

## The Catholic Record

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## NOTICES

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Author of "Mistakes of Modern Infidels,"  
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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA,  
(Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1900.)  
The Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD,  
London, Ont.

Dear Sir: For some time past I have read  
your estimable paper, THE CATHOLIC RE-  
CORD, and congratulate you upon the man-  
ner in which it is published.  
In matter and form are both good; and a  
truly Catholic spirit pervades the whole.  
Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend  
it to the faithful.

Blessing you and wishing you success,  
Believe me, to remain,  
Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ,  
+ D. FALCONIO, Arch. of Larissa,  
Apost. Deleg.

London, Saturday, December 8, 1900.

## GERMANY AND THE U. S.

A good deal of indignation has been  
aroused in the United States owing to  
the fact, which has recently been  
stated, that Germany is to obtain the  
concession of a coaling station from  
Venezuela. The Government of Ven-  
ezuela is said to have decided to lease  
a port to Germany, which country has  
long been anxious to have one or more  
coaling stations in the Western hemi-  
sphere. It is believed, however, that  
the United States Government will ob-  
ject to this as a breach of the Monroe  
doctrine. As the German Emperor,  
who has been styled the War Lord,  
does not like to back down from a  
position he has once taken, trouble  
may spring out of this matter, though  
to most minds it will appear to be not  
a matter of very serious importance.

## THE SECTS DECLINING.

Amid the constant boasting of the  
ministers in regard to the progress of  
their sects in all parts, it will be a  
painful surprise to them to learn from  
a late issue of the Manchester Guardian  
the unwelcome news that most of the  
sects are actually retrograding. The  
population of the country increases  
at the rate of 300,000 every year,  
yet the Church of England has fallen  
off by 7,000 during the present year.  
The Baptists have lost 7,000, the Calvin-  
istic Methodists 4,200, the Presbyterians  
1,200, the Free Methodists 3,000, and  
the Free Church of Scotland 4,300.  
Other denominations have lost propor-  
tionately, and the total losses amount  
to 32,000. It is possible, however,  
that these losses are in a great measure  
attributable to the war, but they should  
have been counterbalanced by natural  
increase if the sects had been really  
progressing.

## ROME AND THE U. S.

The new United States Minister to  
Italy is Mr. Meyer, who served for many  
years as a member of the Massachusetts  
House of Representatives. It requires  
uncommon tact to fulfil the duties of Min-  
ister to Italy, owing to the hostile atti-  
tude existing between the Government  
and the Holy See; but the late American  
Minister did his duties with great abili-  
ty, and it is expected that Mr. Meyer  
will do likewise, as he is conceded to  
be a statesman of undoubted prudence  
and discretion.

President McKinley has re-  
mained on the most friendly terms  
with Pope Leo XIII., during his whole  
term of office, and it may be expected  
that Mr. Meyer in his communications  
with the King of Italy will always ob-  
serve the decorum due to the Venerable  
Head of the Catholic Church, which has  
about eleven millions of adherents  
among the population of the United  
States.

CONVERTS FROM ANGLICAN-  
ISM.

The London Tablet publishes a list of  
twenty four Anglican clergymen who  
have been converted to the Catholic  
faith since the publication of the Pope's  
Bull in September 1896, showing  
Anglican orders to be invalid. These  
are for the most part rectors and vicars  
of parish churches, several of whom  
had charges in the city of London, two  
were members of the Cowley commu-  
nity at Oxford, and one, the Rev. H.  
A. Fuller, was a Professor of Trinity  
college, Dublin. These gentlemen  
were of the belief that the ministry of

Christ's Church should be derived by  
lawful succession from the apostles, who  
alone received the divine commission,  
with authority to transmit it; and as  
Anglican orders were proved to be  
spurious, they came to the reasonable  
conclusion that the real ministry and  
the true doctrine of Christ are to be  
found only in the Church which pos-  
sesses the commission given to the  
apostles, which is the Catholic Church.

It is to be remarked that this list  
does not include the clergy of the  
American Episcopal Church who have  
also become Catholics since the publica-  
tion of the Pope's decree. If this list  
were made, there would also be a  
large number found who have become  
convinced of the truth and Apostolicity  
of the Catholic doctrine and ministry.

