

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY A PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN. COXC.

Our friend Ibanez tells us that before the Reformation the common people had no sense of human dignity, no sense of their rights, duties or responsibilities.

This is a very extraordinary statement. How could such things be? From every pulpit, every altar, every confessional, every catechism, the people were continually instructed that Man is created in the image of God.

On what do Protestants chiefly rest for maintaining the sense of human dignity among their people? On the reading of the Bible, and on the diffusion of Scriptural knowledge.

The Catholic Church esteems the sacraments as the chief means of grace. But the sacraments are the same for all, from the emperor to the beggar.

Of the populations which are noted for the intenseness of their Catholicity, foremost, in common esteem, stands the Spanish peasantry.

No one will accuse Froude of a disposition to embellish Catholicism, but Froude, speaking of the Spanish peasantry, their dignity, their courtesy, their friendliness, their sense of justice, and their cheerful piety, asks what more we need wish for them.

Of course some of those men who "compass sea and land to make one proselyte" will easily, among all the millions of Spain, reckon up any number of vicious peasants, and will then jeeringly triumph over us that we have spoken of the virtuous peasantry of Spain.

It is certainly not to be said that our abundance of New England Puritanism has developed among us a high sense of personal dignity. We have our share of virtues I hope, but certainly that is not conspicuous among them.

It is, of course, by no means singular that Protestants, and even Protestant clergy, should believe in and practice prayers for the dead. But each recurring instance like this must do more and more to abolish Protestant prejudice against so charitable, natural, consoling and reasonable a custom.

beneficent friendliness to give a double glory to the Son of Man. No doubt the Spaniards will be much the better for more schooling, especially technical schooling, to put them more on a level with the nations which are so endowed, and also to overcome that unhappy dislike of the mechanic arts which was brought about by their centuries of warfare with the Moors.

but the Spaniards, whose land has been famous for theologians as for saints, will probably think that they can do very well, without overpassing the resources of the Peninsula.

By the way, during the Spanish war, while we and the Don's were both making faces at each other a little more than was becoming, our Free Baptist friends of the Morning Star, although the intensest of Protestants, maintained a steady protest against our policy towards Spain, and emphasized the noble qualities of the Spanish character, and the evidence given in the excellence of the modern Spanish literature that this character is not degenerating.

One may answer for it all. We have gone to the very centre of intense, nay, of the fanatical Catholicism, and have found it also a centre of the sense of human dignity, national and personal.

We have found therefore that the charge that the people had no sense of human dignity until the burly peasant Luther arose to overwhelm them with floods of vituperation, and to express a wish that they might all be bought and sold "like other asses and hogs," is a charge worthy of the vulgar proselytizing sheet in which it appears.

CHARLES C. STARBUCK. Andover, Mass.

FRUITS OF HOLINESS.

By Bishop Bevan.

In this our day we stand upon an admirable vantage-ground whence we can view the whole of the hierarchy of the Church as it has been working out its mission.

These treasures are the fruits of its holiness, its teaching and its authority—the three divine deposits entrusted to the hierarchy, according to the mind of St. Paul.

There was surely a fresh heaven thrown into the world when the Apostolic College, fresh from the moulding hands of the Saviour, went forth on its mission. And what a strange and unheard-of message was that of Pentecost!

This revelation of holiness brought to man a broader horizon of destiny. It carried his hopes beyond all that was of earth and fixed their goal in an eternity that had nothing of defilement in it.

This is the work, "the perfecting of the saints," that has from the beginning been vested in the hierarchy of the Church. There is no age where the fruits of its missions have failed of an abundant harvest.

Protestant Prayers for the Dead. London Monitor and New Era. A Church of England minister, the Rev. W. J. Hoeking, Vicar of All Saints', Tufnel Park, who was buried last Friday, left behind him a valedictory address published in his parish magazine, in which he says: "Pray for my soul: more things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of."

FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

Second Sunday in Lent. OUR TWO ENEMIES.

"Arise, and fear not." (St. Matt. xvii. 7.) My dear Brethren: The two great obstacles to the service of God, which come from ourselves, are sluggishness and cowardice. We are beset with temptations, harassed by passions, and subject to sin; but, more than these, love of ease and cowardice take possession of our hearts.

And so our Lord addresses to each one of you the words of this day's Gospel: "Arise, and fear not,"—words which show what ought to be our part, our attitude in the work of salvation.

At this time, therefore, we shall content ourselves with a consideration of the first duties enumerated, namely, those of children towards their parents. In the fourth commandment, then, God enjoins upon children love, reverence and obedience of their parents in everything that is not sinful.

