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THE INVOCATION OF SAINTS AND ANGELS.

Among the doctrines of the Church which are most misrepresented by non Catholics that of the invocation of saints takes a most prominent place. We are told frequently what has been recently stated by a Protestant reverend lecturer that he had witnessed in Catholic churches acts of adoration offered to saints by ignorant Catholics who transfer to the saints the honor which is due only to Almighty God, and a writer belonging to one of the most absurd and obscure of the many sects into which Protestantism is divided recently stated in the columns of one of the Toronto dallies as a proof of the Evangelical character of his sect that it does not permit the invocation of saints as practiced by Roman Catholics.

The dectrine of the Catholic Church regarding the invocation of saints is that the saints in heaven assist us by their prayers offered to Almighty God in our behalf, and that it is useful for us to ask them to pray for us.

It is readily seen that this doctrine in no way detracts from the supreme and divine honor which is due to God. God is recognized as the fountain and source of every good and perfect gift, and it is from Him alone that we expect the gifts and graces which we hope to obtain through the intercession of the saints.

All Christians are accustomed to pray for one another, and to do this is justly regarded as a plous duty, in accordance with the words of the Apostle St. James

" Pray for one another that you may be saved; for the continual prayer of a just man availeth much." (v, 16.)

It is said that these words refer to the just on earth, and not to those in heaven, or the saints. We might acknowledge that in this passage only the just on earth are referred to, yet even in this case we may draw these inferences from the Apostle's words: 1st. That it is no injury to God to believe that His saints help us by their prayers, and this being the case, there is no reason for believing that the request we may make to the saints in heaven to pray for us is injurious to God, any more than if we make the same request to His saints on earth. 2adly, That not only are the prayers of the saints useful to us, but that it is the will of God that we ask their prayers. It is to in this line that a non Baptist clergyman be remarked, in the third place, that the words of the apostle are general, so that they really refer to the saints in heaven equally with the saints on earth, It is true that the first part of his injunction, pray for one another, seems to be applied specially to those upon earth ; but the reason which is given for this injunction is general: " for the continual prayer of the just man availeth much." It is, therefore, as true when referred to the just in heaven as to those on earth. There is no valid reason why one who has been on earth a powerful mediator with God should cease to be such as soon as he is rewarded by God in heaven. On the contrary, it is reasonable to believe that he becomes more powerful than ever.

Thus all the objections which Protestants make against the Catholic practice are completely refuted.

There are, however, direct proofs from Holy Scripture that the saints pray for us before the throne of God. We read in the Apocalypse (or Revelation) v, 6, that the four living creatures, and the four and twenty ancients seen by St. John in his vision of heaven, are occupied in praising God, and presenting before His throne " vials full of odors, which are the prayers of saints."

In the eighth chapter of the same book we find that an angel stands before the throne having a golden censer with much incense "that he should offer the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar, and the smoke of the incense of the prayers of the saints accended up before God from the ting none but scriptural practices to Ontario.

hand of the angel." Again we are told by our Blessed Lord that the saints in heaven are "as the angels of God," and "equal to them."

(St. Matt. xxii, 30; St. Luke, xx, 36.)

angel offering a fervent prayer to God to warring denominations, among which show mercy to Jerusalem and the cities of there is no peace. It will be remem-Jada which had been suffering for seventy bered that it was in Woodstock that years, their inhabitants having been for Dean Wade of the Church of England that time in captivity in Babylon. God invited a Presbyterian minister to officiheard the angel's prayer with favor, and ate in his church by preaching therein words."

Another passage showing the power of angels to assist us is to be found in the the ministers of these Churches to seek prayer for grace and peace offered by St. John in the beginning of the Apocalypse, where these bleesings are first asked from Almighty God, and in the second place "from the seven spirits which are before His throne." A prayer very similar to this is offered up by Jacob when he imparts his blessing to the two sons of Joseph: (Gen. xlviii:) He asks first that God, and secondly that "the angel who delivereth me from all evils, bless these boys." We are, moreover, told by the prophet Osee (xil, 14,) that Jacob when he overcame the angel with whom he wrestled "made supplication to Him." There is, therefore, ample authority in Holy Writ for invocation both of angels and saints.