## A CONTRAST.

The Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage has  
returned recently from a trip to Eng-  
land. He was there during the gener-  
al elections, but was not greatly im-  
pressed by the peaceful and orderly  
manner in which they were carried  
on. In fact he considers the disorders  
to have been greater than they were  
in the United States on November 6th.  
He says:

"The contest just finished between the  
candidates for seats in Parliament was  
most widely exciting event. The best men  
in England were engaged in it. But at  
nearly all the public meetings the candi-  
dates, no matter which side they represented,  
were treated with respect, and in no case  
driven from the platform. The attack  
on Roosevelt in Colorado was a mere detail  
compared to the venomous words that were  
flung at the speakers, and the disorder and  
violent breaking up of meetings in Eng-  
land."

In Ireland, on the contrary, the  
contest was conducted in a most  
orderly manner.

## A MEMORABLE EVENT.

The first Catholic Congress of Aus-  
tralia was held in Sydney in Septem-  
ber and was a most notable gathering.  
His Eminence Cardinal Moran was  
present on the platform with the Arch-  
bishops of Melbourne and Wellington,  
the Bishops of Maitland, Bathurst,  
Goldburn, Rockhampton, Christ  
Church, Ballarat, and Wilcannia, and  
the coadjutor Bishop of Sandhurst.

The Cardinal spoke eloquently of  
the past triumphs of the Church and  
expressed confidence in the brilliancy  
of the future which awaits her in the  
coming twentieth century. He  
closed his able address as follows:

"Since the first 300 years of persecution  
the Catholic Church has marched for 1,500  
years at the head of human civilization,  
has driven, harnessed to its chariot, as the  
horses of a triumphal car, the chief intellec-  
tual and material forces of the world: its art,  
its literature, its science, its genius, the  
arts of the world; its greatness, glory, grandeur,  
and majesty have been almost, though not  
absolutely, all that, in these respects, the  
world has had to boast of."

"During the past century everything in  
the material world around the Church has  
changed. Thrones have been overthrown,  
some nations have fallen from their pride of  
place, others have arisen in the scale of  
dignity and power. New forms of govern-  
ment have been developed. New phases, too,  
have appeared in the social order with which  
the progress of the world is linked. Amid  
all these vicissitudes and changes, the  
Church, faithful to the divine mission which  
she received, has pursued her onward  
course, invincible and unmoved. Her past  
triumphs under the most adverse circum-  
stances over the most powerful enemies, are  
a sure guarantee of the future victories that  
await her. We may rest assured that in the  
coming century her fruitfulness of piety  
shall not grow less, nor shall her triumphs  
be less brilliant over the errors and fallacies  
that may be marshalled against her. As in  
the past, so in the future, heaven shall smile  
on her onward victorious course, and she  
shall continue to diffuse around her the  
blessings of her salutary influence in every  
path of beneficence, charity and mercy."

THE IRISH NATIONALIST  
MOVEMENT.

A letter appears in the Irish papers  
addressed by Mr. John E. Redmond,  
Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary  
Party, to one of his constituents, in re-  
ply to a request of the latter for an ex-  
pression of opinion on the prospects of  
the success of the Nationalist Party in  
promoting the welfare of Ireland, in  
view of the results of the recent general  
election in Great Britain and especially  
in Ireland.

Mr. Redmond speaks confidently  
to the effect that the first and most con-  
spicuous result is that the "Parnellite  
split is at an end." In proof of this he  
cites the fact that everywhere, and in  
all sections of the country, "Parnellites  
and anti Parnellites were found work-  
ing together without any trace of the  
bitterness of the past."

In fact, by the elections, the spectre  
of Faction has been completely laid and  
every lover of Ireland will hope that  
the good done in this respect will be  
permanent. We feel not merely a  
hope but a confidence that such is the  
case, chiefly for the reason that the re-  
sult has been brought about, not by  
any agreement between individuals,  
however high these may stand in the  
estimation of the people of Ireland, and  
however prominent they may be in the  
councils of the Irish Parliamentary  
Party, but the good has been accom-  
plished by the decree of the people them-  
selves who have spoken with a voice

which was heard throughout the  
length and breadth of the land, declar-  
ing that faction must cease.

The fact is that the most successful  
experiment ever attempted in politics  
was made by the people of Ireland  
during the last election campaign, and  
the results have been phenomenal.

The leaders of the Irish Nationalist  
Parliamentary Party deserve due  
credit for the share they have had in  
bringing about these results, which  
would not have been accomplished at the  
present moment without their coopera-  
tion, for they set the machinery in  
motion and even made the machinery  
which accomplished the work almost  
automatically. But the real work was  
done by the people themselves, and  
thus it has a force and it will exert an  
influence which it would not have  
possessed if it had been the doing  
merely of a few leaders in politics.

