

OUR "RELIGIOUS" COLUMN.

The Rome correspondent of the *Daily News* says the pope has decided that in the diocese of St. Paul (United States) the clergy must instruct Catholic and Protestant children alike, without exacting from the Protestants a promise to become Catholics. This order will as usual be obeyed in a Jesuitical sense.

Thomas Aquinas, the law-giver of the Jesuits, says: "For it is much more criminal to corrupt the faith by which is the life of the soul, than to falsify money by which temporal life is overturned; therefore if falsifiers of money are justly consigned to death, much more heretics, immediately that they are convicted of heresy, may lawfully not only be excommunicated but justly deprived of life." This justifies, in the eyes of a Roman Catholic, the killing of Protestants.

At the close of a Protestant lecture, delivered in the town hall, Chelsea, England, on Friday, June 8th, by Rev. Dr. Wright, the chairman, the Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson, Vicar, of St. John's, Chelsea, proposed that all present should stand and conclude the meeting by singing aloud together the Lord's Prayer. While this was being done a large number of the Papists actually howled and yelled in the most disgraceful manner. Conduct like this might be natural in a company of uncivilized heathens, but coming from men and women who wish to be called Christians it is utterly inexcusable.

The *Catholic Champion* reports something like a hundred places in the country "in which there is a daily mass." It might be imagined that *The Catholic Champion* is a Roman Catholic paper. It is not, but a Protestant Episcopal paper, and these are Protestant Episcopal churches, hospitals and schools in which a daily mass is said, 14 of them in New York, 8 in Philadelphia, 6 each in Newark and Chicago, 5 in Baltimore and 4 in Phillip Brooks' city, (Boston).

Mexico is a simple Roman Catholic country. The Presbyterian *Missionary Messenger* for May says: "Progress of the work in Mexico.—After 350 years of Spanish Roman Catholic domination of the most absolute type, with no Bible, no moral law, no Sabbath, and no Godly ministry, the condition of Mexico—intellectually, socially, and spiritually—is deplorable in the extreme. But Protestant mission work has been carried on for the last twenty years, and the gospel has won many victories. The Papal authorities are still intolerant, and would be prepared to sanction bitter persecution to the extent of martyrdom, but the Government is openly and unreservedly committed to the full protection of the liberties of the people, and, whenever it is possible, lays a strong hand upon the spirit of religious persecution."

Rev. Sumantrao Vishnu Karmarker, of Bombay, India, a converted Brahmin, in an address to the Christian Endeavor convention at Montreal on Idolatry said: "There is a remarkable correspondence between Romanism and Hindu worship." Romanism is but a new label on the old bottles of paganism containing the deadly poison of idolatry. Often the Hindus ask us when seeing the Romish worship, 'What is the difference between Christianity and Hinduism?' As a result of this anti-Catholic speech of the converted Brahmin there were disturbances. The tent in the Champ de Mars had to be abandoned for fear it would be cut down. There certainly must be something very peculiar, to say the least, about the so-called Christianity of Romanism when the heathen express themselves as unable to distinguish the difference between it and their own pagan idolatry.

Spain has a population of 17,000,000, with an area a little larger than California. Its climate is delightful, and its natural resources were at one time unsurpassed by those of any other country. But to-day Spain is a pauper among the nations. For the last 15 years its expenditures have exceeded its income by \$15,000,000 per year, and to-day its national debt is three times as great as the national debt of the United States, while its population is only one-fourth as numerous. The masses of the people are very ignorant, poor and heavily taxed. What is the cause? The people are ignorant because Roman Catholicism demands ignorance from its adherents. Being ignorant, they are not in line with the wide-awake people of other nations,

and the consequence is that, while Protestant England and Germany prosper and grow wealthy, Spain sinks into ruin. Ignorance and superstition cannot compete with enlightenment. And Spain's natural resources will never make her prosperous, while Roman Catholicism and priestcraft dominate affairs.

Referring to the Protestant Protective Association the *Minerve* of Montreal, depending on the authority of a Toronto correspondent, insinuates that it is decided to have recourse to all possible means, even of violence and civil war if necessary, to fight the French minority and the Roman Catholic religion, and it adds:—"For what reason, we ask, can the Protestants feel the necessity of forming themselves into secret societies? To protect themselves? Against whom or what? Against the minority? A minority that always and everywhere has treated them with the greatest generosity, and which must remain what it is, a minority, unable, consequently, to molest the majority, even if it wished to do so, which is not the case. Truly, there is sometimes reason for despair on account of human stupidity."

