

Decline of Catholic Nations.

Of late a great deal has appeared in the non-Catholic press, of both Europe and America, on the subject of the decline of Roman Catholic nations as contrasted with the material progress of Protestant countries. In passing we might remark that this is a contentian that positively reduces Protestantism and its influences to the material world, and leaves the spiritual domain entirely within the influence of Catholicity. We also notice that most of the writers cite France and Italy as samples of Catholic countries, that have of late lost ground; but it is omitted always to state that France and Italy may mark the hour of their decline, or of their confusion and difficulties, from that in which they rebelled against the Church.

The spirit of political France, for nearly half a century, has been embodied in Gambetta's remark—or rather his battle cry—"le clericalisme, voila l'ennemie." And as to Italy, we have but to read her history from the days of Mazzini, Garibaldi, and Victor Emmanuel, down to those of Humbert, to learn the cause of all her difficulties and errors.

In last Saturday's "Daily Witness," a lengthy article, "Condensed from Literary Digest," is reproduced, and it bears strongly on this question. Here are a few of its statements:—"Is the Roman Catholic religion responsible, and if so, to what extent is it responsible, for the decline of power among the Latin Nations? The present plight of France and Spain, and the gradual decline of Italy and Portugal, in contrast with the national conditions in Germany, England, and the United States, have brought the above question up again for discussion. Mr. H. Henley Henson treats the subject in the London "Spectator," in part, as follows:—

"The charge against the Roman Catholic Church may be stated in this way: National greatness is ultimately determined by national character; the main work of religious systems is the discipline and development of character; but precisely where the Roman Church has had a free hand, national character has degenerated, and by inevitable consequence, national greatness has declined. The political consequence is so obvious that it arrests the attention, and is advanced as primary in the argument; really its whole significance is the witness it provides to the moral state of the nation.

"It may, of course, be argued that the Roman Church, has the inferior ethical material on which to work, while the superior has been almost wholly in Protestant hands; but this argument raises a more serious question than it answers, viz: Why did the morally stronger peoples generally repudiate the Roman system? The state of mind discovered by recent events in Italy, in Spain, and in France does set one to thinking in every instance the Church is a potent factor."

It would be exceedingly easy to successfully reply to these advancements, but we prefer to make way for such an authority as the London "Tablet," which, in a recent issue, has the following on this subject:—"It is clear that this convenient classification of the nations for the purposes of religious controversy into successful and unsuccessful nations has this inconvenience, that it simply ignored the greatest military empire in the world. The frontiers of Russia are constantly being pushed forward to the sea and the sun, and he would be a bold prophet who

would undertake to trace out the final limits of her empire whether in Asia or in Europe; whether commerce will be when the policy which is laying down the Siberian railway has been fully developed can be only vaguely guessed at; her army as a fighting force even now has no equal in Europe, and Napoleon's prophecy that the whole continent would some day own obedience to the Cossacks has certainly more to justify it now than had the day it was uttered. On the prosperity theory, therefore, the Greek Church has much reason to claim to be the Church of Christ, but our eager conversationalists somehow contrive to forget her and affect to narrow the quarrel down till it concerns only Catholicism on one side and the collected varieties of Protestantism on the other.

"Again, it is impossible not to note that certain Protestant powers, which once played a large part in the world, are now never alluded to. Sweden was once almost arbiter of Europe, but her unimpeachable Protestantism has not saved her from the fate of becoming a sort of Protestant Greece. Again, what has become of the people, who once stood before the world as the champions of Protestantism against the might of Catholic Spain? Is the moribund colonial empire of Portugal in a worse condition than the once splendid colonial possessions of Holland? If you decide not to count the Protestant nations which happen to be in that last stage of rottenness, which precedes the moment when death comes to lend dignity to decay, and if you likewise pretend not to be aware of the most powerful State in Europe, you may safely set up a prosperity theory which will demonstrate that the nations, which accepted the Reformation, are at once the salt of the earth and the spoiled children of Heaven."

