

that the great English bard was a Catholic. His work will incidentally refer to the authenticity of several disputed passages in Shakespeare's plays, particularly in the last act of "Henry VIII." The probability of the Fletcher theory will also be considered. In connection with this item we might also draw attention to an article in the current number of "Donahoe's Magazine" from the pen of Rev. John Conway M. A. entitled "Shakespeare's Authorship and Religion." The article recounts an interview between the reverend author and Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, of the cipher fame, in which the former contends that Shakespeare is the true author of the plays and that he was a Catholic, and the latter argues in favor of Bacon.

Here is a paragraph to furnish food for deep thought. The *Watchman* quotes it as the saying of a New York minister. "On Palm Sunday, a rainy day, I looked out of my window and saw the people pouring into the Catholic Church two blocks away. The church was crowded and that was one service in three, all of which were as well attended. Most of the people who attended one service did not attend the others. 'Well,' I said, 'surely if they can get fifteen hundred people three times a day, I ought to have a thousand once. There were eleven hundred members in good standing on my church rolls. How many attended my church that morning? I counted them; just 139. There was the same God, the same storm, the same outward environment. The difference must have been in the early training.'"

It is indeed due to early training; from early childhood we are taught that the attendance at mass on Sundays and feasts of obligation must not be neglected under pain of mortal sin, and though some good causes may excuse attendance, *inlemency of weather* is not an excuse. But no such obligation impels our separated brethren to go to Sunday meeting. Furthermore the Catholic goes to assist again at the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ and surely he would not deprive himself of the means of receiving so many spiritual graces, because of a little shower of rain.

Archbishop Janssens, of New Orleans, being asked by a reporter if the Sisters of

Charity, who had gone to a leper colony in Louisiana were not heroines, replied:—"From your standpoint, yes; but not from the standpoint of the Sister of Charity. The great act of heroism for her is when she makes her vows. What follows afterwards is merely the natural consequences of those vows of obedience and self-sacrifice. These Sisters who are going to the leper settlement would disclaim the title of heroine; they are working for the love of God. They see no heroism in the self-sacrifice and devotion which they have made the rule of their lives."

The *Secret Heart Review* says: "One result of purely secular education in France, as shown by some recently published official figures, is an alarming increase of juvenile criminals." Commenting on this the *Catholic American* says:—"Portland can furnish ample evidence of the truth of this statement. With a large reform school close at its gates filled with nearly 200 boys of various ages, it is not a difficult task to discern the cause of juvenile criminality. A copy of the annual report of the reform school was recently placed in our hands, and it occurred to us that an appropriate title for the work in question would be 'Results of Secular Education in the State of Maine.'"

OBITUARY.

REV. DANIEL BURNS, O.M.I.

After more than two years of inaction and suffering, the Reverend Daniel Burns passed away from this world last month at El Paso, Texas. Those who were students here from 1882 to 1886 will remember the genial, whole-souled scholastic brother and priest, of whose death they will now learn with surprise and regret. And our present students little suspect that they owe to him one of the most pleasant events of the college year. Father Burns was the originator of the St. Patrick's Day Banquet. In 1885 he organized a committee and proposed that the feast of Ireland's national apostle be celebrated by a banquet. The proposal was heartily seconded and the result