A popular work, Green's "History of the English people" in describing the doings of the King in 1687, foreshadows what it seems probable would, in great part, be the course of the Irish Nationalists if the Home Rule Bill were passed. We read: "Clarendon was succeeded in the charge of the island by the Catholic Lord Tyrconnell, and the new governor went roughly to work. Every Englishman was turned out of office. Every judge, every privy councillor, every mayor and alderman of a borough was soon a Catholic and an Irishman. In a few months the English ascendancy was overthrown, and the life and fortune of every English settler were at the mercy of the natives on whom they had trampled since Cromwell's day. The Irish army, purged of its Protestant soldiers, was entrusted to Catholic officers, and the dread of another massacre spread panic through the island. Fifteen hundred Protestant families fled terror-stricken across the Channel. The rest of the Protestants gathered together in self-defence." Woe to the English empire if the people of this great realm lend themselves to a monstrous one-man policy which would lead to such shocking issues as those supplied in a record of past Roman Catholic ascendancy in Ireland.

THE BRITISH ARE GROWING THRIFTY.

Is the spending power of the British people diminishing, or are we, as a nation, learning the painful lesson of thrift in little things? It is a remarkable fact in connection with the holiday season that at a large place of London entertainment the receipts in the refreshment department on Easter Monday were lower than in previous years by about 20 percent. The demeanor of the visitors to this establishment left nothing to be desired. They were orderly, sober and in every way well behaved. Yet, for some reason or other, they or their families did not appear to stand as much in need of solid and liquid nourishment as in times gone by. This failing off, it may be remarked, was not only or chiefly in alcoholic drinks. It extended with equal severity to the non-intoxicating cup of tea and the harmless necessary sandwich.—*London Telegraph.*

THE ENGLISH PRESS.

We Englishmen are always inclined to depreciate ourselves, though we are credited abroad with no mean opinion of our merits. At the dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund, however, the Bishop of Ripon expressed his surprise, considering the marvellous number of newspapers, that their average quality is so high. He was speaking of English newspapers. Now, we have no wish to disparage the cleverness of French journals, the solidity and earnestness of some German ones, or even the liveness of most American ones, when we say that for enterprise in collecting news and for honesty in commenting upon it, the press of this country is not only second to that of no other, but far and away superior to the rest. The only serious rival—because in the main it follows our lines—is to be found in the better-class Australian papers. As for the 'new journalism,' it has been found out, and, even financially, it is not a success.—*St. James's Gazette.*

Word has been received that cholera exists in Naples and that measures are defective for prevention of infected persons emigrating.

IMPERIAL UNITY.

Speaking of this subject in the course of his address at the annual meeting of the British-Israel Association, Dr. Denis Hanan dwelt on the nation's advance in the realisation of its Imperial position. He said, "The opening of the Imperial Institute is a decided advance, and the words of our gracious Queen—few, but weighty—show how her mind is bent upon Imperial unity, and I think that the education of the nation must gradually help to spread these views; and I cannot but say that the anxieties we are passing through just now in political matters must in the end be the means whereby the whole nation will be educated in the value of Imperial unity. It is necessary that the responsibility of the nation to God should be recognised, and the question is, how is it to be impressed upon the people, so that they will see this and accept it for His honour and glory. There are many who admit that we occupy Israel's place. We constantly find men in high positions in the Church and State telling of our great power, and though they say it as blind witnesses, they proclaim the fact that we are in possession of the position that God promised to Israel. We go a little farther, and I think only one step, but it is an important step. We say that we occupy Israel's place, but not to the exclusion of Israel. Our national privileges and duties have been given to us by God because we are the people to whom they were originally promised by Him. Some will say we teach this to the exclusion of other truth. I should be sorry to do this, but the great thing is to connect them, so that they may run side by side, one the complement of the other. We must remember that different people have knowledge of different and separate things. So the possessors of any particular phase of knowledge have the responsibility on them to teach that; and it is ours to teach the knowledge we have."—*The Messenger, London, England.*

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