

faith a new vigor was infused, because the matter was personal, touching upon the mainspring of their life. But even then their efforts would have been unavailing had not the emancipation been previously passed. Because before emancipation Catholic newspapers were impossible owing to educational disabilities and political bias. The masses of Catholics were uneducated and other denominations would not subscribe to Catholic papers.

But when the yoke was removed, when freedom of religion was granted to all, then the Catholics came into their own. The criticisms hurled at them through the English Press were easily disproved and their authors ridiculed. The Oxford movement of 1845 proved another thorn in the side of Protestant critics. As lack of education and natural intelligence could not be attributed to these converts, the Protestant Press was dumbfounded; it stood, as it were, with its mouth wide open, vainly endeavouring to give utterance to thoughts that would not shape themselves. About this time the London Tablet came into existence. The calumnies uttered against the Holy See by the secular press forced Cardinal Wiseman to prevail upon the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to found a Catholic paper which would disprove these calumnies. Thus was the Catholic Universe inaugurated.

In 1651, the Gazette de France, a weekly paper, was founded in France. This continued until 1792, when on account of its circulation and the amount of newspaper material, it was changed to a daily. However, the Universe, founded by Abbé Migne in 1833, to counteract the Gallicanistic tendency of the day, became the greatest Catholic paper in France. In 1844 Louis Veuillot, the foremost journalist and the greatest Catholic that ever lived, was appointed editor, and the popularity of the Universe increased in leaps and bounds. The French government suppressed this Catholic organ in 1860, because its Roman feeling was too strong. But after its revival in 1867 it prepared the way for the death-blow of Gallicanism. There was also the "La Croix," a cheap popular paper, fashioned no doubt after the style of some modern newspapers in America. It was distinctly a local paper and was edited in a hundred different cities and towns. Finally the rapid increase of the Catholic Press in France led to the establishment of a Catholic telegraphic agency in 1905.