"But if a theory which has to ignore the existence of the Protestant lame ducks and to forget the place of Russia in the map of two continents, leaves something to be desired in the present, it becomes cosmic if we examine it by the light of the past. Fancy the Israelites face to face with the Pharaohs and asked to prove their faith by the touchstone of national success—what could Moses have pleaded in the face of the power and splendid civilization of Egypt? If wealth and power and all that makes for wise government are signs that the nations that can show such attributes hold the true religion, what are we to think of the perdurable empire of Rome? In the second and third centuries the Christians were an outcast sect and, on the prosperity theory, had absolutely nothing to set in the balance against either the material triumphs or the intellectual achievements of Rome. It is the inconvenience of this prosperity theory that it obliges us to suppose that the Almighty favors now one form of religion now another. In the early ages of the Christian era Paganism had its mark of divine favor in a degree which has never been excelled. In the sixteenth century the dominant power of Spain overshadowed two hemispheres, and according to the prosperity theory Catholicism represented the true Church. In the present day, if we shut our eyes to the Protestant failures and also overlook the greatest military power in the world, we may come to the conclusion that the Protestant peoples are specially favored. But a theory which gives such contradictory results perhaps hardly requires any more detailed examination."

example, which stands at 110 ounces, or Switzerland where 80 ounces are used. The Netherlands use 51 ounces for each person, while Germany notes for its use of this "weed," requires 48 ounces. Russia uses 24 ounces; France 29; Italy, 22; Spain, 32; while the United Kingdom stands very nearly at the bottom of the list with 23 ounces.

In the use of beverages the various nations show equally marked divergence. Take for example the matter of tea. In this, Great Britain and her dependencies in Australia lead the world, requiring no fewer than 88 ounces to each inhabitant, which is a total in Great Britain of 230 million pounds, and in Australia of 22 million pounds. Canada uses somewhat less, the average being 70 ounces to each person. The United States requires 110 million pounds of tea, which is 24 ounces per head. Russia, however, uses only 60 million pounds or 9 ounces to each person.

In the use of coffee the Netherlands stand at the head, using no fewer than 370 ounces to each person. Denmark consumes 247 ounces, and Belgium 176 ounces. Next comes the United States, with 155 ounces, which requires a total of 725 million lbs. during the year. At the other end is Russia, whose people consume 30

million pounds during the year, or 3 ounces to each person. Spain uses but 9 ounces, and Great Britain only 11 ounces. Germany requires 73 ounces, or a total of 245 million lbs.; Switzerland, 112 ounces; France, 58 Austria-Hungary, 32; and Italy, 17 ounces.

Perhaps the widest divergence of all is to be found in the use of stronger drinks. Take beer, for example. In this the United Kingdom takes the lead, with no fewer than 1,200 million gallons per year, or 30 gallons to each inhabitant. Germany uses 1,400 million gallons, or 27 gallons per head; and then comes Denmark, with 24 gallons to each person. In the United States 1,050 million gallons are used each year, which gives an average of 15 gallons to each person. Switzerland uses 14 gallons per head; France, 6 gallons; Sweden and Norway, 7; the Netherlands, 8; and Canada, 4 gallons.

Such wine-drinking countries as Spain, Italy and Greece use very little beer. Italy requires less than a gallon, Greece about 2 quarts, and Spain is satisfied with little over a pint.

In wine consumption, however, Spain takes the lead, with 35 gallons to each person. Then comes France, with 29 gallons; and Italy 24 gallons. These countries are in marked contrast with beer-drinking Germany, which uses but little over a gallon of wine per inhabitant, and the United Kingdom, which requires less than 2 quarts.

In the United States the consumption of wine has largely increased during the last year, reaching a total of 38 million gallons, which is almost exactly two quarts to each person. Russia uses 3/4 gallon of wine per head, and Austria-Hungary nearly 3 gallons. Canada, however, takes the lowest place, with less than one pint to each person.—Geo. R. Waldron, in Pearson's Magazine.

RECENT DEATHS IN NEWFOUNDLAND

There passed away after a short illness, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, eighty-two of which he spent in this country, Mr. Matthew Power, a native of Carrick, Ireland.

The deceased spent the prime of his manhood at the seal and Labrador fisheries with a fair degree of success. Later on he was engaged in the grocery business which he conducted up to a short time before his decease.