In Daniel xii. we are told that Michael, the great prince, "standeth for the children of thy people." This can have no other meaning than that the Archangel tenth chapter of the same book we learn that Michael was assisted in this work by another angel who appeared to Daulel in

the form of a man.
Other passages which prove the interest which argels and saints take in earthly affairs might be added to the passages which we have cited. We will, however, content our ourselves with quoting the words of the Angel Raphael addressed to and myths. Toblas, xii, 12, "When thou didst pray with tears, and didst bury the dead . . I offered thy prayer to the Lord."

This book of Tobias is not received by Protestants in this country as part of the capen of Scripture : it is, however, acknowledged by those on the continent of was received by the primitive Church, and that it was recognized as equal in authority with the other Scriptures, the News: Yet, independently of its authority as Scripture, it is a testimony to the doctrine prevalent among the Jews. and it may be quoted as a historical monument of their faith in the power

Protestants against this Catholic doc-

MINISTERIAL VAGARIES AND CHRISTIAN UNITY.

In these days of "fraternity," when so many people are clamoring for the estab lishment of one Church wherein the members may embrace whatever doctrines they please, from the Unitarianism of Rev. Mr. MacQueary to the High Church ism of Fathers Huntingdon and Ignatius, there is no vagary that will surprise us in whatever Protestant denomination it may crop up. The Woodstock Sentinel-Review recently stated as something new f the town had hantfred a never own bellef by dipping in the river ; that is to say, the Thames Those present were chiefly belonging to the same denomination as the parties immediately concerned in the operation. A more re-

cent issue of the Sentinel-Review says : " Everybody is asking to-day, who the non-Baptist parson was who immersed a convert in the river on Sunday. Just wait till we get a woodcut of the scene and then all will be clear. It must require truly Baptist faith and courage to walk into the river this weather with gum boots, as they call them in B. C."

Sanday, the 5th inst.

Sentinel Review on the subject, It is perfeetly well known that the minister who young man, who had been brought up by bases of the class fication are different, and his parents as a Baptist, consented with alacrity to dip him, when the latter by the comparison. Thus we find that requested to be baptized in this form. sure that the young convert, Mr. Brown,

went clean under the water." When it is borne in mind that Method ists have been for-not indeed centuries, as the sect is too youthful for that - but | tion is different in the two Provinces, years contending against the Baptists that | But it is also clear that while the convicsprinkling or pouring is the really scrip- tions in Ontario amounted to one for 97 tural method of Christian baptism, we can infer how ready are those sects which for 157 persons. Thus Caholic Quebec, make the most loud professions of admit- at least, compares most favorably with depart from such when it suits their pur

pose so to do. famous for the examples it has afforded the number of Catholics reported as conof ministers who are ready to victed is a little larger than it ought to be, Now we know from many passages of sacrifice the principles for which their in relation to their proportions popula. Holy Scripture that the angels pray for respective Churches have hitherto tion, but that is no reason why the ns, and it follows that the saints do the strongly contended, for the oatensible Lethbridge News should exaggerize their ample, of a large proportion of Irish is in their own.

answered "good words, comfortable last Caristmas day. A more Caristian tion. We will first correct the figures mode of securing peace and unity than given by the News, after which we will any compromise methods would be for mention some of the operating causes "peace through the truth." St. Paul does not call the Church the "ground of compromise," but "the pillar and ground of truth." It is on this basis that the Catho-He Church operates, stating her doctrines without looking for, but rather avoiding, the ambiguous forme in which Protestantism delights; and, confident in the power of truth and godliness to prevail, she invites examination of her doctrines in the well-grounded hope that God will continue to do as He did in the days of the Apostles, namely, that He will "Increase daily together such as should be saved." The Apostles spoke not the fancies of men, when they received the Holy Ghost on the first Pentecost, but "they spoke the word of God with con-

fidence." (Acta 11, 47 : 1v, 31) This is the only correct basis on which Caristian unity can be established. It is no wonder that so many should become Michael pleads the cause of the people of Infidels at the present day, when they Israel before Almighty God, and from the find that the only Carlatianity with which they have acquaintance is ready to change hue as rapidly as the chameleon, and still pretend that it is maintaining the old faith once delivered to the sainte," If that old faith were the mass of fantastic inconsister cles which the modern ministers would make it appear to be, the Infidels would be right in rejecting it as an incongrous agglomeration of absurdities

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Under the title "Education and Morality" the Lethbridge News (Alberta) of 27th March has a gross attack upon Catholics and Catholic education, the writer of the article in question endeavoring to make Europe. It can be proved also that it it appear that Catholic education is a prolific source of crime. The following is the statement of the case as given by

"The introduction of religious teaching into the Public schools has not produced great moral results, as evidenced by the results from denominational schools throughout the Dominion. In the blue book of criminal statistics for the blue book of criminal statistics for prayers.

