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## London, Saturday, Dec. 31, 1892.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

With this number of the CATHOLIC RECORD we close the year 1892, and prepare to enter upon the New Year, 1893.

At the close o a year it is eminently proper that every Catholic should consider how the past year has been spent God in the fulfilment of the duties of Faith, Hope, Charity, and the exterior duties prescribed by our holy religion.

The first duty which we owe to Almighty God is Faith, defined by the year 1893, but that each succeeding Apostle St. Paul to be "the substance of things to be hoped for, the evidence of things that appear not. . . By faith we understand that the world was framed by the word of God that from invisible things visible things might be made." (Heb. i., 1, 3.)

Faith is therefore founded upon the certain testimony of Almighty God to the truths of religion as revealed to us by our Blessed Lord while He was on earth and as delivered by His Apostles in His name and by His authority. It is a primary duty for all men to henor God our Creator by believing on His word whatsoever He has revealed, swered : because He cannot deceive nor be deceived. Have we during the past year been faithful to this obligation ? Have we borne it in mind that the fulfilment of our duty to God must be our first care under all circumstances and at all times; and that, as a consequence, we must imitate the fidelity of the saints and martyrs where our faith as Catholics is the issue at stake?

The adversaries of the Catholic Church on this continent delight in misrepresenting the consequences of the indubitable principle that our first duty is to God. They accuse us of disloyalty to our country or to the State if we say that our first duty is to issued by the A. P. A. of Ohio. our religion. It is quite true that we maintain this; but this means simply that God rules the universe, and that our first duty is to obey Him. Our religion is from God, and its purpose discretion. It savs : is to teach us our duties to God. These include our duties to our fellowcreatures, and our obligations to the

civil power, so that it is a misrepres-

entation to say that this principle is an

obstacle to the fulfilment of our duty

happy the homes of those who are less extract from the oath of the society given of relieving us from the bonds movement is not, therefore, intended favored with the comforts of life than will sufficiently demonstrate :

"I do most solemnly promise and they are themselves. swear that I will not allow any one, a member of the Roman Catholic Church, swear that I will not allo This summary of the good resolutions we should make at the beginning of to become a member of this order, the New Year would be incomplete knowing him to be such ; that I will were we not to mention that we must use my influence to promote the interbe guided in our conduct by all the ests of all Protestants everywhere in the world ; that I will not employ commandments of God and of His Roman Catholic in any capacity, if I Church. What we have said of the can procure the services of a Protes-tant; that I will not aid in building love of God and of our neighbor comor maintaining by any resources any Roman Catholic church or institution prises the whole decalogue, as our Blessed Lord Himself summed up our of their sect or creed whatsoever, but will do all in my power to retard and duties in these two. But the commandments of the Church are specific preak down the power of the Pope, etc.' in regard to certain obligations which It is a credit to Ohio that the State, we must fulfil for our personal satishitherto decidedly Republican, has faction; these are chiefly the obligamanifested its indignation against the

tion of hearing Mass, and of receiving machinations of bigotry by ranging those sacraments which are necessary itself for once on the Democratic side to preserve us in the state of grace. We have no preference for one side Whoever have been negligent on these ather than the other in United States points during the past year should repolitics, but when we find a religious solve to be faithful to fulfil them durssue thus thrust forward by an organing the year 1893. ized band of fanatics, we cannot help

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

LICANS.

have voted for

only

By following the line of conduct and feeling gratified at their signal defeat. rule of life which we have here pointed It is the lesson of the hour that relig whether he or she has been faithful to out our readers of good will will not ious bigotry can never control the politics of the United States. only help to make others happy, but will secure for themselves the testi

THE COUNSELS OF PERFECmony of a good conscience which will be their best security that not only the TION.

A "Catholic" informs us that a year, will be to them what we most certain Anglican clergyman recently cordially wish them to enjoy, namely, referred to the Catholic doctrine on 'Works of Supererogation "declaring it to be "arrogant and vainglorious," KNOW-NOTHINGS AND REPUBand asks for information as to the meaning of the term, and a statement of

Notwithstanding the determined Catholic doctrine on the subject. Answer. Works of supererogation efforts of the Orangemen of Michigan signify such good works as the saints to prevent any Catholic from being of God do beyond what is required for elected to office, two Catholics have their own sanctification.

