

ILLITERACY OF CATHOLIC COUNTRIES.

Worthy of their high reputation as are these two celebrated universities (Oxford and Cambridge) the number of students now attracted to their halls from other nations is comparatively small.

One more remarkable fact deserves to be noted. It was not until the very recent date of 1825 that rich and powerful England felt the need of, or was inspired by its Protestantism to create, more universities than Catholics had left to it ready made.

There is another test of general intelligence which may be applied, and a very critical one, too. In what countries do we find to day the highest percentage of university students compared with the population?

Of all countries under the sun where we should expect to find education, enlightenment and civilization, it ought surely to be in England—Protestant England—the seat of whose greatness lies in her open Bible.

One more European comparison—Catholic Europe has 71 universities with 75,251 students, while Protestant Europe has 36 universities with 44,885 students.

The number of universities in South America is 18, while Brazil and the other South American States are reported as having colleges, schools of law and medicine.

Time will not allow me to speak of the vast collections of literature which are to be found in these Catholic countries of besotted ignorance, or of the thousands upon thousands of precious volumes which were ruthlessly destroyed at the Reformation by the enlightened leaders of Protestantism.

And here are some examples of the Christian education of these children: Elizabeth Day, aged seventeen: "I don't go to any Sunday school. I don't read Jesus Christ was Adam's son. They nailed Him to a tree; but I don't rightly understand these things."

HOLY FACE OF JESUS.

Jesus is not only love and charity; He is also holy and sanctity itself, and it is He who sanctifies all things. He is a consuming fire; He has come upon this earth to enkindle in the hearts of men the beautiful fire with which the Seraphim burn, provided they put no obstacles in the way of His divine operations.

I will say, moreover, that whatever belongs to Jesus Christ is holy, and that He imparts thus a certain virtue of sanctifying. His pictures, His statues, are they not holy, although they are not miraculous, nor are any so affecting as the venerable image of Veronica in Rome?

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY. This saint, daughter of Andrew, King of Hungary, wife of the Landgrave of Thuringia, having descended from her chateau to the church on a great feast day, surrounded by a great retinue, superbly adorned, with a golden crown upon her head, she first of all cast her eyes upon the image of the crucifix, and having regarded it with great attention, she was so deeply penetrated with a lively compunction, and dissolving into tears, she said to herself: "Behold my Redeemer abandoned on the cross, who suffers for my love a shameful death, and I am clothed in purple and covered with precious stones!"

THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS. If the mercy of God attaches graces so powerful to the mere sight of His images, what blessings does He not reserve for those who have dedicated themselves to the veneration of His august and sorrowful face and to the devout reparation for His affronts and ignominies! Without doubt He will not allow them to be overcome by temptations of pride, of avarice nor of the other vices which the enemy of the demon dare attack a devout soul armed with the love of God.

NEWS FROM VARIOUS CENTRES. Saint Hilaire, France.—The cure writes: "It is not in vain that we involve the Holy Face. I come to-day to thank publicly our Saviour and the holy man of Tours, who also I invoked. The two favors asked have been granted at once; we have heard successfully. Glory and thanks to the adorable Face of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

Open as Day. It is given to every physician, the formula of Scott's Emulsion being no secret; but successful imitation has never been offered to the public. Only years of experience and study can produce the best.

Such deplorable ignorance could not possibly exist in Italy or Spain, or Dr. Peters or Dr. Strong would have found it out and told us all about it. The Rev. T. Hugo, a Church of England minister, writing to the Church Times of October 15, 1876, says: "The masses in Lancashire and of London were as heathen as those of whom St. Paul drew a picture in immortal though dreadful colors."

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EARNEST WORDS.

PURITY. In the first sermon on the mount, our Saviour opened His holy lips and said, (Matt. 58), "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

MATRIMONIAL PURITY. Matrimonial purity although of a less refined type than virginial purity is of a rare quality, and envelopes the married state with such sanctity that our Saviour likened it to the relation between Himself and the Church.

WE MUST GUARD THE EYES. We read (Matt. 5, 28) that we may lose the purity of innocence by even a look, and Holy Job says (31, 1), "I have made a covenant with mine eyes, the Holy Abbott Felix cautioned those who went out to 'cast the eyes upon the earth, but lift the heart to God.'"

BEAUTY OF MODESTY. There is an unspeakable beauty in modesty that even the wicked admire. The blush that crimson the brow of the innocent, mysteriously comes as a mantle to shield the pure soul from even an impure breath, or a wanton glance.

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