

These burning words provoked a learned German to attempt a cold apology for crowned heads, as if they, when guilty of persecution, did it unwillingly, or as if they really knew not that it had been done, and only their advisers or their confessors were to bear the blame. But sovereigns who persecute are of all men the most criminal; and it is vain to make the priest, in this case, the scape-goat for the king. They are both guilty. The one influences the other, and each makes use of the other for the attainment of his own ends. They have the clearest understanding between themselves, a distinct bargain—*damus petimusque vicissim*; but though hand join in hand, they shall not go unpunished.—*Christian Times*.

CHRISTIAN HEROISM.

A poor miner (in Cornwall) was down with his brother miner, sinking a shaft. In pursuit of that obscure labour, they were blasting the solid rock. They had placed in the rock a large charge of powder, and fixed their fuse so that it could not be extricated. Their proper course was to cut the fuse with a knife; then one should ascend in their bucket—the other wait till the bucket came down again, then get into it, ignite the fuse, give the signal, and so be at the top of the shaft before the explosion. In the present case, however, they negligently cut the fuse with a stone and a blunt iron instrument. Fire was struck—the fuse was hissing—they both dashed to the bucket, and gave the signal. The man above attempted in vain to move the windlass; one could escape, both could not, and delay was death to both. One miner looked for a moment at his comrade, and stepping from the bucket, said, "Escape, I shall be in Heaven in a minute." The bucket sped up the shaft—the man was safe. Eager to watch the fate of his deliverer, he bent to hear. Just then the explosion rumbled below—a splinter came up the shaft, and struck him on the brow, leaving a mark he will bear all his days, to remind him of his rescue. They soon began to burrow among the fallen rock to extricate the corpse. At last they heard a voice—their friend was yet alive. They reached him; the pieces of rock had roofed him over—he was without injury or scratch. All he could tell was, that the moment his friend was gone, he sat down, lifted up a piece of rock, and held it before his eyes. When asked, what induced him to let the other escape, he replied, "I knew my soul was safe; and I was not sure about his." Now, I look at the great Czar, who, to build a city called by his own name, sacrificed a hundred thousand men; and at this poor miner, who, to save the soul of his comrade, sat down there to be blasted to pieces, and I ask you which of the two is the hero?—*Rev. William Arthur*.

FATHER CLEMENT.

An American paper announces the death of the Rev. Dr. Guistiniani, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati. He was educated in the University of Rome, where he graduated in 1826, and was promoted to sacred orders. He left the Church of Rome in 1828. The circumstance which led to this change is full of interest. In passing the Piazza Novona, he bought for four cents, of a second-hand book pedlar, an old volume, entitled "Father Clement," which he supposed to be the life of a saint, but which proved to be a discussion between a Jesuit and Protestant, and this book led to his conversion.—*Exchange*.

["Father Clement" is one of a number of religious novelettes or tales, by Miss Grace Kennedy, which were published, in Edinburgh, about thirty years ago, by our friend, Mr. Oliphant. It is admirably written, has had an immense circulation in many lands, and has, we believe, been productive of much good. Such a fact as the above would have rejoiced the heart of the excellent authoress. We often hear of young ladies in Protestant families being exposed to danger from Catholic governesses, education in nunneries, and so forth. There can be no excuse for exposing them to such hazard; but if they must encounter the bane, this volume seems well fitted to serve as an antidote. They are not likely to deem the perusal a task. It is quite a fascinating work; and very ample justice is done to the character of the Roman Catholic priest, who is the hero of the story.]

DECLINE OF POPERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

Maryland, the first State where the Roman Catholic Church gained a footing, now