been chosen to represent the State in That there are such works is evident Congress-the Hon. James Gorman and from many passages of Holy Scripture. the Hon. Thomas Addis Emmet. The Thus in St. Matt. xix, 16; St. Mark, latter, when accused of sending his x, 17; St. Luke, xviii, 18, we are inchildren to the Catholic schools, an-

formed of a certain rich young man "Yes, I am a Catholic, and I send who came to Christ asking Him, "What good shall I do that I may have life my children to Catholic schools, and shall send them to Catholic schools, everlasting?" Jesus answered. "Thou whether I am elected to Congress of knowest the commandments ;" after not. I would not send them to any which He enumerated the principal but Catholic schools, if I were to be precepts of the decalogue. The inelected President of the United States. quirer after eternal life answered : It is no merely fanciful hypothesis 'All these things have I kept from my that the whole influence of the A. P. youth : what is yet wanting to me A. was used for the benefit of the Jesus saith to him. If thou wilt be per Republicans during the late campaign. There is documentary evidence to fect go sell what thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure show that such was the case in many in heaven ; and come, follow me." States, as Kansas, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, etc. As a sample of the Now it is clear that the giving up of nature of this evidence we shall here all that he possessed, and the entering

quote a few passages from a circular into the Apostolic community with Jesus, without earthly goods, are not The document was sent as a secre required as means necessary to salva circular and is signed M. H. Ammon, tion, and Jesus does not say they are so. He commands at first what is of Akron, in that State, and addressed necessary, and after being told by the to M. H. Foley, to be used at his young man that the latter had ful-

"It is no secret that for many filled all this. He gives the counsels of perfection, to sell his goods for the Luthero-Calvinistic faith by abolishyears an immense preponderance of benefit of the poor and to enter into his ing the Apostles' Creed and substitutthe Catholic vote has been cast for the Democratic party, while a few Master's humble company. The chartheir opponents. acter of this Apostolic community is in which "the Gospel as brought out But let it not be forgotten that the great Catholic vote is never obtained fully described in Acts iv; but this

and contribute towards rendering more ligious equality. This the following of the Church, to which the power is should not be based upon them. The as a direct attack upon the Mother of which impede our ingress into heaven, God. If such were its object it would for Christ said to His Apostles, "What-

probably be better received, but, like soever you shall loose upon earth shall the cases of heresy teaching which are be loosed also in heaven." (St. Matt. attracting so much attention, and exxviii, 16.) citing so much commotion on this side We are aware that the passage from of the Atlantic, it is an attack upon the St. Luke xvii, 10, expressing that divine authority of Scripture, and when you shall have done all these the whole fabric of Christian truth. things that are commanded you, say : It does not appear probable that We are unprofitable servants," is some Professor Harnack will prevail so far times used as an objection against the as to secure the adoption of his views, Catholic doctrine. This passage has for nearly all the clerical conferences reference to commands, so that it does

not apply to the counsels of perfection ; however, it is not lawful for us to boast of our virtues, and as this passage prohibits this boasting we might very well admit that it prohibits a boastful performance of the counsels terms : of perfection, but it certainly does not. contradict the merit of good works which is so frequently insisted on in

of Christ. Scripture. In conclusion, we must add that the minister of whom our correspondent speaks has made an egregious blunder and disturb our conscience. in attributing to the Catholic doctrine on good works the qualities of arrogance and vanity. The Catholic doctrine makes manifest God's justice and mercy, and sets forth their admirable be shattered." harmony.

We are redeemed by the vicarious satisfaction whereby God blotted out our sins. The Catholic teaching shows that vicarious atonement is found throughout God's dealings with man But the Protestant doctrine, which has always denied the utility of good works, is the one which offends against reason, and represents God as acting against all the principles of justice. We are commanded by God to fulfil the law, which is to do good works, yet we are told by Protestants that our obedience is useless for salvation. We may add that this doctrine is opposed to the declaration of Christ recorded in St. Matt. xxv, 34, from which it appears that heaven will be awarded on account of good works done. Christ will say on the day of judgment, "Come ye blessed of My Father possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world ;" and this reward is given to the just because of their good works: "For I was hungry cal views which aim at the destruction and you gave me to eat ; I was thirsty, | of Christian faith.

and you gave me to drink," etc. If there is arrogance anywhere it is to be found in the denial of the efficacy of good works, which is almost the only teaching which has characterized all the sects of which Protestantism is made up.

LATITUDINARIAN PROFESSORS OF THEOLOGY.

The Latitudinarian party among the German Protestants are just now making strenuous efforts to modernize the necessary only a few months ago to ing for it a new and brief formulary

arly and accurately expressed

The movement to this effect is led by

Professor Harnack, the occupant of the

Theological chair in the Theological

college of Berlin. The Apostles' Creed,

besides being recognized officially as

part of the faith of the Protestant

Church of Germany, is used frequently

teach it.

born of the Virgin Mary."

the virginity of Mary.