The machinery which worked so  
happily was that of the new organiza-  
tion of the United Irish League. The  
directory of this League summoned  
Conventions of the people in every  
constituency, which were of the most  
thoroughly representative character,  
for the selection of Nationalist candi-  
dates, and for the most part all the  
bodies which were invited to send dele-  
gates did so, and thus the Conventions  
fully represented the bulk of the  
people.

Every candidate put forward was  
required by the Convention to sign  
the Nationalist Parliamentary pledge  
of fidelity to Nationalist principles  
and subordination to the Party as a  
whole. The Convention was then left  
perfectly free to choose its standard-  
bearer for the contest, no attempt  
being made by the Directory to impose  
any candidate upon it.

A representative of the Directory  
was present at each Convention, but  
Mr. Redmond notes that his instruc-  
tions were to take no part in the pro-  
ceedings, with the single exception  
that when called upon unanimously  
by the Convention itself, he might  
suggest without comment two or three  
names of suitable candidates, from  
among whom the Convention should  
make its selection. This much was  
done only in a very few instances, so  
that in every case the candidate  
was truly the free choice of the people.

As a consequence the eighty two  
Nationalist members selected were more  
thoroughly representative of the  
people than has ever before been the  
case with the representatives of any  
political party under a constitutional  
form of Government. Thus consti-  
tuted, it would appear to be next to an  
impossibility that faction should again  
rear its head among the Irish Party,  
but should it do so it will be doomed to  
extinction when the Conventions simi-  
larly convened will again assemble to  
select candidates for the next general  
election. The present organization  
seems to be as perfect a system of  
securing a true representative body as  
human ingenuity can devise, and this  
fact may be taken as an omen that the  
new National party will exercise a  
most powerful influence in the present  
Parliament.

The Conservatives must, undoubt-  
edly, a strong force in the newly-  
elected Parliament; but they are not  
so strong as was anticipated before the  
election, as their total gain was only  
one seat, despite the entirely disor-  
ganized condition in which the Liber-  
als entered upon the contest.

It cannot be said, therefore, that  
they have gained any new strength  
from the election; and when we fur-  
ther consider that the distribution of  
seats is such that the Conservatives  
are highly favored thereby, it will be  
seen that this fact will give an addi-  
tional moral force to the demand of a  
united and highly representative Irish  
Nationalist delegation in House of  
Commons. In fact the prospects of the  
Irish party are as bright as they ever  
were, if not brighter, than at any time  
since Mr. Gladstone's defeat after his  
adoption of Home Rule as one of the  
aims and principles of the Liberal  
Party.

The people of Great Britain are not  
so set against Home Rule as one might  
imagine if Lord Salisbury's utterances  
were alone taken into account. The  
issue at the last election was not Home  
Rule, but the maintenance of the Em-  
pire. On this question the verdict of  
the electorate was unmistakable, but  
it does not follow from this that they  
would decide against Ireland if the  
question of Home Rule were again  
made the main issue in a general ap-  
peal. Rather, the fact that the new  
strength developed by the Empire  
comes from colonies in which Home Rule  
flourishes, is a strong reason for the  
concession of a like autonomy to Ire-  
land.

Again, it has been remarked that  
the 380 Unionist members elected re-  
ceived an aggregate vote of 2,380,852,  
while the 187 Liberals received 2,055,-  
951 votes. Thus every 6,213 Conserva-  
tive votes cast secured a representative  
in Parliament, while it required 10,-  
995 votes to elect a Liberal. We have  
not the exact figures representing the  
Irish Nationalist vote, but if it were  
added to that of the Liberals, we are  
satisfied that it would show an actual  
majority of the electorate against the  
Government. Under such circum-  
stances the Conservative Government is  
in a position precarious enough to indi-  
cate that the Home Rule question will  
loom again into the arena of practical  
politics sooner than its opponents ex-  
pect.

It is evident that the people of Ire-  
land are in complete sympathy with  
the United Irish League, and we have  
no doubt that the great Irish Race  
Convention held a few years ago in  
Dublin had a great share in bringing  
about both the organization of that  
League, and the reunion movement  
which has resulted so happily for Ire-  
land.

