Redeemer as He really is. The more one contemplates Him with sincere and unprejudiced mind, the clearer does it become that there can be nothing more salutary than His law, nothing more divine than His teaching."

Christ and the Century.

The great encyclical on "Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer," which our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII., gave to the world at the close of an eventful century, was most opportune. It seemed "eminently fitting," to quote the Sacred Heart Review, "that at the close of the century, the nineteenth since His birth, the Church of Christ, through its visible head, should be found asserting its belief in His infinite power, wisdom and goodness, and should address to an unbelieving generation a noble, dignified and zealous appeal to behold in our Lord 'the way, the truth, and the life.' The latter days of the nineteenth century were marked by vagaries in beliefs, and multitudes were led hither and thither in search of the peace which the human soul is forever demanding. Many think they have found the secret of this peace in spiritism, in philosophy, in intellectual culture, and in a thousand and one fads and follies; but in the face of these loudly-heralded