Critics of the Church.

Old Charges Repeated by Hostile Writers in West.

Macaulay's Comment.

Catholics are not numerous in Sas-katoon, and it seems to entail a struggle on laity and clergy to maintain their proper position. struggle on laity and clergy to maintain their proper position. There are material difficulties, and, writes a correspondent of the True Witness, there are hostile critics who have free access to the press of the province. The Saskatoon Phoenix recently gave publicity to a pair of worthies who wrote at some length in condemnation of the Church—making some stock charges. In ength in concemnation of the charles—making some stock charges. In brief, they alleged that the Church was the opponent of science; that the Church hindered rather than preserved learning in the Middle Ages, and one correspondent was quite keen in the affair of Galileo. It is keen in the affair of Galileo. It is strange that one should be compelled to answer such marvels of fiction. That these fictions yet exist should be well marked by those in authority because their continued reiteration plainly show that material which is to be found in unfriendly histories. It would take consideeable space to go into the many assertions, made go into the many assertions made by the western critics, but a quota-tion from Macaulay's works, used by one writer, may be answered by Macaulay himself. Macaulay is quoted as saying that "during the last three centuries to stunt the growth of the human mind has been her chief object." Let me quote Macaulay from his review of Ranke's Macaulay from his review of Ranke's "Lives of the Popes":

"Lives of the Popes":
There is not, and there never was on this earth, a work of human policy so well deserving of examination as the Roman Catholic Church. The history of that Church joins together the two great ages of human civilization. No other institution is left standing which carries the mind back to the times when the smoke of sacrifice rose from the Pantheon, and when cameleopards and tigers bounded in the Flavian ampnitheatre. The proudest royal houses are but of yesterday, when compared with the line of the Supreme Pontiffs. That line we trace back in an unbroken in an unbroken we trace back nine we trace back in an unbroken series from the Pope who crowned Napoleon in the nineteenth century to the Pope who crowned Pepin in the eighth, and far beyond the time of Pepin the august dynasty extends, till it is lost in the twilight of fable. The recombined of the control of the cont The republic of Venice came next in artiquity. But the republic of Venice was modern when comparof venice was modern when compar-ed with the Papacy; and the republic of Venice is gone and the Papacy remains. The Papacy remains, not in decay, not a mere antique, but full of life and youthful vigor. The Catholic Church is still sending out to the farthest ends of the world missionaries as zealous as those who landed in Kent with Augustin, and still confronting hostile kings with the same spirit with which she conthe same spirit with which she con-fronted Attila. The number of her children is greater than in any for-mer age. Her acquisitions in the New World have more than com-pensated for what she has lost in the Old. Her spiritual ascendency ex-tends over the vast countries which lie between the plains of the Misson. tends over the vast countries which lie between the plains of the Missouri and Cape Horn, countries which a ri and Cape Horn, countries which a century hence, may not improbably contain a population as large as that which now inhabits Europe. The members of her communion are certainly not fewer than a hundred and fifty millions; and it will be difficult to show that all other Christian sects united amount to a hundred. to show that all other Christian sects united amount to a hundred and twenty millions. Nor do we see any sign which indicates that the term of her long dominion is approaching. She saw the commencement of all the governments and of all the ecclesiastical establishments that now exist in the world; and we that now exist in the world; and we feel no assurance that she is not destined, to see the end of them all. She was great and respected before the Saxon set foot on Britain, before the Frank had passed the Rhine, when Grecian eloquence still flourished at Antioch, when idols were still worshipped in the temple of Mecca. And she may still exist in undiminished vigor when some traveller from New Zealand shell. that now exist in the world; and we Mecca. And she may still exist in undiminished vigor when some traveller from New Zealand shall, in the midst of a vast solitude, take his stand on a broken arch of London bridge to sketch the ruins of St.