By the death of Mr. Power, Carbonear has lost a worthy and highly respected citizen. He undoubtedly possessed many genuine, excellent qualities that won for him the esteem of all who knew him. Strict honesty and sincerity characterized all his dealings and relations with his fellow-man. He had many friends who loved and revered him. To the poor he was charitable without ostentation. After a long, active and useful life he leaves an honorable record as a good Christian, and affectionate father and faithful friend.

He leaves one daughter, his only child, the wife of Capt. John Kennedy, and seven grandchildren to mourn their irreparable loss.—R.I.P.

Also the death of Felix J. McCarthy Esq., J.P., of H.M. Customs, which took place at his home on St. Patrick Street, Carbonear, in the 63rd year of his age. The deceased gentleman was a son of the late John McCarthy, merchant of Carbonear, and also of H.M. C., and has been identified with the Customs Department for over a quarter of a century. In his younger days he was in several mercantile offices at St. John's, and later in the office of the late firm of Donnelly, Harbor Grace. His only two brothers living are in the United States. Five sisters are living here, and Mrs. Drysdale at Harbor Grace. The deceased gentleman led a life of single blessedness, and through his loss the country mourns one of her best and typical officials; the home, a kind brother and master; the town, a gentleman who was always identified with that which was good, and the Church a consistent and devoted member.—R. I. P.

Death claimed another in the person of Mr. W. Donnelly, brother of the esteemed and zealous pastor of Bay-de-Verde, Diocese of Harbor Grace. The deceased gentleman was ailing for years, and about two months ago left for New York, to have an operation performed. The physicians there held out no hopes for him, and he returned to his native land to breathe forth his last. His last moments were calm and peaceful, and all the consolations afforded by our Holy Religion were his. The funeral took place from the residence of his nephews, Messrs. Kent, Monkstown Road, St. John's. A large number of citizens attended, as well as the members of the Irish Benevolent Society. The deceased was a relative of His Lordship Bishop Howley. To his brother and the relatives we extend our heartfelt sympathy.—R. I. P.

THE AMERICAN HEN.

According to an expert the total value of chickens and eggs produced in this country last year was \$290,000,000. Accepting these figures as approximately correct, we must conclude that the hen plays an important part in our American life. The value of our Tobacco crop has rarely been as much as \$43,000,000. The value of our potato crop is less than \$0,000,000 on the average. The value of our barley crop is not often as much as \$30,000,000. An oat crop worth \$200,000,000 is unusual. Our annual output of pig iron has rarely exceeded \$130,000,000 in value. Coal, by far the most valuable of our mineral products, gives a total annual output of some \$200,000,000. Raw cotton, wheat, hay and corn are the only four products of our country that exceed in value hens and hens' eggs. The wheat crop has ranged in value from \$213,000,000 to \$513,000,000 and the corn crop from about \$440,000,000 to \$783,000,000. The average value of the hay crop may be stated at about \$390,000,000 and the average of the cotton product is about \$300,000,000.

England Watching Note Shavers

Money-lending, properly conducted ought to be perfectly honorable, and a publicly useful business. For want of legislative attention money-lending in the United Kingdom has been allowed to be a fruitful means of swindling and tantalizing tyranny by too many persons, to such an extent that Parliament is about to provide some wholesome remedy. The other night in the House of Lords a bill was introduced dealing with the question. It enacts that

The money-lender shall transact business in his own name and in no other, that his name shall be registered, and that when usurious rates of interest are charged the Court will be empowered to review and go behind the contract for the relief of the borrower. This power is not to be used when the rate of interest is less than 10 per cent., that being considered a fair charge in proportion to the risk involved.

If this Bill passes the money-lender's occupation will be gone. This kills old Moses' sheen-per-sheen. Nor can the usurer rob fools and simpletons under any name but his own, and along with that he must be registered. The money-lender will have to find fresh fields for the employment of his shekels.—London Universe.

The impetuosity of youth naturally impels them to be imprudent.

The prudent man often laments his mistakes, and then repeats them.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

During the coming School Term of 1893-99 we respectfully solicit the favor of your orders for the supplying of Catholic Educational and other Text Books both in English and French; also School Stationery and School requisites.