We shall in a future article give the testimony of the early Church on this same subject, and shall answer some of the difficulties usually advanced by the State schools are godless. Godless they are when they produce a higher morality than the so-called teligious Separate denominational schools. The higher the education given the greater the morality. All true education pos-sesses a moral force, and the force in-creases in intensity as the education rises in grade. There are fewer criminals among men of culture than among the illiterate. The greater the intelligence

> We have before us the blue book of which our contemporary speaks, and on referring to it we find the above statements to be entirely erroneous and the figures "cooked" for the purpose of making the proportion of Catholic criminals greater than it is in reality.

Now we know it to be a fact that at their best the figures given in these returns are not reliable. We have known the jailors to return as Catholice, and sometimes, but less frequently, as Episcopalians, those convicts of whom they knew nothing. However, there are other considerations which must be also taken into account.

It is to be remarked, in the first place, that the blue book does not give a complete return of the religion of all who have been convicted during the year. The convictions are divided into " indict-The date of the strange occurrence was able offences" and "sammary convictions," and the religion is mentioned only small percentage of the total. Now when we compare the numbers under these two performed the ceremony is the Rev. O headings in the different provinces, we having the opportunity to "convert" . we are inevitably led to conclude that the we cannot reach a satisfactory conclusion the whole number of convictions in To Mr. Kerby himself is attributed the Ontario was 22 527, of which 2,318 are explanation that "he went right into the designated "indictable being nearly cold water with his duds on and made | 10 3 per cent., while in Quebec the total of convictions is given at 9,521, of which 1 361 are included under the title "indictable," being 143 per cent. It must be clear to all that the basis of classificapersons, those in Quebec vere only one

If, ho vever, we regard ony the indict. able offences we are competed by the Woodstock has of late made itself facts of the case to acknowledge that

same. Thus in Zuch. i, 12 we find an purpose of patching up a peace between number and their proportion to the population. There are causes, however, which swell the Catholic proportion which ought to be taken into consideration, and which prove that the difference, even if we could rely upon the statistics. is not to be attributed to Catholic educa to which we have referred.

In the first place, the blue-book does not give 759 as the number of convictions for offences against the person. The number is 997, of whom 522 are reported as Catholics. It will be seen that the proportion of Catholics is not nearly so large as is stated by the Lathbridge Neus If, however, the most serious of theze offences be taken, it will be seen that the Catholics have not, by any means so large a proportion. Thus we find the

following figures : 258

The other crimes against persons con sist of "not providing for family, assault and injury, assaults on peace officers," and in these the Catholics have a somewhat higher ratio, being 264 out of a total of 465.

In this list Catholics are a little over their ratio to the population, which is slightly over 42.6 per cent. The number of Catholics convicted is 48.5 per cent, Tae total number of convictions for "indictable offences" given in the bluebook is 4208. The convictions of Catho. lics being 2062, or 49 per cent. of this number.

If these statistics were reliable we could only deplore the fact that the number of Catholics under this particular head is somewhat greater than their proportion to the population. But the disproportion certainly must come from causes independent of Catholic teaching, which inculcates the highest model of morality. We know we can indicate some causes which would naturally tend to increase the ratio of apparent crime in the Catholic population, for it needs but a small extraneous population inclined to the commission of evil, to be added to the normal population of the country, to increase considerably the apparent criminal ratio. We may as well look the facts in the face. The Catholic population has been to some extent increased by the immigration of foreigners, some of whom are not a fair sample of the morality of the countries from which they come. This is a fact which is undeniable, though we say it without disparagement to any nationality. A merely local institution, such as all the Protestant Churches are, is not subject to the inconvenience of having counted among its adherents, members of the Mafia or Mala Vita societies from Sicily or Naples, Francs Macons or Irredentists from France or Spain, or Hungary, but even though the ties which bind such undesirable characters to the Catholic Church have been severed wholly or for the most part, if they hap pen to get into prison in Canada for any misdemeanor, they are sure to be marked down in the jail reports as Cath. olics; and even Polish Nihilists, who have certainly no religion at all. are marked down by not very discriminat. ing jail governors in the same way. Thus ginning now to say that Presbyterlanism from its charactristic of Universality, the Catholic Caurch is credited with many criminals who do not belong to her, and who should not be counted as her members, if the classification were more