DECEMBER 31, 1892

## THE EPIPHANY.

The word Epiphany is from the Greek, in which language it signifies a "manifestation." The festival of the Epiphany, celebrated on the 6th of January, commemorates Christ's manifestation, or making Himself known to the Gentiles.

The promise of a Redeemer as found frequently recorded throughout the Old Testament was made for the benefit of all mankind, not for any special race or nation. Thus in Jacob's prophetical blessing of Juda, the patriarch announces that "the sceptre shall not have declared against them, and the be taken away from Juda, nor a ruler Protestant press generally take the from his thigh till He come that shall same view. Thus the Evangelical be the expectation of nations." (Gen. Lutheran Conference expressed its xlix, 10). Similarly the announceviews on the subject in the following ment which God made to Abraham, at a still earlier date was that "in "1. Every effort made to deprive thee and thy seed all the tribes of the the Church of the Apostles Creed is a earth shall be blessed." (Gen. xxviii. blow aimed at the face of the Church

14.)2. The time has come when our In contradistinction with this promstudents of theology should be taken ise, the chosen people of God, before from the influence of teachers who the coming of Christ, were the Jewish subvert the foundations of our faith nation. The Gentiles, including all nations outside of the Jews, gave 3. That the Son of God was con ceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary is the ground itself themselves to the service of false gods, and the Jewish nation was chosen by of Christianity; it is the foundation God to be the special recipient of His stone on which worldly wisdom shall favors, and the only people to whom This is one of many pronouncement was given the glorious light of a divine

to the same effect, and we are pleased revelation. to find that the efforts of the so-called The first mission of the Apostles was also to the people of Israel. When scientific criticism, which has spread so widely among German Protestants, has Christ sent them out first to preach His gospel He said to them : "Go ye not not destroyed the general faith in into the way of the Gentiles, and into Christianity to the extent to which there was great reason to fear it had the cities of the Samaritans enter ye succeeded. It is certain, however, not : but go ye rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." (St. Matt. x, 5. that it has made alarming inroads, and this is proved by the strength of Their mission was afterwards extended to embrace the world. After His the party which sustains the Professor. From this controversy and the simiresurrection Christ commanded them : "Go ye into the whole world and lar ones which have recently taken place throughout the Protestant world preach the Gospel to every creature ; the extent of the inroads of Latitudinand "they going forth preached everywhere, the Lord working withal, arianism may be judged, and they are and confirming the word with signs evidently so alarming as to threaten that followed." (St. Mark, xvi, 15, at a not very remote date the dissolution of the Protestant system as a 20.

With the same view, the first intimaphase of Christianity. It would appear that by a singular fate nearly all the tion of the birth of the Redeemer was theological seminaries succeed in placmade to the shepherds keeping night ing into their Theological chairs prowatch in Judea itself : "And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them fessors tainted with the neo-theologiand the brightness of God shone round about them, and they feared with a great fear. And the angel said to This has been the case at Edinburgh, them. Fear not : for behold I bring where the Free Kirk General Assembly itself sustains such a theological proyou tidings of great joy that shall be fessor. In New York and Cincinnati to all the people. For this day is born to you a Saviour who is Christ the professors of this kind are not sus-Lord in the City of David. And this tained, apparently, by the highest authority of the Presbyterian Church, shall be a sign unto you: you shall but they are nevertheless able to find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. And threaten a serious schism in the suddenly there was with the angel a Church should they be finally condemned; and even in Canada, the multitude of the heavenly army, praising God and saying : Methodist Victoria College found it

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will.

gospel these wisemen are called magoi,

that is magi. This name was given

by the Persians to their astrologers.

who pretended to divine the future by

the risings and settings, oppositions,

conjunctions and quadratures of the

stars and planets. Some have sup-

posed from this that the wisemen of

the East who came to adore our Lord

at Bethlehem were astrologers who by

such means as we have here indicated

omy. We have not any reason, there-

deprive its theological professor of his From this time, though the nature position on very similar grounds. of Christ's mission on earth was not It has long been the proud boast of the Church of England that she is a fully known, it was understood that God the Father designed him for the by the Reformation shall be more bulwark of Christian faith among accomplishment of an extraordinary

## DECEMBER

that a personage

Judea who would This is stated by w especially by Taci and the belief un origin in the promi ing the coming of the conviction of t to seek our Lord rested upon some than a vague expec to Jerusalem as l that the "king of recently born." an Jerusalem where H "For we have seen and are come to ad King Herod, m these enquiries, ish priests for the subject a that the Christ sl Bethlehem, "for the prophet : "A the land of Juda, among the prince of thee shall come th rule my people Isra King Herod, ther

men forward to e the birth of the ch and diligently inqu and when you hav me word again th and adore him."