SADLIER'S DOMINION SERIES.

- Sadlier's Dominion Reading Charts, 26 Reading Charts and one Chart of Colours mounted on 14 boards, size 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches.
- Sadlier's Dominion Speller, complete.
- Sadlier's Dominion First Reader, Part I.
- Sadlier's Dominion Second Reader, Part II.
- Sadlier's Dominion Third Reader, Part III.
- Sadlier's Dominion Fourth Reader, Part IV.
- Sadlier's Outlines of Canadian History.
- Sadlier's Grande Lignes de l'histoire du Canada.
- Sadlier's Outlines of English History.
- Sadlier's School History of England, with 500 colored maps.
- Sadlier's Ancient and Modern History, with 1100 illustrations and 25 colored maps.
- Sadlier's Edition of Butler's Catechism.
- Sadlier's Child's Catechism of Sacred History Old Testament, Part I.
- Sadlier's Child's Catechism of Sacred History New Testament, Part II.
- Sadlier's Catechism of Sacred History, large edition.
- Sadlier's Bible History (Schuster) Illustrated.
- Sadlier's Elementary Grammar, Blackboard Exercises.
- Sadlier's Edition of Grammaire Elementaire par E. Robert.
- Sadlier's Edition of Nugent's French and English and English and French Dictionary, with pronunciation.
- Sadlier's (P. D. & S.) Copy Books, A and B with tracing.

D. & J. SADLIER & CO., Catholic Educational Publishers and Stationers.

1669 Notre Dame Street, Montreal, Que. 123 Church Street, Toronto, Ont.

Our readers will find it to their interest to consult from time to time the advertising pages of the TRUE WITNESS. There is hardly a person that does not need certain goods therein offered for sale. Only reputable firms are represented, and among them are some from whom, we have reason to believe, purchasers can obtain merchandise more expeditiously than from any other quarter. As we are constantly refusing advertisements that seem calculated to deceive the public, we are glad to have those answered to which we give place.

The S. CARSLY CO., Limited.

No. 106 Notre Dame Street. Montreal's Greatest Store. Mar. 11 1899



Orders by Mail!

The most perfect mail order system in Canada. All orders by mail receive prompt and careful attention.

The mail order department of the Big Store has reached a high state of efficiency, and out-of-town customers can shop easily by mail and with the assurance of receiving perfect satisfaction. The store's best service is gone to the mail order system, and all orders are attended to the same day as received.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOZEN PURE LINEN TABLE NAPKINS.

From one of the BEST MAKERS OF FINE LINENS IN IRELAND. That fact alone is a sufficient guarantee of their excellence—they are pure and spotless, in two magnificent damask designs and two sizes.

This is a linen event that has no parallel on this side of the Atlantic, and will be hailed with delight by the hundreds of careful housekeepers who are sure to be here for them. The sizes are 20 and 22 inches square. You can have your choice of either size, which is rare value at \$2.15 per dozen.

Spring Dress Goods and Silks.

Almost daily arrivals of novelties in High Dress Goods and Rich Silks makes a visit to this department pleasurable and interesting. Ten cases of the latest novelties will be displayed in the Dress Goods Salon. They are select productions of the great looms of Paris, Lyons and Alsace, besides those of Germany, Scotland and England.

HIGH CLASS DRESS GOODS. If you desire to see what is newest, what is best, what is most fashionable where fashion reigns, you must visit this Dress Goods Salon.

NEW COVERT CLOTHS.—THE favorite material for tailor-made dresses in handsome shades of brown, grey, blue and green, 60c a yard.

NEW CHECK MATERIALS. THAT make handsome tailored gowns, in new combination checks of brown, blue, green, fawn, 87c yard.

NEW SILK MIXTURES.—A SPECIALLY rich material in black and white and blue and white stripes, really elegant goods, 60 inches wide, \$1.15 yard.

NEW TWEEDS FOR COSTUMES. West of England makes, 4 styles, 54 inches wide, \$1.30 yard.

MAIL ORDERS CAREFULLY FILLED.
The S. CARSLY CO. Limited.
1765 to 1783 Notre Dame St. 184 to 194 St. James St., Montreal

NEW INVENTIONS.