carefully made. Taere are some who have even been refagees from justice, and as we hope, even sometimes against hope, that the influences of religion may be brought to bear upon these people so as to result in their conversion to better ways, we do Notwithstanding the relicence of the in the former case, which includes but a not exclude them from the title "Catholic" except for obstinacy in grievous sin, in which case, very rarely, sentence of excommunication may be pronounced W. Kerby of the Methodist Church, who, find the disproportion to be so great that against them. Poverty is also a temptation which leads frequently to the commission of crime; and we do not deny that, especially among those who come from other countries, there is in Canada, and especially in Ontario, a larger proportion of poor among the Catholic than among the Protestant population. The poor are, of course, not necessarily vicious; but poverty is frequently temptation to crime, and it is reasonable to suppose that this is one of the causes which makes the whole percentage of crime somewhat higher among the Cath olics than it would otherwise be. Bu this is not the fault of religious educa tion given to the children. It cannot be denied that the tendency of a religious education must be to raise the standard of morality, otherwise religion itself must be a sham. When we say that there is a larger proportion of poor among the Catholics than among the Protestants of the Dominion we wish it to be understood that the poverty does not for the most part arise from their fault, but from their misfortune. The poverty, for ex-

immigrants arises from the bad laws under which the people have been ground down for centuries. Other nationalities have also immigrated into Canada for the purpose of bettering their condition, and, weighing all these things, the wonder is not that the number of Catholics convicted of serious crimes is slightly in excess of their proportion to the population, but rather that, in spite of the disadvantages under which a heterogeneous population labors, there is not a greater disproportion.

The contention of the News that purely

secular or intellectual education is sufficient to curb crime is a palpable absurdity. It was said by the late Dake of Wellington, who was a keen observer, that education without religion makes men clever devils and this is undoubtedly the truth. Religion effords a motive for morality which no merely intellectual training furnishes. We do not pretend that all who have been instructed religiously will put into practice the good principles which have been inculcated upon them; but reason itself should convince us that with the motives to virtue which a religious training affords, the youth who have been so trained will be much more likely to be virtuous than if these principles had not been inculcated upon them. We therefore maintain that it is the duty of a teacher to train the whole child, to inculcate the principles of morality, at the same time that secular knowledge is imparted. The principles of morality are dependent upon. and are inseparable from, the dogmas of faith. Reilgious teaching in the schools is necessary, that the morals of the rising generation may be preserved incorrupt.

FORMALISM IN RELIGION

The Toronto Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian Church met last week in that city, and, besides other business, passed the report of the committee on "the State of Religion," We notice with pleasure that the committee did not indulge in the usual rant against "Romish aggression," which year after year has been hitherto indulged in this and similar bodies. We hope this is an evidence of the return of the reign of common sense, which for the last few years seemed to have deserted the country, were we to judge by the utterances of such Ministerial gatherings. There was, indeed, a sly hit at the traditional, if not historical, "Man of Sin," but it was so vaguely put that we can afford good-naturedly to let it pass with just so much comment as to show that we can understand the velled allusion.

We are told that one of the prevailing evils against which the Church has to contend is "formalism in religion;" but this is so diluted with the admixture of other evils in the bolus that it is scarcely recognizable :

"Intemperance, licentiousness, gam-bling, indifference to religion, late hours on Saturday evening, real estate fever, formalism in religion, etc."

