

## CATHOLIC REVERENCE COMMENDED

"If there is one thing that we Protestants can learn from the Catholics it is reverence for the Church.

To the Catholic, the Church is a sacred place, the house of God — the place where the believer meets his God. How different our Protestant feeling! Theoretically, the church is the house of God, and we admit that it is the place where one should meet God. Practically, it is the meeting place of a religious organization — the place where the varied activities centre — the place not so much of worship as of work. The auditorium itself, merely one of the various rooms of the building, is the place where one goes twice a week to hear a man. Whether we admit it or not, this is the way the church is very largely regarded. It must be so. If we felt the sacredness of the place as do the Catholics, if the church was for each one of us the place where one meets God, surely we would not permit socials and entertainments, and all sorts of meetings to be held in the room set apart for worship! Surely we would not see the whispering and running about that is so often seen there! And may it not be added — if we feel thus about the church as a place of worship would we feel differently about our attendance there on the Sabbath?"

As a matter of fact the great difference between the Catholic and Protestant church edifice is that Jesus Christ, Our God and our Saviour, is really and truly present on our altars. Without this Divine Presence a Catholic church would be as bare and empty as a Protestant church, and there would be little of that deep reverence which the Baptist paper now notes and commends.