Any person, citizen, alien, man, woman or child, the first and original inventor, may secure a patent.

All patents do not pay, but you cannot tell whether or not yours is going to pay until you get it. When you do get it try to do something with it. Do not expect some one is coming along and offer you a fortune for it. Have your invention written up, illustrated and described so as to bring out all the valuable features. Send marked copies of the notice to every responsible manufacturer in your line. If your invention is worth anything you will get an offer for it. Small inventions pay best. Many handsome fortunes have been derived from seemingly trifling inventions. The "13" puzzle earned a dozen fortunes. A little tin cap now universally used on beer bottles in place of corks, is earning barrels of money annually. These simple ideas should not be dismissed from your mind as being too trivial; they may be worth a fortune. Many people would have secured wealth and fame had they been careful and thoughtful enough to give practical shape to the apparently simple but bright ideas that occurred to them while at daily occupation.

For further information, get from Marion & Marion, a copy of their useful "Inventor's Help."

Below will be found a list of patents recently granted by the Canadian Government. This list is prepared specially for this paper, by Messrs. Marion & Marion, Solicitors of Patents and Experts, New York Life Building, Montreal.

- 62662. De Lotbiniere, Macdonald, Montreal, Que., shield sleeves.
- 62677. John Henry Stone, Toronto, Ont., improvements in lamps, lanterns and burners.
- 62694. Alex. Perly Barnhill, St. John N. B., nut lock.
- 62730. Thos. Geo. Foster, Peterborough, Ont., snap lock.
- 62742. Stephen Henry Purdy & Raymond Carson, Lynn, Ont., improvements in woven wire fences.
- 62772. Stephen Gilleau, Amherstburg, Ont., improvements in tools for cleaning and scraping walls.

YOU CAN'T TELL. You don't know when that cough will stop. The cough of consumption has just such a beginning. Take Scott's Emulsion now, while the cough is easily managed.

The shores of Time are lined with wrecks driven before the gale of impudence.

The ONLY Incorporated Society,

CAPITAL \$30,000.
Telephones: Bell, East, 1215; Merchants', 363.

THE CO-OPERATIVE FUNERAL EXPENSE SOCIETY.

W. A. WAYLAND, Manager.
1725, St Catherine Street,
NEAR ST. DENIS STREET.

For a small annual fee we give a first-class funeral. Here are our terms of subscription.

A Burial Outfit, without distinction—the poor and the rich treated alike, and for the smallest possible sum; within the reach of all classes.

The following is what we agree to do in the event of death during the year's subscription:
To beautifully decorate the Mortuary Room.
To furnish a Rose Wood Finish or Cloth covered Coffin, and a Horse with two Horses to convey the Body from the Home to the Church and then to the Cemetery. All this is covered by the following yearly payments:

- \$10 YEARLY, from birth to 5 years of age.
- 75 YEARLY, from 5 to 20 years of age.
- 1 00 YEARLY, from 20 to 45 years of age.
- 1 50 YEARLY, from 45 to 55 years of age.
- 2 50 YEARLY, from 55 to 65 years of age.

All our accredited Agents carry a Booklet of Receipts and should one call on you, kindly give him an opportunity to explain in clearly such a serious and important matter, and which concerns you specially.

Should no Agent call on you, please come to our office and our Manager will give you all information.

Our outfit is so large and complete, that we are prepared, on the shortest notice, to undertake all Classes of Funerals, outside of our Subscribers, at moderate prices. Please visit our office and you can judge of our organization.

First Class Embalming—65c

NOTICE—Should there be a delay of two days in delivering your Certificate, please call at Central Office.

BOARDING SCHOOL AND ACADEMY.

CONGREGATION DE NOTRE DAME, Corner Bagot and Johnston Streets, KINGSTON, ONTARIO.

For terms, etc., apply to MOTHER SUPERIOR

Boarding and Sale Stable.



BRUNSWICK DELIVERY, BOARDING AND SALE STABLE. Fine Carriages and Road Horses for hire. Special attention given to Boarders. 63 and 65, St. Alexander Street, Montreal. Bell Telephone 1088.
McDONNELL, Proprietor.