We do not know the order of magnitude which these sins take according to the ethics of the Westminster divines, but it looks as if the catalogue were to be read as an anticlimax, in which case the "anti-Christ" so dreadfully painted in the Confession of Faith becomes a very harmless being indeed. Formalism in religion is an expression which might have many meanings. It may aim at the Ritualism of the High Church Anglicans, or even at Presbyterians themselves, many of whom are bereformed too thoroughly, as when it struck off from being celebrated by any religious service even those sacred days which had been recognized as days consecrated to meditation on the most sublime mysteries of Christ's life on earth; and we have even now a clamor raised for a special celebration of Easter and Christ. mas at least. The New York Independent actually tells us in a recent number that the celebration of these feasts would be a "decided help to Christian life and faith ." and that "to multitudes of our fellowmen they are nearly the sole reminder of Christian truth." "Thousands," continues the Independent, " who never say or shear a prayer have at least a passing thought of Christ at these times."

If this be so, Presbyterianism is certainly in as much need of reformation for having produced such a state of things as was the Catholic Church, which they undertook to reform by going to such excesses. But perhaps it is against such formalism that the Presbytery is directing its shafts.

It is, indeed, a vague condemnation of the old bugbear, Popery, which leaves us in such uncertainty. "Certain it is that many Presbyterians see a danger in pronouncing in favor of church festivals now. after having condemned them unreservunscriptural, and therefore worthy of the teries are beginning at last not to scrutin-

EDITORIAL NOTES.

REV. B. BOUBAT bas, in consquence of failing health, found it necessary to ask His Lordship the Bishop to relieve him of his charge at Walkerville, and to grant him some vacation for rest and recuperation, a request which the Bishop has kindly granted, notwithstanding the serious need of more priests for the diocese.

WE publish this week a eketch of the life of a very eminent Irish Canadian-Hon. Frank Smith. It is a life full of laterest, and one worthy of study by our young men of the present day, as showing how a brilliant future and the esteem of his fellows await those who map out for themselves and resolutely carry to completion a career of thrift, honesty and integrity. Such a career was that of Mr. Smith. His healthy brain and brawny arms were the capital on which his begin. ning was made, and his constant toil and endeavor brought to him, as the years rolled by, a rich reward. The world's weelth came to him in goodly share, not by what is usually termed luck, or by any manner of sharp practice, but by the regular old-fashioned, honest business methods. And now that the years are upon him he has the satisfaction of lookir back upon his life with little, we feel sure, to regret, and much, very much, to be proud of. All honor to Senator Smith! Would we had many other men of similar mould.

CREDIT is due Lady Zetland and her companions who are at present distribut. ing relief in some of the poorer districts of Ireland. We doubt not the good ladies will, ere they complete their trip, make up their minds that some change in the system of government should be introduced. These periodical famines prove beyond question that something radically wrong and rotten attaches to the present style of class or landlord government. It must topple over sooner or later. The sooner the better for all concerned.

To THE good Catholic people of Guelph it must be a source of sincere regret to be deprived of the splendid services of the distinguished Jesuit, Rev. Father Doherty. Not only in Guelph was he known, and his noble work appreciated. It may be said that throughout Ontario thousands of our people watched with interest the noble and herculean task which he had undertaken and successfully completed. He has left the people of that town a monument, the church of Our Lady, which will for generations to come reflect honor on his name, and infinite credit as well on the high-spirited Catholic people of Guelph, who so nobly seconded his efforts.

WE publish in this issue an article concerning the great baritone singer, Charles Sintley. It will be of special interest at this time, as he will appear in this city in

THE libel suit of the Jesuits vs. the Mail was again before the court at Montreal on the 7th inst. The contention of the Mail's counsel that the Legislature exceeded its powers in incorporating a society having extra-provincial objects, and ob octs contra bonos mores (against morality) was dismissed. The plea of the ail that it has justification for its charges against the Jesuit Order throughout the world was admitted, thus leaving the Mail free to prove its charge of the evil character of the order. That jour. nal professes to regard the decision as a considerable victory, "as it will be allowed to produce proof of the nature of the Order all over the world." It is perhaps as well for the sake of the public that the Mail should have this opportunity to bring its witnesses from France, Belgium, and other countries to show what the Jesuits really are. We were told some time ago that it had a terrible array of witnesses from these quarters. Meantime the opening of so wide a scope threatens to make the prospective trial as costly as was the Pigott. ite Court of High Commissioners.

