

No parts of this book are so interesting as those which treat of the literary men and of the art and science of Rome. Artists in sculpture and painting, linguists, and scholars in the highest departments of human learning, have ever made Rome their favorite residence. Her libraries are unequalled in the world; her galleries of sculpture, both ancient and modern, are incomparable; her architecture, of every age and school, knows no rival; her frescoes and paintings, the productions of magic genius, are the glory of the world; her language, with its grand and sweet poetry and music,—these, with her museums and antiquities, cannot fail to attract men of the highest intellectual endowments. All therefore that pertains to art and literature in this volume, and of this there is much, is well worth perusal. In this department, we imagine, the Cardinal is much more at home than in that of religion. His pen takes a nobler sweep, and his mind a broader and freer cast, when he enters into this domain. He gives pleasant reminiscences of the illustrious linguist Cardinal Mezzofanti, whose powers in the acquisition and use of tongues have never perhaps been equalled. His account of the life and labours of the learned palimpsest Cardinal Mai are deeply interesting. In speaking of the political relations of the Holy See to England, the Cardinal exercises a wise reserve. Every instance is however carefully noted of acts of respect or honor shown to the Popes and dignitaries of Rome by the Government or Royal family of England. Great solicitude is also apparent in the minds of the Popes in regard to the ecclesiastical and political condition of Britain. An English dignitary is now regularly raised to the Cardinalate, Dr. Wiseman being the third in succession; and the most marked attention is shown to all English converts. There can be no doubt that the eye of Rome is intently fixed upon Britain and the English-speaking people of the world. The efforts of the Propaganda are with unflinching perseverance directed towards the maintenance and extension of Popery among these people. Rome sees that they are the governors and the arbiters of the world,—that they are the great apostles for good or evil,—that they are her chief and most-to-be-dreaded antagonists. The prize of “the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them” cannot be held long by Rome unless this vigorous Anglo-Saxon race is bewitched. Therefore Papal art and power are directed evidently to win them to allegiance. This book of Cardinal Wiseman’s is among the instruments of an indirect kind that will, we doubt not, be used to break down what are called the prejudices of Protestants against Rome, and to present the Papacy in a light at once affecting to the heart and grand to the intellect. The true antidote to such fascinations is to remember, that the Bible is a sealed book in Rome, and the people are kept in the grossest ignorance of its truths,—that however faithful her pontiffs and priests may be in ceremonial observances and public charities, they yet stand between their people and the pure light of God, and, for the true and only Saviour, present them with gods many and lords many. This is the damning indictment which we prefer against Papal Rome, and which all the personal virtues of her dignitaries and all the glory of her literature and arts will not atone for; nor will they avert the curse which hangs over her head for dishonoring Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, and deceiving the nations.

---

PULPIT ELOQUENCE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, with Sketches biographical and descriptive. By Rev. HENRY C. FISH. New York, M. D. DODD, 1857. 8vo. pp. 815.

The bulky volume which bears the above title, is supplementary to a larger compilation of the choice discourses of deceased Divines, from the days of the Fathers to the beginning of the present century. It has been the aim of the compiler to furnish a complete “History and Repository of Pulpit Eloquence.”