

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY A PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN. CCL.

As we have seen, we have two authorities opposed to each other, as to "the endless war fostered or incited" by the Papacy, especially during the century and a half following Luther's breach with Rome...

Let us come now to the Reformation conflicts proper, from 1517 to 1648. Of course, if the name decides the controversy, the matter is soon settled. This Boston gentleman, whoever he may be, would not for a moment dream of putting himself in the balance with Henry Hallam, whose profound knowledge and eminent abilities would make it ludicrous for either of us to set his authority in competition with him...

However, Hallam's statement bears ample witness to itself. The Catholic Church had been in possession from the beginning. She had prevailed against all competitors, and had become a constituent of European society, in every fibre...

The methods of self-defense, of course, would be those approved by the age, which was not one of any great sensitiveness to human suffering, as is shown by its criminal jurisprudence, which, indeed, was hardly mitigated down to 1750, or in England, down to 1820...

Hallam, therefore, seems wholly justified in insisting that we have no right to reproach Catholic Europe with any special intensity of intolerance, since she was warmly defending herself against impending annihilation...

This, of course, does not mean that there might not have been particular Catholic nations that were extremely intolerant. Spain certainly was. She could hardly have been otherwise...

It does not seem to have been so particularly heresy that Spain hated as revolt. This appears in the extraordinary lenty shown by the Holy Office towards the Almorabros...

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outrage on the Indians were inflicted by the plebeian Spaniards, and their most strenuous protectors were the Kings, the Bishops, and the Abbots, and above all the Dominican superiors. At home also, as I have said once before, it is not altogether fantastic to describe the history of the Spanish Inquisition as that of a long conflict between Mongoloid callousness and Aryan humanity...

The persecutions of Protestants in the Netherlands, therefore, to which the Flemish Catholics were so strongly repugnant, were distinctly Spanish. Mary Tudor's burnings in England, also, though but a mere trifle compared with Belgium, were largely prompted by her Spanish descent or connections...

Spain was much more disposed to prompt than to be prompted in such matters, indeed, the first century of the Spanish Inquisition in one long wrangle with the Popes, and one long defiance or evasion of their continual endeavors to moderate its suspicious vindictiveness towards the baptized Jews and Moors...

As Mr. Hallam signifies, the Protestants would have made out a much better case for themselves if they had said what they certainly ought to have said: "We acknowledge that the Catholic Church has transmitted the substance of Christian faith and morals to the present. Yet we can not esteem her infallible in such a sense as that we do not view our interpretations of various points of doctrine and worship as nearer to the apostolic mind than those now prevailing. At all events our purposes are not anarchical or malicious, and our speech is not that of contemptuous violence..."

I do not say that this apostolic moderation of speech would have been much regarded, in the temper of that age. Very likely not. Yet it would have felicitously transformed the whole future history of Germany.

Moreover, this is the impression of early Protestantism in which most Protestants have grown up. It is that—some allowance for fanatical aberrations—to which Merle D'Aubigne's descriptions are accommodated. And what belief have we gained from Foxe but that of mid-sanctity, pitilessly exterminated by a ruthless Queen?

Let us next consider the reality. We have done so before, but it takes many repetitions to get it abidingly into our heads. CHARLES C. STARBUCK, Andover, Miss.

original and proper signification. "Son support the old age of thy father and grieve him not in his life. And if his understanding fail have patience with him and despise him not when thou art in thy strength for the relieving of the father shall not be forgotten."—Catholic Universe.

FIVE-MINUTE SERMON

Second Sunday After Easter. THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

For you were as sheep going astray; but you are now converted to the pastor and bishop of your soul. (1st. Peter II. 25)

To-day is the Sunday of the Good Shepherd, and the Church sings in joyful strains: "The Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for His sheep, yes, who was contented even to die for His flock, the Good Shepherd is risen again—Alleluia!" It is in this tender, loving, and to us, most winning character that our Lord presents Himself in the Gospel of to-day...

But it is not enough to believe; we must also hear His voice. How have we done that in the past? Have we hearkened to His voice as He spoke to us through the offices of the Church...

But there are also many, far too many, who have not listened to the voice of Jesus, as He calls them in this Blessed Easter-tide. Poor, wayward sheep, they still wander in paths of their own choosing...

By her numberless acts of intercession our Blessed Lady is but fulfilling a part of her great work in the kingdom of her divine Son. If God promises to hear our poor prayers when offered in Jesus' Name what will He not grant to her prayers who is the Mother of Jesus?

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God delights in joy; it is one of the most certain means to secure his favors. But in order to rejoice in the Lord the soul must be purified, for the joy which pleases God must be that of a good conscience.

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IMITATION OF CHRIST.

OF THE DIFFERENT NOTIONS OF NATURE AND GRACE. But grace studieth the mortification of her own self, resisting sensuality, seeking to be subject, coveting to be overcome, almighty not at following her own liberty, loveth to be kept under discipline, and desireth not to have the command over any one, but under God ever to live, stand and be; and for God's sake is ever ready humbly to bow down herself under all human creatures.