where our Saviour w the Star which had I own country. Afte the gospel says "Be they had seen in th sthem until it cam where the child wa star they rejoiced wi joy. And enterin they found the ch mother, and falling Him, and opening t offered Him gifts, g and myrrh. And h answer in sleep th return to Herod another way into Thus we know that cipients of a revelat undoubtedly they God information w on such a journey. This star which g

was evidently a mira was sent by God t their reason for r another way was t in asking them to him of the result of that he might dest found, as he feare competitor for his th

This manifestatic wisemen of the East is celebrated by the the festival of the H plies the call of th tion, and their pa benefits of Redempt the Epiphany is the being in a special i nations. All natio interest in the mys

The wisemen di

out being paid for. to the laws of our country. In fact all duty arises out of our duty of obedience to the law of God, so that there can be no conflict between our duty to God and our duty to the State. Yet our duty of obedience to God must of necessity be above any obligation of obedience to man.

Our first resolution by which we should determine our conduct during the New Year must be, therefore, to keep always in view that we are created for God, that we may know a Papal despotism in it place? We must work quietly. Make every Republican vote you can." and serve Him on earth, so that we may afterwards see and enjoy Him in heaven. From this great truth follow all our duties towards God. We must the dark lantern organization wishes by faith believe in Him because He is the truth, we must hope in Him, relying on His promises, and we must love Him, fulfilling the duty of charity, lar continues : concerning which the Apostle St. Paul tell us that it is the greatest of the

three virtues which have God for their object : " For now there remain faith, hope, and charity, these throw ; but the greatest of these is charity.' The duty of charity, besides love for God, comprises also love of our neighbor

for God's sake. We must bear in mind tives Catholics. Once a Catholic, that all mankind are created after the always a Catholic. And while many same image and likeness of God and are redeemed by the same Saviour who has declared it to be His will that we still there, and when the time comes love one another after the pattern of will show itself. the love which He entertained for us. This duty of Christian charity should not be passed over lightly in the form-didate for Congress. Every caning of our resolutions for the incoming ticket in Ohio is with us and is our year. The poor are always with us in friend.'

order that we may have the opportun-

community life is a counsel of perfeconly to glance over our Catholic tion, not an obligation, just as the cursed cities, observe the distribution state of virginity or celibacy is comof offices, and the plunder of taxpayers, to satisfy yourself on that point. I know that Democrats are plenty mended by St. Paul in 1 Cor. vii, 25, but is not commanded :

whose love of America and its institu "Now concerning virgins I have no tions is surpassed by no man that lives. To these I appeal. Will you continue commandment of the Lord ; but I give counsel. . . Art thou loosed from a wife ? seek not a wife. But if thou to vote with a compact secret organiz-ation . . . . which has become so

take a wife; thou hast not sinned. strong and arrogant that it does not And if a virgin marry she hath not sinned. . . . He that is without a wife is solicitous for the things that even pretend to conceal its treason nor its determination to sweep the American Republic from the earth and plan belong to the Lord how he may please God. But he that is with a wife is God.

solicitous for the things of the world how he may please his wife, and he is It is then acknowledged that there are divided : and the unmarried woman, many Catholic Republican voters, but

The limated space at our disposal to hide their actions from these, so that prevents as from quoting from Holy their plans might not be known until Scripture more copiously on this subafter the national election. The circuject ; but we have done sufficiently to

show that there are counsels of perfec-"Remember, however, that there are 10,000 Catholic Republican voters tion beyond what we are bound to fulfil as a duty. It is a proof of arrogance in Ohio. We must not drive them from us yet. When we have accomand vanity in the clergyman who applied these terms to belief in a plished our purpose and are firmly in power we will scorn their support as doctrine which has been believed by

You have

would their company. the Christian Church for nearly nine-"Have nothing to do with any man teen centuries, a doctrine clearly who ever was a Catholic, or has relataught in Holy Writ, but the doctrine is neither arrogant nor vain. seem lukewarm, and some to have left

Holy Scripture testifies that the the Church, still beware; for the poison good works of the saints merit a planted in their souls when children is reward: "for your reward is very great in heaven." (St. Matt. v, 12 :

"Let your efforts then be tireless to The Lord will reward me according secure the election of the Republican to my justice, and will repay me mankind. It is founded upon the according to the cleanness of my hands." (Ps. xvii, 21.)

