

# The Catholic Weekly Review.

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## John Henry Cardinal Newman.

The secession of Dr. Newman dealt a blow to the Anglican Church from which the Establishment still reels. *Lord Beaconsfield.*

In my opinion his (Dr. Newman's) secession from the Church of England has never yet been estimated among us at anything like

in the Church, that is an inferior question. I refer to its effect upon the state of positive belief, and the attitude and capacities of the religious mind of England. *Mr. Gladstone.*

Who could resist the charm of that spiritual apparition, gliding



HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL NEWMAN

the full amount of its calamitous importance. It has been said that the world does not know its greatest men; neither, I will add, is it aware of the power and weight carried by the words and the acts of those among its greatest men whom it does know. The ecclesiastical historian will perhaps hereafter judge that this secession was a much greater event than even the partial secession of John Wesley, the only case of personal loss suffered by the Church of England since the Reformation, which can be at all compared with it in magnitude. I do not refer to its effect upon the mere balance of schools or parties

in the dim afternoon light through the aisles of St. Mary's, rising into the pulpit, and then, in the most entrancing of voices, breaking the silence with words and thoughts which were a religious music—subtle, sweet, mournful? I seem to hear him still saying: "After the fever of life, after weariness and sickness, fighting and despondings, languor and fretfulness, struggling and succeeding, after all the changes and chances of this troubled, unhealthy state—at length comes death, at length the white throne of God, at length the beatific vision."—*Matthew Arnold.*