

The readers of the MESSENGER have not yet forgotten the appreciation of the Protestant writer in *Blackwood's*, as quoted in the *General Intention for February*, and which was given to the English reading public shortly after the great iniquity of modern times had been perpetrated. The following lines are too much to the point not to bear repetition :

“It has often been said that the Italians were the worst papists of Europe, but still few expected to see them actually forgetful of what gave them their greatest attraction in the eyes of the whole Christian world, and endowed them with a prestige of which all the cities of the earth could not produce the equal.”

How very desirable, therefore, if we consult those very interests of the Italian nation, that there should be promptly effected not a deceptive adjustment of differences or a temporary *modus vivendi*, but a solid and durable peace between the Sovereign Pontiff and the Italian government !

Such a happy consummation alone can restore tranquility to the Church and at the same time to the nations of Christendom, now in a ferment, a reliable principle and a firm basis of stability and real pacification.

What we must now obtain from the Heart of our Lord, by our united supplications, for the faithful in general, but more particularly for no inconsiderable number of well-meaning Italians, unfortunately blinded by certain natural prepossessions which they fondly look upon as patriotic, is a clear perception of the necessity of this pacification, with an honest resolve and effort to bring it about for the greater good of the Church and of Italy.

PRAYER.

O Jesus, through the most pure Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all the prayers, work and sufferings of this day for