

enthusiastic : to refuse popular arts of success, and to rely for growth on sober piety, solemn but simple rites, and fixed though unfashionable principles. The Romanists have grown by immigration, and by political intrigue, in a very alarming manner : but, they do very little as mere religionists, that is to say, by such measures as the Christian religion can in anywise justify. By God's blessing upon Apostolic labours, animated by such principles as I have endeavoured to illustrate, our Church has not only grown thrivingly during the last half century, multiplying her bishoprics to forty, and her parishes and stations to more than 3,000, but, a mighty influence has gone forth from her, which has greatly changed for the better the religious sentiments of thousands of pious men. The Prayer-Book is our great missionary, and supplies our "lack of service," as nothing else could do so well. In Virginia the Church was all but extinct at the beginning of the century : it grew rapidly under the Episcopate of Bishop Moore, and that of his successor, until the civil war. In Maryland, under the eminent prelate who still adorns that state and diocese, the number of the clergy has doubled, and there has been a great development of strength. The South and South-west are yet missionary ground, where the Church was never strong, and is now deplorably enfeebled : but there, also, the intelligence and culture of society gravitate to the Church. Under my truly great predecessor, Bishop de Lancey, a great diocese was developed, and my venerable friend, who is with me on this platform, could tell you how he came to Buffalo as a missionary to a few scattered Churchmen, 40 years ago, and how on last Easter day, under the roof of his own church, 1500 children were gathered, representing seven parish churches.

At the present crisis the spirit of our Church has been beautifully exhibited in her ministry to the greatest existing want of the nation, a restoration of harmony between the North and the South. Unity is the instinct of Churchmen, as division is necessarily that of all sectarianism. Hence, it has pleased God to give us the foremost place as peacemakers. Great as are our failings, and great as we cordially acknowledge the merits of many of our fellow Christians to be who are not with us, it is yet a distinction to be grateful for, that our Church became one again, as soon as the North and South had ceased to be belligerents, and that we are, as yet, the only National Church in the United States of America.

But, it may be here, as it is with us, that perhaps our greatest adversary is the Romish Church and the policy of the Jesuits. That strongly organized and unscrupulous society is everywhere at work, and everywhere doing mischief. The enemy of freedom, the enemy of truth and righteousness, it is yet possessed of that power which seems to be inseparable from an apostolic ministry, even in apostacy and in the last stages of corruption. Now, it is only by a Church of like apostolic origin, but purer and more willing to rely wholly on spiritual powers and divine promises, that this battle can be fought. My fellow churchmen, cherish a holy spirit of unity, and recognize the strength of your Divine Constitution, if only it may be energized by a true unity of action, in the fear of God ! You have the Holy Scriptures ; you have a primitive liturgy ; you have the agencies which Christ has promised to bless. Cling to these blessings and impart them to others, and Christ will do His part : against a true Church, full of