THERE is no longer any doubt that the Dominion Government have allowed the Manitoba School Act to become law, as far as their refusal to disallow it is concerned. There is, however, good reason to believe that the Supreme Court will declare it to be unconstitutional, inasmuch as it deprives the Catholics of the Province of rights which they enjoyed by practice at the time of Confederation, and the British North America Act expressly removes from the domain of the Provincial Legislatures any educational legislation which would deprive any class of Her Majesty's subjects of rights and edly, since the days of John Knox, as privileges which they held at the time Confederation took effect. Under this severest denunciation. The well-known clause it seems to us certain that the Dr. John Hall is of the latter class. He courts will sustain the Catholics against says the origin of such festivals is heathen. | the unjust interference of the Manitoba ish, and that their observance would be majority. It is stated that the Dominprejudicial to pure religion. We are at | ion Government will pay the expense of all events thankful to see that the Presby. | testing the constitutionality of the Act before the courts. But even if the ize so closely the mote in the eye of their courts decide against the Catholic claims brethren, while ignoring the beam which it will be in the power of the Dominion Parliament to legislate for the restorato legislate on the question in a s tory manner. THE Mail of the 6 h inst, has torial article in which a cock-a story is related, stating that the of the North West are bribing t ages of the territory to receive b \$8. \$25, and even \$30 and a new ciothes having been offered for the ilege of baptizing some Indian ch Of course, no one who knows any the practice of Catholic pries believe the story, and the Mai while evidently wishing it to be b makes the acknowledgment th unworthy of credit. Of one o stories it says: "There was not confirm this report." It adds, h "Rev. H. McKay, of Round La

written to Prof. Hart, of Wini

letter which indicates that by o

testant missionary, at least, the

believed to be true." We have, h

the acknowledgment, a little

down : "It is possible that Mr.

has been misinformed." "Misinfo

Surely, and it is also possible, eve

able, that he is willfully makin

ments which he knows to be

It is no unusual thing for the and others of that ilk to make suc THE Toronto Catholic Review m following reference, kindly as it deserved, to the member for I

" Mr. J. J. Curran, M. P., w rumered, receive one of the vac-folios in the Dominion Cabinet. graceful act could be rendered to Catholic people than to accord Curran this bonor, and none, assured, would receive fuller appi A thorough Catholic and Irlah commands the respect of his co-ists of all political parties. His un a speech on St. Patrick's Day tion at Montreal shows that he is lover of the 'old land' as he is very similar are they to those our filustrious Archbishop we previously published. In spe the visit of the delegates of the factions he said: The disput be settled at home; men abroad going to constitute themselves decide which side was right would welcome the represents united Irish people. It would brous to transfer the feud here where. When a delegation can senting a united Irish party dollar would be divided with further and fight for the const liberties of the land of their

A VERY ultra-Protestant io

Toronto recently reprobated th

of the divorce laws of the Unite all the nore because the laws a ent in the diverse States ; so New York forbids a divorce e certain reasons, a man can cros Connecticut and obtain a div entirely different reasons, thus r the New York law completely tive." The journal in question do not want in Canada any o divorce laws, and the present of affairs is held to be ient reason why we sho link the destiny of Cana the United States, lest we sh hale the missma which would national purity. But if man purely civil concern, why st the State arrange all its detail terms on which divorce is to be And why should not the States decide, each one for grounds on which divorce may ized? Catholics maintain indissolubility of marriage is iastitution, and that the no right to dissolve w hath joined together, but constantly accused of wishing gate the State to the Church be say that the State should be the law of God in these mat are glad to find ultra-Protes cepting our correct principles should be consistent and coas us for maintaining what they t now acknowledge to be the co But we notice by the papers t residing in Brooklyn, who is the of a Protestant Bishop, has rec into Rhode Island for the procuring more readily a grounds which would not be in New York as sufficien understood that she had approval of her father in and, if this be the certainly shows great div tween Protestants as to w tutes national purity. It ap the Bishop considers the laxit Island laws to be quite cons national purity, and that each very properly make its own in But non Catholics ought to co

degree of uniformity of opi selves on such subjects, so to public morals, before being rebuke Catholics for being a self consistent. We may we that Brooklyn and New York

not hesitate to follow the ext them by the Brooklyn lady, sanction of Episcopal autho-code of moralty.