HOW ELIZABETH DIED

Monsignor Benson contributes to the Catholic Truth Press a paper in which he compares the death bed of Queen Mary, the Catholic, with that of her Sister Queen Elizabeth, the Protestant. Mgr. Benson has been at considerable pains to collect material for his paper from accounts written by those who witnessed the last hours of both Mary and Elizabeth. The latter Queen Elizabeth, it is learned, was very tenacious of a piece of gold which, rumor said, had by its peculiar virtues enabled an old Welsh lady to live to the age of one

hundred and twenty.

A very superstitious woman, the
Queen had particularly requested
that this stone should be sent to her,
so that she could wear it by night and day. As soon, in 1603, as she began to wear the piece of gold constantly, she became a sick woman. She told her companion, Lady Scrope that at night she was wont to dream that her body was being consumed in a fire the flames of which she de-

Again, when stricken with the illness which was finally to carry her off, she requested her women to bring her, not the untruthful looking glass a contrivance with which her attendants used to flatter her, but a true speaking or natural one which should reflect her face as it really was.
When finally she beheld herself as When finally she beheld herself as she was, she began to storm at her courtiers for having told her that she had remained so beautiful, and her language was such, and so characteristic that many of her women durst not appear. She refused at last to lie upon her bed, but lay prone upon many cushions on the uncarpeted floor. A physician who was present described her as having complained of a great heat in her complained of a great heat in her stomach and a continual thirst which obliged her constantly to drink

Her conscience began, as the dark-ness closed in, to smite her heavily and she constantly recurred in her wanderings to the ill-fated Arabella Stuart, Mary Stuart and Lady Jane Grey. Admiral Howard came and Grey. Admiral Howard came and knelt beside her as she lay sullen and unresigned among her cushions. From him, a prime favorite, she took a spoonful of broth, but swore her usual oaths when he advised her to go to bed. If (she said) the Admiral had seen in his bed what she did when in hers, he would not persuade her to go there. To Cecil, her min-ister, she cried out once that she felt as if tied with a chain of iron about

her neck. For twenty four hours, once, she would not speak a single world, but lay with her finger in her mouth. When they raised her another time, her ladies found a playing card—the queen of hearts—with a nail of iron knocked through the forehead. An attendant lady went out once to take the fresh air, and certain that she saw the dying Queen a few galleries in front of her, she hurried forward when the figure vanished. The Queen had, of course, not left her chamber, but there was an air of ghostly melancholy about Richmond Palace which communicated itself to all the country.

When her own appointed Archishop of Canterbury and other prelates came to visit her and pray with her, in the true style of a daughter of King Henry, she rated them bid-ding them be off and packing, saying she was no atheist but knew full well they were but hedge priests. One cannot (says Father Benson, himself the son of an Archbishop of Canterbury) help wondering whether she then remembered the priests whom she had caused to be disembowelled because they had differed from her right to Private Jude At clast, however, she allowed the Archbishop to approach her and say the appointed prayers for those who were sick unto death. There was no word of repentance or of her desire for God's pardon; she received no Sacrament although the bystanders affected to be rejoiced at the way the half-conscious woman listened to the mumbling of the chaplains' prayers. It was, they said, "a Christian and a comfortable end."

to the melancholy droning of these mock-ministers, the soul of Elizabeth passed at 3 o'clock in the morning. As the chronicler of the day says made no will, neither gave anything away, so that they which come after find a well-furnished jewel-house and a rich wardrobe of more than two thousand gowns with all things

Monsignor Benson, who is an indubitable Englishman by all his origins, admits that Elizabeth's halfsister Queen Mary (Bloody Mary) proved a harsh sovereign towards se who denied her own faith. It is true, however, that she did not exceed her legal limitations, he says in effect. The daughter of Queen Catherine of Aragon died a far different death from the daughter of Anne Boleyn. During her last illness she confessed herself repeatedly and com-municated most devoutly, as the chronicler tells us. Relying on her sister's promise that she would prethe Catholic Faith, Mary negserve the Catholic Faith, Mary neg-lected to name any other successor but Elizabeth who had also protested her Catholicity by word and deed during the last years of her sister's reign. Elizabeth was indeed crowned with Catholic rites and by a Catholic Bishop, although immediately after that ceremony, she started to re-establish the principles of the Reformation. Nothing of such treachery did Queen Mary dream as on the last day of her life, while attending Mass, she took her place at the Com-

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munion Table, an act which, indeed proved her last in life for she expired before the Mass was over. Her will which left large sums to the poor, to religious and educational houses, was disregarded by Elizabeth and lay in obscurity during three hundred

C. L. C. A., TORONTO

The annual elections of the Catholic Laymen's Culture Association, were held in St. Mary's Clubhouse, on Tuesday evening, the 13th, inst., and resulted as follows: President, Thos. H. Gowe; Vice-President, J. H. Strath : Sect.-Treasurer, J. K. Von-Schossen; Cor. Sect., J. Clement; Librarian, Francis Paquette; Orator, Jos. Cherrier, Musical Director, T. Scanlon; Publicity Director, H. Mulvogue.

