

all sources, three hundred and twenty thousand German dollars for their support, or about eighteen American dollars per member. Taking this as the proportionate rate, the Methodists would raise over twenty millions for foreign missions every year; the Baptists over nineteen millions; the Presbyterians over ten millions; the Congregationalists over four millions; the Episcopalians over three millions; the Dutch Reformed more than one million, equal to about eighty millions of dollars. Who will say that the members of these churches are poorer than those of the Moravian Church? and yet they do not raise on an average, one dollar per member! Well may we enquire, What are we doing to convert this world to Jesus Christ?

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The (Ecumenical Council was formally inaugurated on the 8th December, by Pío Nono in person, amid the booming of cannon and the pealing of bells from the towers of the 360 churches of Rome. The weather was most unfavourable, but the attendance at St. Peter's was, of course, immense. The procession occupied an hour in passing from the Papal palace into the church, and is represented by friendly eyes, as having been most imposing. 803 "fathers" are in attendance, or 135 more than at the Councils of Nice, Constantinople, and Ephesus put together. The opening ceremonies consisted in the celebration of the mass, a sermon by a Capuchin Bishop, the reception of the Bishops, the Allocution by the Pope, and certain chants,—all in Latin, and utterly unintelligible to the gaping crowd, if not to many of the "fathers" themselves, and lasting over eight hours! We do not wonder, therefore, at learning, that after so protracted a session, they adjourned for a month.

On the 6th January they met again, but up to the present writing little has been done beyond the appointment of Committees, and the issuing of a bull or two, one of which removes the ecclesiastical pains and penalties imposed by previous Councils for believing certain "damnable heresies," which infallible and unchangeable Mother Church now declares to be no heresy at all. Among other things it is now asserted that a good Roman Catholic may now believe what cost poor Galileo many a groan within the walls of the Holy Inquisition, viz., that the earth revolves round the sun! Who will deny after that, that the world "moves" in more senses than one?

The strictest secrecy is enjoined with regard to the doings of the Council, but a good deal has leaked out, and the *English Independent* declares "that the dignitaries are ranged in two hostile camps—the one led by Dr. Manning and the Archbishop of Malines, the other by Mgr. Dupanloup, behind whom are almost all the German, Portuguese, and Hungarian bishops, with one of his own country. The Infallible party are made up of Italian, French, Spanish, American, English, and Irish prelates. It is a great struggle against Jesuit supremacy, and the "order" are prepared to risk the Church itself rather than give up this point. The Bishop of Orleans is organizing his forces and preparing for a grand encounter, but the Pope has insured the defeat of the opponents of infallibility by laying down all the rules which are to guide the Council beforehand, and so arranging matters that nothing can be done without his permission. The Gallican and German party gnash their teeth at this, and furiously rage together. What will come of it all no soul can tell."