AN ENLIGHTENED WORLD. We often hear it said that the world is constantly becoming more and more enlightened, and that this enlightening must be, favorable to Protestantism and unfavorable Catholicism. We wish that could think so. But we see great reason to doubt whether this be a well-founded expectation. We see that during the last two hundred and fifty years the human mind has been in the highest degree active, that it could think so. has made great advances in every branch of natural philosophy, that it has produced innumerable inven-tions tending to promote the con-venience of life, that medicine, sur-gery, chemistry. gery, chemistry, engineering, has been very greatly improved, that nt, police, have been proved, though not to so great extent as the physical sciences. we see that, during these two hundred and fifty years, Protestantism has made no conquest worth speaking of. Nay, we believe that, as far as there has been a change, that change has, on the whole, been in favor of the Church of Rome. We cannot, therefore, feel confident ravor of the Church of Rome. We cannot, therefore, feel confident that the progress of knowledge will necessarily be fatal to a system which has, to say the least, stood its ground in spite of the immense progress made by the human race in knowledge since the days of Queen Elizabeth

Natural theology, then is not progressive science. That knowledge of our origin and of our destiny which we derive from revela-tion is indeed of very different clearness, and of very different importance. But neither is revealed religion of the nature of a progressive science. All Divine truth is, according to the doctrine of the Protestant churches, recorded ant churches, recorded in certain books. It is equally open to all who, in any age, can read these books; nor can all the discoveries of all the philosophers in the world add a single verse to any of these books.

PROGRESS IN DIVINITY.

It is plain, therefore, that in di-vinity there cannot be a progress analogous to that which is constananalogous to that which is constantly taking place in pharmacy, geology, and navigation. A Christian of the fifth century with a Bible is neither better norworse situated than a Christian of the nineteenth century with a Bible, candor and natural acuteness being, of course, supposed equal. It matters not at all that the compass, printing, gunpowder, steam, gas, vaccination, and a thousand other discoveries and inventions, which were unfrown in and a thousand other discoveries and inventions, which were unknown in the fifth century, are familiar to the mineteenth. None of these discoveries and inventions has the smallest bearing on the question whether man is justified by faith alone, or whether the invocation of the country of th alone, or whether the invocation of saints is an orthodox practice. It seems to us, therefore, that we have no security for the future against the prevalence of any theological error that ever has prevailed in time past among Christian men. We are confident that the world will never go back to the world will never go back to the solar system of Ptolemy; nor is our confidence in the least shaken the circumstance, that even so grea the circumstance, that even so great a man as Bacon rejected the theory of Galileo with scorn, for Bacon had not all the means of arriving at a sound conclution which are within our reach, and which secure people who would not have been worthy to mend his pens from falling into his mistakes

OF SIR THOMAS MORE But when we reflect that Sir Thomas More was ready to die for the doctrine of transubstantiation, we cannot but feel some doubt whether the doctrine of transubstantiation may not triumph over all opposition.

More was a man of eminent talents.

He had all the information on the subject that we have, or that, while the world lasts, any human being will have.

The text "This is my body" was

will have.

The text, "This is my body," was in his New Testament as it is in ours. The absurdity of the literal interpretation was as 'great and as obvious in the sixteenth century as it is now. No progress that science has made, or will make, can add to what seems but the overwhelming force of the argument whelming force against the real presence. We are, therefore, unable to understand why what Sir Thomas More believed rewhat Sir Thomas More beneved respecting transubstantiation may not be believed to the end of time by men equal in abilities and honesty to Sir Thomas More. But Sir Thomas More is one of the choice specimens of human wisdom virtue: and the doctrine of transubvirtue: and the doctrine of transus-stantiation is a kird of proof charge. A faith which stands that test will stand any test. The prophesies of Brothers and the miracles of Prince Hohenlohe sirk to trifles in the

RESERVATIONS TO BE MADE. RESERVATIONS TO BE MADE.

One reservation, indeed, must be made. The books and traditions of a sect may contain, mirgled with propositions strictly theological, other propositions, purporting to rest on the same authority, which rest on the same authority, which relate to physics. If new discoverrelate to physics. If new discover-ies should throw discredit on the physical propositions, the theologi-cal propositions, unless they can be separated from the physical propo-sitions, will share in that discredit. In this way, undoubtedly, the gress of science may indirectly serve the cause of religious truth. the cause of religious truth. The Hindoo mythology, for example, is bound up with a most absurd geography. Every young Brahmin, therefore, who learns geography in our colleges, learns to smile at the Hindoo mythology. If Catholicism has not suffered to an equal degree from the Paral excision that the has not suffered to an equal eegree from the Papal eecision that the sun goes round the earth, this Is because all intelligent Catholics now hold, with Pascal, that, in deciding the point at all, the Church exceeded her powers, and was, therefore, justly left destitute of that supernatural essistance which in the exercise of assistance which, in the exercise of her legitimate functions, the pro-mise of her Founder authorized her

