

these powers, so far as they have any religious creed at all, are Roman Catholic.

AMERICAN TENDENCIES.

THE President of the United States and a vast array of the most august and learned citizens of America were present at the 250th anniversary of the foundation of HARVARD UNIVERSITY. We select two choice items showing the trend of the best thought of America. The first is from the Harvard Oration by JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL:—

"We have to deal with a time when the belief seems to be spreading that truth not only can, but should be settled by a show of hands rather than by a count of heads, and that one man is as good as another for all purposes—as, indeed, he is till a real man is needed; with a time when the press is more potent for good or for evil than ever any human agency was before, and yet is controlled more than ever before by its interests as a business than by its sense of duty as a teacher, giving news instead of intelligence; with a time when divers and strange doctrines touching the greatest human interests are allowed to run about unmuzzled in greater number and variety than ever before since the reformation passed into its stage of putrefactive fermentation; with a time when the idols of the market place are more devoutly worshiped than ever Diana of the Ephesians was; when the electric telegraph, by making public opinion simultaneous, is also making it liable to those delusions, panics, and gregarious impulses which transform otherwise reasonable men into a mob; and when, above all, the better mind of the country is said to be growing more and more alienated from the highest of all sciences and services, the government of it."

The next is from the Harvard Poem by Dr. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES. The allusions to Prelacy, Priestcraft and Andover are clear:—

"Let not the miter England's prelate wears,
Next to the crown, whose regal pomp it shares,
Though low before it courtly Christians bow,
Leave its red mark on younger England's brow.
We love, we honor the maternal dame,
But let her priesthood wear a modest name,
While through the waters of the Pilgrim bay
A new-born "Mayflower" shows her keels the way,
Too old grew Britain for her mother's beads—
Must we be necklaced with her children's creeds?
Welcome alike in surplice or in gown
The loyal lieges of the Heavenly Crown!
We greet with cheerful, not submissive, mien,
A sister Church, but not a mitered Queen!"

THE greater a man is, the less he necessarily thinks of himself.

THE LICK TELESCOPE.

PASSENCERS out of Boston on the Boston and Albany Railroad may have noticed just across the Charles River, at the first bridge out of the city and opposite Cottage Farm Station, a handsome residence, and back of it a low, round-topped observatory, and outside, near it, a long white model of a telescope, and in the same yard, a two-story brick building. The building is the factory where the great Russian telescope was made, as well as many others also famous, and where work is now going on for the Lick telescope, which will be the largest in the world.

Of the two discs of glass, each one yard in diameter, for the Lick telescope, the flint glass has been made a long time, but the crown glass, although ordered five years ago, was only received by the Clarks in September last. It was made after repeated trials and failures, at an establishment near Paris, the only one that could get out such a piece of work. Each glass cost \$25,000 in the rough, and they cannot be finished very soon.

At first machinery could do a little rough grinding, but for months the bare hand only has been used in applying the polishing substance, which is rough. The glasses have now reached a stage where the removal of a small portion of the surface in the wrong place would ruin them. They are frequently tested, set in a circular iron frame called a cell. No instruments can be used for the test, but the long experience of the Clarks has given them a judgment which is unerring.

Very soon the tests will be made a the model of the telescope outside the building. This model is of the size of the proposed Lick telescope, and is fifty-seven feet long. These two lenses are set six inches apart in their iron frame, which has openings to allow of the glasses being properly cleaned on each side. Lenses and frame together weigh over seven hundred pounds.

While everything now appears to be perfect, some slight defect in the glass that has not yet appeared, or any accident, may render useless all the labor of months. When completed, the great telescope will be placed in the observatory on Mt. Hamilton, in Santa Clara county, Cal. Mr. James Lick left \$700,000 in his will for the purpose of constructing the necessary buildings and "for a telescope superior to and more powerful than any yet made."

An astronomer has stated that this telescope will bring the moon, 240,000 miles distant,