Preparations are now being made  
for the assembling of another great  
Convention of the Irish people in Dub-  
lin on December 4. This convention  
has been called by the Directory of the  
League; but it will be a representative  
meeting of the whole Irish people, and  
we have no doubt its results will be to  
cement the political union which has  
already been effected. The only fear  
we entertain regarding it is that it  
may be too cumbersome to have a very  
practical effect, as the delegates en-  
titled to sit thereat are remarkably  
numerous. If our fears should prove  
to be well founded, there will be no  
reason for discouragement, as the fault  
we have indicated, if it be found to be  
a real fault, can be easily corrected  
before the calling of another like Con-  
vention. Even if a year be thus lost,  
it will be a small matter, for a year is  
but a short time in the history of a  
National movement, and the coming  
convention will prove at least one  
thing, that the people of Ireland are  
thoroughly in earnest in their demand  
for right and justice.

## FICTION FROM ECUADOR.

A story is going the round of the  
press to the effect that the friars of Ecua-  
dor are engaged at present in a con-  
flict with the Government and are at-  
tempting to overthrow it.

In consequence of this, it is said,  
orders have been given by the Govern-  
ment against the interference of the  
friars in politics, and the friars have,  
as a matter of course, appealed to the  
Vatican for help against the Govern-  
ment, and that in the meantime they  
are threatening to close the churches  
and withhold the sacraments from the  
people until the Government is brought  
to accept their terms.

This pretty story carries on its face  
its own refutation. The punishment  
of interdiction which is implied in the  
closing of the churches of the Republic,  
and withholding of the sacraments, is  
one which the friars have no authori-  
ty to inflict, even if they had the will.

The Church has the inherent authori-  
ty to inflict even very severe penalti-  
es on those who contumaciously viola-  
te the laws of God or the laws and  
rights of the Church; but an interdiction  
is one of the severest penalties which  
can be imposed upon a nation, in  
which case the churches are closed,  
and only the sacraments which are  
much needed for the salvation of souls,  
and also for the great spiritual benefit  
of those who have not participated in  
the offence, are administered, as no in-  
terdiction is placed upon these sacraments.

As a national interdiction has such far-  
reaching effects, it is only the highest  
authority in the Church or in a particu-  
lar country which can inflict it. The  
Pope can pronounce it against any na-  
tion when the authorities of that na-  
tion are in open rebellion against reli-  
gion. The Pope, not having issued  
any interdiction against Ecuador, only  
the united Episcopate of that country,  
and not the friars, nor all of them  
together, would have the power to issue  
such an interdiction as the story tells us  
of, without any pretence that such a  
decree has been or is proposed to be  
issued by the Bishops; it is only "by the  
friars." It is evidently a fiction.

It is a fact that the present Govern-  
ment of Ecuador has in many ways  
manifested hostility to religion, and  
this has been the cause of many protests  
issued by the clergy who have  
sincerely at heart the well-being of the  
people, and it will be by no means sur-  
prising if we hear that the clergy, or  
many of them, have used their influence  
with the people to secure a better Gov-  
ernment through the next elections.

They have certainly the right to do  
this; but we may be sure that it is not  
true that they have exercised any un-  
lawful methods, but that the Govern-  
ment itself desires to restrict the clergy  
from exercising their rights as citi-  
zens.

Some years ago Ecuador was gov-  
erned by a truly Christian President,  
Dr. Gabriel Garcia Moreno, who was  
remarkable not only for his profound  
learning, but also for his virtues. In  
1861 he was elected to the Presidency  
of the Republic, which office he resigned  
in 1865 and resumed in 1870, holding  
it until 1875 when he was cruelly as-  
sassinated to make room for the ene-  
mies of the Catholic faith.

During Garcia's administration pros-  
perity reigned in the country, and  
religion was respected; but since then  
the Republic has been torn with dis-  
ensions arising out of the efforts of  
the Government party to destroy reli-  
gion.

Only a short time ago the college of  
the Jesuits at Riobamba, one hundred  
miles south of Quito, was attacked and  
destroyed by the partisans of the Gov-  
ernment. The Superior was assassinated,  
and the other Fathers were so mal-  
treated as to escape barely with their  
lives.

The clergy have opposed these do-  
ings, and the people are showing their  
loyalty to religion by entering bravely  
into the contest to re-establish the  
reign of order and faith. This is what  
has angered the Government against  
the clergy; but the battle is on, and it  
remains to be seen whether Atheism is  
to rule or not. The calumnies about the  
clergy interfering unduly in politics  
are merely an effort on the part of the  
Government party to throw a blind  
over the eyes of the outside world in  
regard to what is going on. We do  
not doubt that the results of the similar  
struggles in Germany and Belgium  
will be repeated in Ecuador.