This reservation affects not at the truth of our proposition, divinity, properly so-called, is divinity, properly so-called, is not a progressive science. A very cont-mon knowledge of history, a very little observation of life, will suffice to prove that no learning, no sagacity, affords a security against the greatest errors on subjects rethe greatest errors on subjects relating to the invisible world. Bayle and Chillingworth, two of the most sceptical of mankind, turned Catholies from sincere conviction. Johnson, incredulous on all other points, was a ready believer in miracles and apparitions. He would not believe in Ossian; but he was willing to believe in second sight. He would not believe in the earthquake of Lisbon, but he was willing to believe in the was willing to believe in the second sight. but he was willing to believe in the Cock Lane ghost."





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Whooping Cough, Croup, Bronchitis Cough, Grip, Asthma, Diphtheria

Cresolene is a boon to Asthmatics Does it not seem more effective to breathe in a remedy to cure disease of the breathing organs than to take the remedy into the stomach? It cures because the air rendered strongly anti-septic is carried over the diseased surface with

Insult to Catholics.

American Aid for Earthquake Suffer ers is Wrongfully Used.

Explanation Demanded.

The following letter has been forwarded to the True Witness, and fully explains its purpose:

St. Louis, Mo., March 22, 1909. To the President, Secretary and Of-ficers of the American Red Cross Gentlemen:

The American Federation of Catholic Societies, representing millions of American Catholics, desire official information regarding the enclosed despatch, published in the papers of the United States on Feb. 6th, and referring to an appropria-6th, and referring to an appropria tion made by your Society. The des patch reads:

Rome, Feb. 7, 1909. "It is officially declared that the The officially declared that the American Rèd Cross Association, through Ambassador Griscom, has put \$250,000 at the disposal of the committee organized by Queen Helena which has undertaken the establishment of an orphanage to be devoted to the care of children left homeles and without parents by the earth-quake disaster."

quake disaster."
Under date of Feb. 6th, 1909, the
"La Civilta Cattolica" published in
Rome, states that a National Patronage of Orphans, under the name
of "Queen Helena," has been erected of "Queen Helena," has been ere by decree of the 14th of January to it have been granted all rights for the protection of orphans, who have suffered by the recent calamity or who will need protection on account of any future disaster. That the direct adminisdisaster.

disaster. That the direct administration of this orphanage is committed to a Council, half of whose membership shall be appointed by royal authority and the other half by election of choice of those contributing annually to its support. In the same paper, the "Civilta Cattolica," of Feb. 29th, 1909, appears the following: "There has been appointed to the Presidency of the National Committee the Mayor of the first city in Italy, Erneste Nathan, a Hebrew, a very bitter enemy of Catholicism." The same issue states that the National Committee states that the National Committee has appointed three women to take charge of "Patronasto Nasionale charge of "Patronasto Nasiomale Regina Elene" namely, Turin, an un-known woman, a Socialist and Free-mason; Labriole, a Protestant wo-man (a Waldensian Protestant) and Levi, a Jewess. To them was con-fided the care of all orphans brought to Naples from the scene of the dis-aster. This charge was taken from the Neapolitan authorities because they were good Catholics. The "Civilta Cattolica" states: "It is evident from the entire policy of the National Committee that the Pope was refused all voice in the dis-

Pope was refused all voice in the disposition of the orphans. He never entered the committee's considerations except that it is trying and succeed-ing in hampering everywhere, for

1. The Government (i.e., the National Committee) refused to said ciding 1. The Government (i.e., the Naceded tional Committee) refused to send any of the wounded to the hospital atural of Santa Marta in Rome; so that the Knights of Malta had to make up a product of the wounded.

2 The Catholics officers of Spanish ship Catalure were pered in gathering the wounded orphans at Messina to take the Rome for disposition of the T This ship has been placed under direct control of the Pope by Count of Camillas, the owner

3. The Pope was interfered with in placing orphans in the care of the

placing orphans in the care of the French priests, Santol.