Unfortunately, the tendency of our youth is towards a vigorous and shameful disregard of the law. Love prompts sacrifice of self and seeks the preferment of others. Its constant effort is the good of others in things temporal as well as things spiritual.

It is not, however, in lack of love that children show their greatest disregard of this commandment. In want of reverence and obedience is their most frequent offending. The first they show at home and in public by conduct that is disrespectful and by speech that is disgusting.

Of the second, want of obedience, so much has been said that it would be difficult not to duplicate. It will suffice at this time to say that disobedience of parental rule is the most predominant sin of the day among children.

These are the arms with which God designs that we should fight! These are the arms which He has blessed! These are the arms on which He has impressed the sign of His almighty power.

These will not attain to the true liberty of a pure heart nor to the grace of a delightful familiarity with Me, unless they first entirely resign themselves up and offer themselves a daily sacrifice to me; for without this, divine union neither is, nor will be obtained.

IMITATION OF CHRIST. OF A PURE AND FULL RESIGNATION OF OURSELVES FOR OBTAINING FREEDOM OF HEART.

Some there are who resign themselves, but it is with some exception; for they do not trust wholly to God, and are therefore busy to provide for themselves. Some also at the first offer resignation, return again to what they left; and therefore they make no progress in virtue.

Liquor and Tobacco Habits. A. McTAGGART, M. D., C. M., 75 Yonge Street, Toronto.

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THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT.

A moment's reflection upon the three first commandments just considered discloses the fact that all relate to our duties towards God. As a group of obligations they form the first table of the decalogue.

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WHAT TO DO AT THE ELEVATION. In view of the fact that most people bow their heads at the Elevation of the Mass, it is interesting to know that this is only a latter-day custom.

Clearly, then, the proper action is that the congregation should raise their heads and look upon the Sacred Host at the Elevation, then bow their heads in reverence until the ringing of the second bell intimates the Elevation of the Chalice, when they would again raise their eyes to the chalice before dropping them in adoration of the Precious Blood.

All Seamen know the comforts of having on hand a supply of Borden's Eagle Brand Condensed Milk. It can be used as agreeably for cooking, in coffee, tea and chocolate. Lay in a supply for all kinds of expeditions. Avoid unknown brands.

FOR THE OVERWORKED—What are the causes of despondency and melancholy? A disordered liver is the cause and a prime one. A disordered stomach means disturbance of the nervous system. This brings the whole body into subjection and the victim feels sick all over. Paine's V. gettable Pills are a recognized remedy in this state, and relief will follow their use.

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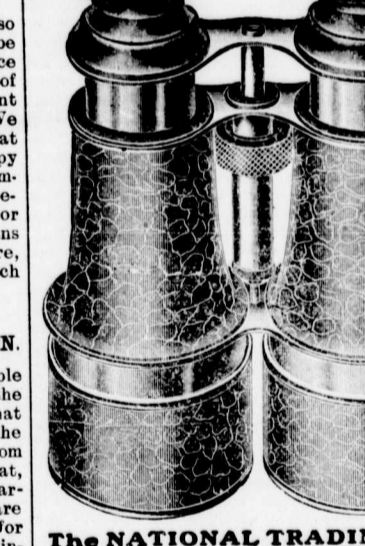
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The Catholic Record, London, Ont.

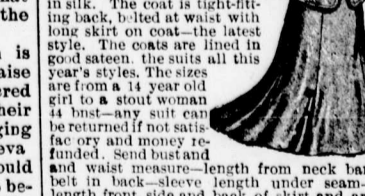
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CHATS WITH

How few people are always ready to catch up with the spiritual writer of the time enough to do. They ought not to do. They could not possibly do. They can, have we not to do?

The man who has less habit of doing always doing undertakes, has there is nothing satisfaction which of completeness, absolutely complete.

What you can do. What you can do. What you can do. What you can do. What you can do.

It does people living. The best morals, the best morals, the best morals, the best morals, the best morals.

How many people, failed, lost, charged from integrity, honest employer's interest succeeded in successful temptations to bet on horse games, etc.—and dishonesty is like the habit safety is in total very beginning, and the consolation of a sin, and a sin, and a sin, and a sin, and a sin.

But also, the ten chances to be ruined for sincere repentance, your destiny in.

Self respect. Self respect of an exemplar. He is guided well-defined from which an enlightenments reverences as soon to come or dishonorable afraid to do.

Like the Apostle, not disquieted judgment of the meet the approval he is the line of conduct or by the motives. He, by ignoring ground over, not regulate maxim, that the Cardinal G.

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