

Christian schools that are most needed? They are, indeed, an indispensable element in the maintenance of Christian faith in the rising generation. But what would schools avail if we had not ingenuous youth to frequent them? Is it hospitals and asylums that are most needed? They are, indeed, potent factors in the alleviation of suffering humanity, and are the glory of our Christian civilization. But they do not constitute the greatest want of times. All these things are but a means to an end. What the Church needs is men—men who place conscience before expediency, who place principle above popularity; men who are guided in their conduct by a solemn sense of duty rather than by self-interest. Above all, we need men of deep religious convictions, and who are ready to uphold these principles in the face of obloquy and adverse criticism. But these qualities of mind and heart require no small degree of force and character."

Back to the Fold.

It is an historical fact that the true faith was taken by force from the people of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. There is also ample evidence to show that one of the last heroes who fought and died for the faith was a Carmelite friar, one Father Elias who was Provincial-Prior in his unhappy country. Thank God! to-day the Scandinavian people are again returning to the true Church. Referring to this fact the *London Tablet* gives some interesting facts, saying among other things:

Christian II., who has been called "the Nero of the North," and Gustavus Vase, played the chief part in robbing the peoples of these countries of that ancient Catholic faith which they had inherited from long generations of ancestors. The goods of the

churches, bishoprics and monasteries, were plundered, as in England. But the Catholic religion appeared to have died out far more completely there than in England. In fact, it is only within quite the last few years that religious freedom and toleration for the Catholic Church has been legally established; and although the numbers of Catholics had sunk down to a very low ebb—merely a few thousand—yet, once released from her fetters, the Church has made truly gratifying progress within the last five years. One of the most interesting spots in the history of Norse Christianity is the ancient town of Trondhjen, once the seat of a Catholic archbishopric, and a famous place of pilgrimage, as containing the shrine of the national patron, St. Olaf, the King. Its ancient Cathedral still remains, though, of course, in Protestant hands. The small handful of Catholics, nearly all poor people, have hitherto had to worship in a little chapel attached to a hospital. The energetic and zealous Vicar-Apostolic, Bishop Fallize, is now taking steps to erect at last a Catholic church in this ancient see, and has appointed one of his priests, Father Timmers, to raise the necessary funds for the purpose."

When we find ourselves in spiritual desolation, let us unite our suffering to that of the Heart of Jesus in the Garden of Olives.—St. Alphonsus Liguori.

An eternal ground of thanksgiving is to be found in the righteousness of God, in the consciousness that under all human life there is a foundation which no man can disturb; and that life is so organized that no man can be happy, restful, or prosperous in doing evil; that at every turn he is smitten with penalties, and that real happiness and satisfaction are bound eternally to right thinking and right acting.