From the above it appears that part of the money contributed by our fellow citizens, irrespective of creed or nationality, is being used by missionary societies and others against Catholicity. Some of our Catholic fellow-citizens feared that such would likely be the case, but they nevertheless contributed liberally, thirking that in such a crises and such distress haste was necessary and bigotry would not be allowed to have part. But from the above statemerts it is evident that their fears were well founded the above statements it is evident that their fears were well founded and if it turns out that the state-ments are true, the Red Cross Somemts are true, the Red Cross Society—though splendid in its aims—will never be trusted again by the 15 millions of Catholics of this country, nor by the 370,000,000 Catholics the world over.

GRAND TRUNK SALLERAY Reduced Fares

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rica being used in such a way as to It will not be amiss to show you

Congress of Religious Liberals, held in Boston, Rev. Tony Andre of Italy gave these statistics

gave these statistics:

'Italy is essentially a Catholic country. Out of the 32,475,253 inhabitants enumerated in the census of 1901, 31,539,863 declared themselves; that is 97.12 per cent of the population. All told there were 65,595 Protestants, 20,538 of whom are foreigners. At the same time 795,876 were unwilling to exwere unwilling to say 36,092 declared they were of no re-ligion." This will show that all the children to be cared for are prac-tically Catholics.

We address this open letter to your Society and expect that you will give the matter referred to therein mediate investigation

ANTHONY MATRE, National Secretary.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME.

The funds ol this struggling little institution have been augmented a little since the opening of the month of March, the following sums having been received, by Father Holland whose unbounded confidence in the patron saint of the month and of his Home deserves that a payment of at least one thousand dollars be made before the first of April. The True before the first of April. The True Witness Subscription fund amounts to five hundred and eighty one dollars which with the following amounts received by himself totals six hundred and eighty-two dollars. It is not a thousand dollars, much less is it five thousand but before the month is over, we hope for some nice gifts from the many who can afford them and who have not contributed as yet, and their number is legion. The sincere thanks of the management are tendered to those Your organization is no doubt aware that all civilized countries now acknowledge the right of the child to be educated in the religion of its parents, and though the Red Cross Society of America may not have anything to do with the education of these children without religion, it has the right and duty to protest against funds sent from Ame-

184 to 194 St. James St , Montreal

STORE CLOSES AT 5.30 TO-DAY. AFTER TO-DAY AT 6 O'CLOCK THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1909.

The 6-Week Sale is Filling the Store with Throngs of Eager Purchasers!

and the bargains are going like chaff before the wind. The reductions are real, genuine—that is why they go quickly. Not a sale of "job lots" and "seconds," but a straight sacrifice of profits so as to hammer stocks down where we must have them by May 1st. Come to-day; look for the Red Sale Cards, and share the savings, for remember "a penny saved is a penny earned!"

Many great bargains for Boys.

Boys' \$4.50 Tweed Suits

\$2.98

At the ridiculous price of \$2.98 these Suits constitute one of the greatest values ever offered those who have boys to clothe—particularly those who wish their boys clothed with a little more distinctive neatness than usual.

125 BOYS' SUITS, fancy English and Domestic Tweeds, Buste Brown style (also several in Sailor Blouse style), in grey, red and blue. Regular prices were \$3.98 to \$4.50 Sale price... \$2.98 BOYS' WHITE BLOUSES, neatly finished, Buster Brown style

also in white pique, with turn-down collar. Regular price \$1.35. Sale price

MEN'S SUITS AND HATS

MEN'S TWEED SUITS, grey and brown mixtures and stripes, single and double breasted, well lined throughout, all sizes, 32 to 42 inches chest measure. Regular value \$8.95. \$3.99

MEN'S FELT HATS, greys and browns, and blacks, fedora shape, narrow, medium or wide brim, full range of sizes. \$1.19

Girls' Reefers = = Regular \$3.00

GIRLS' SPRING REEFERS, made of extra good navy blue serge, double breasted, with detachable and reversible duck collar trimmed with white braid, very neat and unequalled for service and trimmed with white braid, very near and unequality wear, sizes for 3 to 14 years. Regular price \$3.00. Sale \$2.29

