

As time has gone on, I have come to feel the force of your observations, which, as far as I remember, drew my attention to the facts, that in an external position, I could not possibly have the knowledge requisite towards such severe judgments, and was therefore bound in charity to abstain from them; and, further, that I ought at any rate to make allowance for the peculiar disadvantages under which the Catholic church labours in this country, and which must go far to excuse the faults and short-comings of its individual members, even if clearly proved to exist.

I am now as well satisfied upon both of these points that I owe it to any members of your body who have been hurt by my remarks, to express my sorrow for them in the most public manner. And especially at this moment, when I am on the point of submitting to the authority of the Catholic church do I feel called upon to divest myself of every particle of the critical and censorious spirit, under the influence of which I may, in times past, though without, as I believe, any evil intention, have allowed myself to speak of circumstances, or supposed circumstances, of which, at all events, I could not be duly cognizant.

I should add that this apology is purely spontaneous, and that I am anxious to give it publicity.

Believe me, very reverend and dear sir, your obliged humble servant, FREDERICK OAKELEY.

The Very Rev. Dr. Cox, President of
St. Edmund's College.

CONVERSIONS.

"SECESSION" OF THE REV. E. G. BROWNE.—

The last *Church and State Gazette* contains the following letter from one of its former contributors:—"To the Editor of the *Church and State Gazette*. Sir—Having so lately addressed to you several letters on the various apostacies to Protestant dissent, and also having been one of the committee for the purpose of obtaining signatures to be appended to a petition about to be presented to Parliament in the ensuing session against the clergy (I use the term 'clergy' out of courtesy to those laymen in England who are labouring under a delusion in imagining themselves to be in holy orders,) being compelled, by certain late notorious decisions in the ecclesiastical courts, to bury persons (so called) schismatically baptized, I feel it my duty to inform you of my having obtained admission into the Catholic Church. In the creeds I have been wont, from a child, to confess my belief in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. In vain did I, while a member and (so called) minister of the Protestant establishment, look about me for unity, in vain did I look for those 'marks of life' of which the venerated Doctor Pusey speaks in such holy and exalted language—in vain did I look for the 'communion

of saints;' but all things, both present and the prospect of futurity, combined to turn my thoughts towards Rome. Now did I begin to experience the truth of what the author of 'The Life of St. Wilfred' says—'To look Romeward is a Catholic instinct seemingly implanted in us for the safety of the faith.' But I was unwilling to trust to my feelings—I examined and re-examined the subject. The more deeply I investigate the claims of the Establishment—the further I searched into Patristic evidence—the more I became convinced of the falsity—in fact, that the English church was nothing more or less than a 'gigantic impostor' became daily evident to me.

Concluded in our next.

False friends are like the shadow on the dial, which appears if the sky is serene, and which hides itself if it is overcast.

Instead of being cunning with a view of pleasing, it will suffice to be good.

QUARRELS.—A contest, however long and inveterate, is at no period so likely to be brought to an amicable adjustment as when both parties are satisfied that they have maintained bravely their part of the quarrel, while each, at the same time, feels respect for the courage and force of their enemy.

BIRTHS RECORDED.

AT ST. MARY'S.

- DEC 13—Mrs. Mary Crowley, of a Son.
 " Mrs. Mary Toomey, of a Son.
 " Mrs. Bridget Hartery, of a Daughter.
 15—Mrs. Mary Conolly, of a Daughter.
 " Mrs. Harriet Bromeley, of a Son.
 17—Mrs. Catherine Maher, of a Daughter.

INTERMENTS.

AT THE CEMETERY OF THE HOLY CROSS.

- Nov. 27—Mary Ann, daughter of Arthur and Mary Bennet, aged 10 years.
 DEC. 14—William, son of William and Mary Murray, aged 5 months.
 16—Cornelius, son of Cornelius and Julia O'Mara, aged 5 months.
 18—Thomas, son of William and Bridget O'Fall, aged 2 years.

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