

PROTESTANTS ALL AT SEA.

A Protestant minister who had investigated the subject to discover what doctrines were held by Protestants, said:—Are Presbyterians Protestants? Yes. Then Protestants, as such, do not believe in Episcopacy. Are Independents Protestants? Yes. Then Protestants, as such, do not believe in any established line of ministry. Are Anabaptists Protestants? Yes. Then Protestants, as such, do not believe in Infant Baptism. Are Quakers Protestants? Yes. Then Protestants, as such, do not believe in any Sacraments. Are the Swiss Calvinists Protestants? Yes. Tehn Protestants, as such, do not believe in the Atonement. Are the new school of German Lutherans Protestants? Yes. Then Protestants, as such, do not believe in Our Lord's Divinity. We have now seen that of all the articles of the Apostles' Creed Protestants are only agreed in believing two, namely, the first, that there is one God; and the last, the Resurrection of the Body and the Life Everlasting. Nay, I might without any injustice go further. Socinians cannot be said really to hold the first article, because if they deny God the Son they clearly deny God the Father as Father; and Universalists do not hold the last clause because they deny the eternity of punishment which is implied in it. The Resurrection of the Body, then, is all that Protestants, as Protestants, of all sects and sorts agree in believing. I mean of matters contained in the Apostles' Creed and in the sense of that Creed.

This is in accord with the Protestant theory that it is right and duty of every one to interpret the Bible for himself and to frame his religion accordingly; hence, it is possible to have as many religions as there are members of the Protestant sects. On the other hand, the Catholic Church teaches that it is not in the power of every one to judge for himself, and that it is not allowed to interpret contrary to the Church's decision, or to the "unanimous consent of the Fathers." Unity is the test of truth. If each person received sufficient light to interpret the Book of God all would be agreed as to its meaning, whereas Protestants have differed from the very first on every point of doctrine. What is required, and what the Protestants do not possess, is an infallible authority to interpret the Scriptures for the whole human race.—Catholic Review.

Blunders and Transparent Sophistries.

These terms are not ours. They are the words in which the editor of the "Rock," a "Church of England newspaper," describes Archbishop Maclagan's rejoinder to his Eminence Cardinal Vaughan on the question of Anglican Orders. The language in which the wellknown champion of Protestantism speaks of his "Right Rev. Father" is so terse and so much to the point that we cannot forbear quoting it: "If we had not seen his letter in the York Diocesan Magazine, addressed 'Ad Clerum,' we should have thought even the Archbishop of York incapable of obtaining ECLAT under false pretences; but when a man can deliberately sign a document so full of elementary blunders and transparent sophistries as the 'answer' to the Pope's letter is conclusively shown to be in a valuable paper which we publish this week, and when a man can calmly publish an official statement rejoicing in the unanimous acceptance of this precious 'answer,' which has fallen absolutely flat so far as the general public is concerned, while it has caused such distress and dismay in a large section of the Church, what we are told a considerable number of one of the most influential and wealthy congregations in London have

absolutely more than whispered the possibility of succession, we are not surprised at anything he does." Evidently Archbishop Maclagan would have enough to do if he only tried to answer the arguments of his own co-religionists, apart from the hopeless task of replying to Father Breen, O.S.B., and his other Catholic critics.—Catholic Times.

Insulting the Mother of God.

A painful feature of Protestantism is the positive delight which many of those who profess it take in offering insults to the Mother of God. One of our correspondents, Mr. George Waterall, calls our attention to a shocking instance of this profanity, in which the Dean of Manchester prominently figured. At the recent Easter vestry meeting in connection with the Cathedral a Mr. Peever said it appeared that there was a proposal to erect images of the Blessed Virgin and Child on the restoration of the Cathedral. The Dean hotly denied that this was the case, declared that the sooner that notion was put aside the better, and stated that it was his intention to put up a statue of the Queen. The meeting seemed pleased with this disparagement of the Queen of Heaven in favour of an earthly ruler, and the Dean added to its good humour by characterising as "abominations" such practices as venerating the Blessed Virgin and believing in seven sacraments. We are sure that nobody can regard with greater horror than the lady who rules this realm the abuse of her name by pitting her against the Mother of the Redeemer, and in a spirit of sycophancy or of horrible hatred towards the Blessed Virgin tendering her the honour which is contemptuously refused to Mary. How, we may ask, can they expect favours from Christ who thus wantonly insult His Mother? — Catholic Times.

England's Idol Factory. The Gods of All Heathendom From Tokio to Timbuctoo Made in Birmingham.

London Pottery Gazette.

It has recently been discovered that there is in Birmingham, in the very centre of Christian England, a factory where idols are made for heathen nations! Many attempts have been made to obtain admission to the factory, but a strict watch is kept upon outsiders anxious to pry into the secret chambers where the heathen gods are made, and journalists especially are prevented from entering the works. A few facts were, however, to be gleaned concerning this extraordinary industry. Idols of all kinds are turned out, representing the gods of all heathen nations, from Tokio to Timbuctoo. The export trade to heathen countries is a fairly large one, although more gods are sent out to foreign dealers in curios in the bazaars of Cairo, Damascus, Colombo, etc., for sale to unsuspecting travelers anxious to take home some mementos of their stay abroad.

Hard on Methodism

[From a sermon at Atlanta by Sam Jones] "Now, I'm a Methodist because my father, my grandfather and my great-grandfather, clear back to Adam, were Methodists. I know Adam was a Methodist, because the first thing he did was to fall."

Simple Yet Comprehensive.

[From Kansas City Journal.] It is said that Mr. Amborn who died at Peabody last week, left instructions for an unostentatious funeral and a very humble monument with a simple inscription. How would this do: "Amborn—Amdead?"

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