

survey, my right there is none to dispute." She has had no need to "observe a prudent economy" in the application of her principles. Indeed, what she has prudently *economized* in the presence of her foes in Protestant lands she has lavishly bestowed on her friends, to their great impoverishment.

The question of my Protestant brother, "carried away with the dissimulation" of Rome, recalled a question put to me the year previous (in 1865) on the mountains of Brazil, by a gray-haired brother of the Romish communion :

"Young man !" he said, as if suffering from a keen sense of injustice done him and his people ; "young man, tell me, what was your father doing that my father died and never knew that there was such a book as the Bible? You say that in your land you have had this book for generations. Why did they not *have mercy* on us? How is it that only *now* we are hearing of this Book? My father was a religious man ; he taught us all he knew ; but he never said Bible to us, and died without the knowledge of it."

I replied, in substance, that when my father and his contemporaries first attempted to put "the Book" in the hands of his father, the "civil arm" was at the behest of the ecclesiastical to the extent of casting whole boxes of Bibles from the Custom House into fire or water, and added : "If you were a reader of the daily papers (A. D. 1865), you would not ask me that question, for only the other day, in the Province of Bahia, and in a city in daily, almost hourly, communication with that Archiepiscopal See, a colporteur was assaulted at midday by a mob, led on by a Romish priest, and all of his Bibles consigned to the flames in the public square. The priest merited no reproof from his ecclesiastical superiors, although the civil government condemned him to pay costs. Instead of asking me why your father never heard of it, give thanks that it is now free to you, and that you and I can freely talk about its contents without being cast into the fire ourselves."

I pass from the question of the old man (now an elder in one of our native churches) to the brethren who "regret" that we have missions in Roman Catholic countries, only calling attention to the form of it : "Why did you not *have mercy*?" and to the declaration of our Lord and Master, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy;" and to the sentence of the apostle James, "He shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment."

In the judgment of these brethren, we are out of place ; but "mercy glorieth against judgment," in this case. Voicing the need of millions who are to-day in the same status as my old friend, *Henrique Gomes de Oliveira*, was for more than a half century of a devout life in the Romish church. I would say still further : "If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food (Thy word was found and I did *eat* it, well