

in degrading superstition, as they are not possessed of the Holy Scriptures, nor permitted to hear the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Many of our readers will feel intense interest in the following, compiled from the best authorities:

Estimate of Roman Catholics in 1855.

Rome and the Papal States.....	3,000,000
Italian States—Tuscany, Modena, Parma.....	2,750,000
Naples and Sicily.....	8,750,000
Sardinia.....	5,000,000
Austrian Empire—German States	11,000,000
Hungary.....	10,000,000
Italy	5,000,000
Poland.....	4,000,000
Spain.....	14,000,000
Portugal.....	3,500,000
France	33,000,000
Belgium and Holland.....	4,500,000
Prussia	6,000,000
Switzerland.....	1,000,000
Russian Empire.....	2,000,000
Great Britain and Ireland.....	5,000,000
Turkish Empire.....	3,000,000
South American States.....	29,000,000
North America and Canada.....	2,500,000
India and China.....	3,000,000
West Indies and Hayti.....	2,500,000

Total Roman Catholics in the World..... 159,000,000

Popery in Rome.—Rome, as the city of “His Holiness,” with the whole “States of the Church,” might be expected to exhibit Popery in its own entire perfection. This is the case, for no other form of religion is tolerated, except recently for a small congregation of American Protestants and another of English. But in that beautiful country the people are the most ignorant, degraded, and immoral of any in Europe. All this is the consequence of the domination of the priests, of whom there are reckoned about 3,500, besides monks and nuns, in the city of Rome.

As to the Pope himself, that once terrible Pontiff is looked upon, as a temporal prince, with absolute contempt by all the sovereigns of Europe, while many of them acknowledge his spiritual authority, chiefly from reasons of state policy, to secure the influence of the priesthood in support of their Governments.

Popery in Naples.—Romanism, in many of its most disgusting forms of superstition, priestcraft, and impurity, prevails in this kingdom; while it has twenty archbishops, 128 bishops, and a vast army of priests. It is a proverb regarding the capital, that “Naples is a paradise inhabited by devils.” It is said, “The number of priests, monks, fiddlers, lawyers, nobility, footmen, and lazzaroni or vag bonds, is immense; the ecclesiastics alone amounting to more than 12,000, and the lazzaroni to above 30,000, in the city. Bigotry and intolerance reign in the kingdom of Naples; but some of the Neapolitans are eagerly desiring the Holy Scriptures, and to learn the true nature of Christianity.

Popery in Spain.—Romanism reigns in its perfect spirit of bigotry and intolerance in Spain. In its branch of the hierarchy there are reckoned to be 16 archbishops, including eight in the colonies, 46 bishops and 86,500 inferior priests, 2,705 incuisitors, 61,617 monks, 32,500 nuns, besides numerous other ecclesiastical officials. But the clergy are reported to be remarkably unlearned, and dissolute in their lives; inveterately hostile to the Scriptures, which are not permitted to be circulated in the country, while the people are sunk in ignorance and superstition. Still, some gleams of heavenly light are breaking upon the Spaniards, and in their recent revolutions there have been public cries for liberty in religion, and for the circulation of the Bible.

Popery in Portugal.—Popish policy reigns also in this country, where it is almost as intolerant as in Spain. Here the priesthood consists of two archbishops and