Just as our prayers benefit those in belief in Him as having died to atone

for whom we pray, so do other good for the sins of men. In fact the ad-The impudence of all this is someity of relieving their necessities and thing admirable, when we reflect that works, and the superabundant merits vocates for the rejection of the Creed thus laying up for ourselves a priceless all the plotting against the rights of of Christ and the saints form a treasure say positively that the history of the treasure in heaven. At this inclement American citizens is on the side of the in heaven which, if properly applied, birth of Christ, as related in the first season of the year their necessities are A. P. A., who have actually taken an are available for the blotting out of chapters of the gospels of Sts. Matthew most pressing, and every good Chris- oath to violate the first principles the temporal punishment of our sins. and Luke, are not of Christian faith, tian must perform acts of self denial of the Constitution, guaranteeing re- This treasure is partly at the disposal and that, therefore, a Christian dogma Brownson.

English-speaking communities ; but it work among men. is well known that Free-Thought has

But in the designs of God. Christ's made great strides among her clergy mission was to be made known to and laity also, so that there is a disothers beside the Jews, and therefore tinctly defined Broad Church party God made it known in some way to within her fold. Bishop Colenso made several wise men of the East, that the one of the most formidable attacks Saviour of mankind had been born in upon the inspiration, and even the Judea. historical truth, of Scripture which ap-

in the liturgy, in the ceremonial of baptisms and other rites, the clergy, We are not told by what means peared since the days of Voltaire ; and and especially all theological professors, Almighty God informed these wise the celebrated "Essays and Reviews," men of the nature of the wonderful being bound to swear in their profeswhich had the same purpose in view, event which had happened; but it is sion of faith that they will uphold and were all the work of distinguished probable that the information was con-Anglican clergymen, some of whom veyed to them in a manner somewhat The chief point of attack in the were afterwards even elevated to the similar to that by which it was given Creed is the article which declares that episcopate. A few weeks ago the to the shepherds of Judea: that is to 'Jesus Christ . . . . Our Lord ' Rev. Mr. Brownjohn resigned his say, by a direct miraculous announcewas "conceived by the Holy Ghost, office as chaplain to the Bishop of ment made to them. Bath and Wells "on the ground of the In the original Greek text of the

It is one of the tendencies of the Prodiscrepancy between the Church for testantism of to-day to attempt to demularies and the conclusions of modern prive the Blessed Virgin of the respect science." This might not amount to which is due to her by reason of her much in itself, as he has ceased to be a prerogative as Mother of God, and on clergyman of the Church, but in giving account also of her perpetual virginhis reasons for his action he states that ity. One of many evidences of this 'several of the leading prelates have was the warmth with which the Baptist enounced their belief in the historicity of Adam, and have relinquished the ministers of Canada honored Justin D. basis on which the doctrine of the Fall Fulton not long since immediately as heretofore taught by the Church can after, and in consequence of the disalone be maintained;" and there is respectful terms in which he spoke of very good reason to believe that he is correct in his statement.

knew of the birth of the Messias. But It may be said indeed that the entire But the controversy in Germany the Hebrews, Chaldeans and other Churches in these cases have not Oriental nations applied the term does not turn upon this point. It is reached the bottom of the down grade, magi to philosophers who were skilful really aimed at the personality of but they appear to be dangerously far Christ Himself, as the Redeemer of in the real sciences, especially astronadvanced on the incline, as the late Rev. Mr. Spurgeon stated to be the case with the Baptists also. weakening faith of Protestants in the fore, to suppose that the wisemen were

be half a century hence?

We must remember that faith is the as far as the sciences were known in gift of God ; that conversion, whether that age.

It is a fact mentioned by several pagan writers that about the time of our Lord's advent to earth there was a prevalent persussion through the east

EXTREME

ates.

Our corresponden us some further qu ject of Extreme Un In reply to a fe mentioned that Ex sacrament institute strength and comf those in danger of

"Enquirer " po James (v. 15,) " the healing of the result in every ca to which he refer why this (restoratio should not always b with the health of sacrament of extra ministered?

There is no dou effect of the s treme unction wa the sick, esp early ages of the when it was the miracles extensivel convincing the wor the Christian relig clearly proved by e We know, kowever operate so many mi time. We can e this is the case. ] established on a fir the proofs of her clear that new miraculous order they were in the miracles themselv evidence by mean of the Church of C proved good and miracles enough h establish this claim

divinity of Christ, and consequently men who had devoted themselves to the superstitions of astrology. They were rather men of piety and science, from infidelity to faith, or from heresy or orthodoxy, or whether from sin to holiness, is the work of grace ; and that

even we aid to convert more by our prayers than our arguments. - Dr.

At this rate what will Protestantism