

PROTESTANT CONTROVERSY.

BY A PROTESTANT MINISTER.

XXI. I said in my last paper that in my next I would examine an extraordinary statement of Dean Hodges, in his fourth lecture.

The statement is extraordinary, not as being uncommon, but as being extraordinarily ridiculous. It implies an absolute ignorance of a fundamental doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church. Yet such ignorance is so nearly universal among Protestants, that it realizes the paradox of being at once extraordinary and ordinary.

The Inquisition, we know, was soon extended to America. Was this in order to coerce the natives into Christianity? So far from that in 1538 even the baptized Indians were forever exempted from its authority.

The position which the Inquisition in Spain took was this, as might be expected from the Dominican influence in it. The Pope can not give what he does not have. As Alexander VI. has explained, he has no authority over the unbelievers. No one, on pain of excommunication, is to coerce them, enslave them, despoil them, or infringe on the authorities of their princes.

And yet, after this emphatic expression of inquisitorial opinion that the unbaptized are not subject to the Church, Dr. Hodges, with delightful simplicity, assures us that the Inquisition in Spain was primarily set up for use against Jews and Moors!

But our culprit has been cooling his heels too long outside the court. Let us now have him in. We will not try him except in presence. The culprit, of course, is not the Dean, but the proposition.

Dr. Hodges says: "The bigots sought new victims. They found them in the heretics. Heresy must next be driven out of Spain. The Inquisition which had been invented for use against Mohammedans and Jews, was now turned against the Christians."

FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

Second Sunday after Epiphany.

LESSONS CONTAINED IN THIS DAY'S GOSPEL.

"And the wine failing, the mother of Jesus said to Him, they have no wine." (John 2:3)

In the gospel of today, dear brethren, we see our Divine Lord and His blessed Mother taking their places at a festive board. There must, indeed, have been weighty considerations to induce them to so truly the case. The fathers of the church assert that Jesus honored the marriage feast by His presence, to sanctify the holy state of matrimony.

It was at a marriage feast that our Lord began the series of His glorious miracles. "Six water pots of stone" are standing empty in the banquet hall. Jesus said to the waiters: "Fill the water pots with water," and they filled them up to the brim.

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HOW THE BLESSED SACRAMENT WAS SAVED.

During a flood in Patagonia in the part of that country where there are Catholic missions served by the Salesian Fathers, a great number of lives were lost, and many thrilling incidents occurred.

A letter from one of the missionaries describes how, during the inundations in one place, the Blessed Sacrament was saved.

Whilst Father Aceto was busily occupied in directing the work of rescue, he did not notice that the church which had been the last place to be flooded, threatened to give way and bury in its ruins the Blessed Sacrament.

But Brother Antony Patriarca saw the danger, and as it was impossible at the time to acquaint the superior—the only priest in Guardia Pringles—of the fact, he bravely made his way through the breast high water in the church to the altar, unattended of the risk he ran, and reverently extracting the pyx containing the consecrated Hosts from the tabernacle, he carried it to the hillside.

There a small but was improvised, which became the dwelling place of our Divine Lord. This humble and primitive chapel was the centre of attraction for the refugees on the hillside, and therein Father Aceto offered up the holy Sacrifice of the Mass and administered the sacraments every day for some weeks.

You have read of the cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and you should have perfect confidence in its merit. It will do you good. Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial, a medicine that will give immediate relief, and is a sure cure for all summer complaints.

Cucumbers and melons are "forbidden fruit" to many persons so constituted that the least indulgence is followed by attacks of cholera, dysentery, griping, &c. These persons are not aware that they can indulge to their hearts content if they have on hand a bottle of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial, a medicine that will give immediate relief, and is a sure cure for all summer complaints.

Yes, honor the Blessed Virgin in the trials and tribulations of life, by the unwavering confidence in the power of her intercession, flee to her for assistance with the trust of a good child in his loving mother, and, certainly, divine assistance will be yours. Through her powerful intercession with her Divine Son, she will either take the cross from you, or if this be not beneficial to your soul, she will procure you a great blessing, namely, heavenly consolation and graces sufficient, that by patience, you sanctify your trials, and thus make them an abounding source of eternal reward in Heaven. Amen

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