The above organization meets very second Tuesday evening in St. Mary's Clubhouse, Bathurst and Adelaide Sts.; and is for the purpose of assisting young men to improve themselves morally and mentally. It has adopted as its slogan: "Wake has adopted as its slogan : Up Catholic Men!"

A PERMANENT ISSUE

When the late Hon. John Haggart was soliciting the renewed support of the electors of South Lanark during the campaign of 1911, it was suggested to him by the Conservative party organizers that speakers should be sent into his riding to support the anti-reciprocity cause. Now Haggart has represented South Lanark for forty years, and his personal strength made Liberal oppostion of little avail. When suggestion of outside speakers was broached to him he drawled in reply:

"Well, I don't know that it would do much good. You had better use your speakers elsewhere. I want to tell you that reciprocity is not an issue in the county of South Lanark. The only issue we have haddthere for forty years is "The Battle of the Boyne!"—Toronto Saturday Night.

McManus—At Windsor, Ont., on December, 27, 1913, John McManus, aged sixty-one years. May his soul rest in peace !

DOWNEY-At Seaforth, Ont., on January 6, 1913, Mr. John Michael Downey, aged sixty eight years. May his soul rest in peace!

Young-In Galt, Ont., January 3rd, 1914, Mrs. James Young, aged seventy-six. Interment in Ayton, Ont. May her soul rest in peace!

KENNY—At Navan, Ontario, Jan. 8, 1914, Catherine Kenny, native of County Tipperary. Ireland, aged eighty-nine years. May her soul rest in peace!

IN A SPANISH CHURCH

An appreciative English woman, with a wide experience of Spain and its people, gives this glimpse into a Spanish church, in a book recently published:

In Spain, the House of Our Father the House of God—is in the true sense of the word the home of the people. All over the peninsula this may be seen. . . I can imagine no more beautiful sight than one of the great dark churches of Spain on a week-day, with its silent inhabit-ants scattered about here and there, comfortable end."

These mumbled prayers were all that could be done for the dying heroine of the Reformed Church, and the rest. And then on Sunday morning at a crowded Mass—how exquisite is the courtesy shown from one to another, without the least re-

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW

How swift they go,
Life's many years,
With their winds of woe
And their storms of tears,
And their darkest of nights whose shadowy slopes
Are lit with the flashes of starriest hopes
And their susshiny days in whose calm heavens
loom
The clouds of the tempest the shadows of the
gloom?

And, ah! we pray
With a grief so drear,
That the years may stay
When their graves are near;
Tho'h the brows of To-morrows be radiant and
thight,
With love and with beauty, with life and with light,
The dead hearts of Yesterdays, cold on the bier,
To the hearts that survive them, are evermore dear.

For the hearts so true
To each Old Year cleaves;
Tho' the hand of the New
Flowery garlands weaves,
But the flowers of the future, tho' fragrant and fair,
With the past's withered leaflets may never compare;
For dear is each deaf leaf—and dearer each thorn—
In the wreaths which the brows of our past years have
worn.

Yea! men will cling
With a love to the last,
And wildly fling
Their arms round their past!

s the vine that clings to the oak that falls, is the ivy twines round the crumbled walls : as the ivy twines round the crumbled walls; for the dust of the past some hearts higher prize Than the stars that flash out from the future's bright skies.

And what not so? The old, old years, They knew and they know, All our hopes and fears; We walked by their side, and we told them each And they kissed off our tears while they whispered relief;

Let the New Year sing
At the Old Year's grave;
Will the New Year bring
What the Old Year gave?
And his brown is wreathed with many a rose:
But how many thorns do the roses conceal
Which the roses, when whithered, shall soon
reveal?

reveal?

Let the New Year smile
When the Old Year dies;
In how short a while
Shall the smiles be sighs?
Yea! Stranger-Year, thou hast many a charm,
And thy face is fair and thy greeting warm,
But, dearer than thou—in his shoud of snows—
Is the furrowed face of the Year that goes.

Yea! bright New Year,
O'er all the earth,
With song and cheer,
They will hail thy birth;
They will trust thy words in single hour,
They will lust thy words in single hour,
They will love thy face, they will laud thy power;
For the New has charms which the Old has not,
And the stranger's face makes the Friend's forgot,

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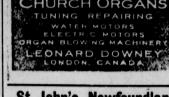
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