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With the old surety,

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Lumbago and Sciatica

There is no such word as fail. Price, 25c and 50c,

count. St. Ann's Temperance Society, \$100; Mrs. W. J. C. White, twenty-five dollars; A. J. O'Neill, W. J. Ryan, Mrs. Ryan, Patrick Kenna, Montreal, and Mrs. O'Connor, Sherbrooke, ten dollars each; Col. Crawford, And. Baile and H. M. Levine, five dollars each; Miss Burke, Miss Burt, Mrs. Lyng and Mrs. Cunningham, Montreal, and Rev Father Jobin, Ste. Julie de Vercheres, two dollars each; Mrs. McPeate, Mrs. Dopoghue, Mrs. Callagher, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. C. Shanahan, Lieut. O'Donnell and four friends, Montreal, and Mrs. Gleeson, Island Pond, Vt., one dollar each. Through the great kindness of Mr. M. McCarthy, followed by that of Mr. Dan. Tarrell, the Home has been newly plastered and painted gratuitously, so that it is well worth while to pay a visit to 26 Overdale Avenue. Ann's Temperance to pay a visit to 26 Overdale Avenue. The famous salve made at the Home is much asked for, and does all that it claims to do, but as most of it is given away, the revenue derived therefrom is exceedingly small. A box will be sent to anyone making application. Father Holland offered the Holy Sacrifice last Sunday, the solemrity of St. Joseph, for the benefactors of the Home, living and dead.

ILLNESS OF PASTOR OF NOTRE DAME.

News has come to us of the seven illness at the Hotel Dieu of the Rev Abbe Troie, pastor of Notre Dam Church. Heart trouble is given as the cause. We express the sincer hope of a speedy recovery.

CITY IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE.

A deputation consisting of Dr. Leigh R. Gregor, of the McGill Arts Faculty, and Dr. Albert Lesage, La-val, waited upon the Catholic School Commissioners in order to interest them in their newly founded association, the "City Improvement League of Montreal." The objects of this league, which are worthy of serious consideration for obvious reasons, are to make the city cleaner and more beautiful, and to instill into the young a proper idea of good citizenship. The board was most cordial and promised these gentlemen their co-operation. The delemissioners in order to interes

gates stated that the league would be representative of the entire city as far as possible, and hoped with the hearty co-operation of the teachthe hearty co-operation of the teachers to be able to establish branches in each school, these being in charge of the boys themselves. Circulars will be issued and lectures given all tending to enlighten the scholars upon their duties as citizens. This movement had its inception in the Women's Club.

The Delamation of Ireland. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in

eplying to the toast of his the annual dinner of the members of the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin protested against the campaign carried on, in the interests of party, for the defamation of Ireland. As Mr. Birrell and Mr. John Redmond showed in the debate on Tuesmond showed in the debate on Tues-day, there are deep-seated causes of discontent which beget unhappy con-ditions in certain parts of that coun-try, and until they are removed tran-quillity will not prevail. But the traducers care little about the true state of affairs. Their ambition is to serve their party at any cost. Certraducers care little about the the state of affairs. Their ambition is to serve their party at any cost. Certain Irishmen who expect to profit politically or otherwise by the campaign take a leading part in keeping it up. Pamphlets are published lor the purpose of proving that the natives of the Greer. Isle are much more wicked and more terrible than any other human beings on the face of the globe. Funds are subscribed to circulate the pamphlets and newspaper editors most willingly receive and publish the stories thus retailed. Party orators in search of a subject find the tales convenient, and wax eloquent on the necessity of coercion. So the legend grows and the Impression is duly produced in some quarters that Ireland is in a bad way under the Liberal Government. Games of that sort are the ugliest, the most dispicable features of politics.

THE TRUE WITNESS is printed and published at 316 Lagauchetiere street west. Montreal, Can., by Mr. G. Plunkett Magan.

Thro Men's Retres

Any body

The

in a commo large body o pose religiou ens and a st veyed. Cons thousand me services of r the God in with an imp as occurring, each night of a lesson to t skeptics and a true demoi men who ha the Lenten the Lenten arranged for It is not alc rish that suc taken; there in progress, various other tended by largerye to demy serve to dem er to the fi Montreal. T is one of the the continent there is an a

Father Barrer at St. Par er at St. Parvices to the inican has beddirect appears white erful impress those fortunheard him. If a man to his incorety and a man to his sincerely and ing told in old truths, o times overlook bustle that is the world, but matter wis swiftly or significant considerable con serious consid

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affairs of the attains of the time for the a knew what ex The worst sin an experience not acquainted aware of the of every big of in London, in New York, in In every big tion. But Gathis banquet, and the control of t