Nature laboureth for her own interest and considereth what gain she may reap from another: But Grace considereth not what may be advantageous and profitable to herself, but rather what may be profitable to many.

Nature willingly receiveth honor and respect. But Grace faithfully attributeth all honor and glory to God.

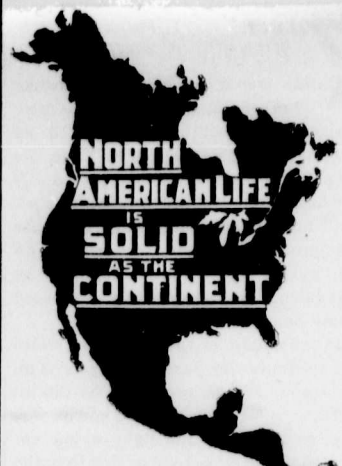
TRIFLING WITH FAITH.

Too many Catholics hold their faith too lightly, and do not appreciate at anything like its true value this most precious of all gifts. They are proud of being Catholics, ready to boast of being Catholic, ready sometimes to fight for their faith, when they do not show its influence on their lives. They regard it as a kind of inheritance come down from a long line of ancestors who preserved it amid a thousand trials and persecutions, and which, as a matter of course, they are to transmit unscathed to future generations.

But here is the fallacy—it is no heirloom, entirely at their behest and under their control. It is a precious gift from the garden of God, His gift to man, that will live in this cold world of ours only by constant care, that can thrive and blossom only by the most zealous and anxious watchfulness. Those who are ever ready to criticize the Church and its teachings, to arraign priest, Bishop, and even the Vicar of Christ himself before the court of their judgment, are playing a dangerous game. Their faith is in danger.

Men live and die, but the Church remains. You cannot sever faith from the Church. Cut off from the Church, faith is lost in this land, where vice and error in every form and under every seductive guise menace our faith.

Every parent should implant into the heart of his children a love for the faith and a high idea of its value that through life they may look upon the very idea of losing it as the greatest of perils. They should instil it into their mind that loyalty to the constituted authorities, above all, to the Vicar of Christ, is one of the greatest guarantees of faith.



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CHATTS WITH YOUNG

Law Wallace and Whitcomb

It is worthy of note that the Indians who have distinguished themselves in the realm of literature have by and by a college which is wholly without a colleague, said the South Bend Tribune. Gen. Lew Wallace, historical and James Whitcomb Riley, whose people's poet, have attained positions in the literary world that institutions of learning that ranked of Gen. Wallace had but two years of school had, although his father passed years. He was averse to the school room, preferring rather to be in the fields and forests entertaining novel and sports in that way. He entered Yale, but his stay was brief, value to him as affording a intellectual culture. Riley, that he never had any that of grammar, would adviser or a correctly pages were he to meet them face the street.

The Opportunity—The trouble with us is too high and too far a chance. We forget that for roses, we trample on our feet. We are blind to blessings near us because looking so far away for the thing depends upon the mind to see opportunities. That can see the chance, determination of every possibility, rather than the chance good. You may be sure there is where, not very far from you, make a name for himself as a success. There are people who would get a substitute education out of the time that can see the chance, determination of every possibility, rather than the chance good.

You think that an opportunity is something usual; but the fact is, there is something above everything you are doing you do it: it does not mean it is—O. S. M. in Success.

Some Helpful Thoughts Every morning, by a simple prayer—by that hour of meditation which difficult when we do not would open our hearts we open a window to the God would put there for sweet, calm joy which soul, causes it to feel less sorrow, and makes it a desire to overflow in kindness.

There is always some mind of a person who and love of reading. He may be his pretensions talent, the chances are he is a more cultivated educated, and more the people whose talk is less.

Education is the leading to what is best, and the best out of them. John The real test of our wisdom is not so much the readiness to make a sale of others. The gentleman has said, is flowering of a gentle, under the counter is but covers selfishness and much danger makes resolute.

It is a mistake, grown to measure service by the task whereon it. Quantity can never be quality. The most products of earth is the also the smallest. Likewise the most value one may render is possibly in the faithful thing in itself small an

Cultivate the habit. Regard your blessing over, be thankful for pay the blessing may be you will gratefully receive the cross which is ir while it is not given to us, our faith leans day in the Heavenly shall see and understand. Strive, hope, venture be confident of ultimate

Confidence is an aid optimist usually wins. does not go slow be arise. Hope nerves the victory.

You Owe it to Y To manifest an interest or amuse her To seek her comfort Not to forget that and wrinkled, she things.

To make her frequent and to be sure that private and tasteful. To remember that at heart so far as delusions are concerned. To give her your fun never to do anything she would disapprove.

To make her a part different ages will pleasures and recreation To lift all the bur