## UNION AND SCHISM.

After many years of negotiation, a  
union has at last been effected between  
the U. P. (United Presbyterian) and  
the Free Churches of Scotland. The  
new Presbyterian Church thus formed  
will be called "The United Free  
Church of Scotland." The intention  
in thus combining the names of the  
two bodies is to show that the union  
does not mean the absorption of the  
smaller denomination by the larger,  
but the actual combination or amal-  
gamation into one body. The parties  
to the union do not seem to have  
noticed the incongruity of retaining a  
name which, so long as it lasts, will be  
a historical monument of the disagree-  
ments which have rent these Presby-  
terian bodies apart for many years.

This is a curious illustration of the  
nonchalance with which sectaries re-  
gard the tearing asunder of the seam-  
less robe of Our Lord. Schism is the  
necessary consequence of the rejection  
of Church authority. As soon as the  
standard of revolt was raised by Luther,  
new sects arose without limit as to  
number, to the great alarm of the  
Wittenberg Reformer, who soon found  
that he could not control his followers  
in revolt so that they should accept his  
doctrines, and Calvin and Zwinglius  
had both the same experience in their  
respective spheres of influence.

It was acknowledged even by the leaders  
of the revolt against the Catholic  
Church that the Church of Christ is but  
one, and so it was customary among  
Protestants, while proclaiming freedom  
from the thralldom of obedience to the  
teachings of the Catholic Church, to  
insist upon it that all who followed  
their principles should accept their be-  
lief without further inquiry, but their  
followers were not to be restrained in  
this way. They reasoned, very  
naturally, that if their teachers were  
not bound to submit to the teachings  
and practices of the one universal  
Church, neither were they bound to  
admit the authority of the rebels who  
inaugurated the Reformation move-  
ment.

As a consequence, all the sects which  
arose in the sixteenth and subsequent  
centuries were soon subdivided into  
innumerable minor sects. Thus Bapt-  
ists, Methodists, etc., have numerous  
subdivisions arising out of most trivial  
causes of division, and this gave rise  
to the theory very commonly held by  
Protestants down to the present day,  
that a variety of sects is not only not  
a defect, but is actually a desideratum  
in Christianity; and ministers are fre-  
quently heard to boast of the liberty of  
Protestantism, which permits every one  
to believe as much or as little as he  
pleases of the truths revealed by Christ  
and taught by the Apostles, and to or-  
ganize new sects at pleasure.

Presbyterians met with the same fate

as time passed by. The Established  
Church of Scotland has in the neigh-  
borhood of 1,550 congregations. The  
United Presbyterians, so called, per-  
haps, by contrariety, because they  
failed to remain united with the Old  
Kirk or Established Church of Scot-  
land, was organized in 1773, and pos-  
sessed 600 congregations, while the  
Free Kirk or Church, which seceded in  
1843, had 1,070 congregations when  
they joined forces a few days ago.  
The union of these two constitutes a  
Church with more adherents than the  
Old or Established Kirk. But there  
still remain three or four Independent  
Presbyterian Churches in Scotland,  
and several others in England and  
America.

For some years past the theory,  
which is practically that the Church of  
Christ ought to be divided into sects,  
has been growing into disfavor, and  
strenuous efforts have been made with  
some success to unite some of the local  
sects. The full significance of St.  
Paul's words is being felt more strongly  
than heretofore:

"God hath tempered the body together,  
giving the more abundant honor to that  
which wanted it, that there might be no  
schism in the body." [1 Cor. xii. 24, 25.]

And,  
"I beseech you, brethren, by the name of  
our Lord Jesus Christ that you all speak the  
same thing, and that there be no schisms  
among you but that you be perfect in the  
same mind, and in the same judgment."  
[Eph. iv. 3, 10.]

It is the consciousness that these  
commands of the Apostle have been  
violated by the existing sects that has  
caused the recent attempts at reunion;  
but even the efforts which have been  
made in some localities have not  
diminished to any appreciable degree  
the two divisions of Protestantism.

We cannot state the exact number  
of these sects, but there are about 248  
in the United States, and very nearly  
the same number in England, with a  
considerable number in Germany and  
other countries where Protestantism  
has foothold. Allowing for many  
which are found in two or three of  
these countries under the same or  
different names, there must be, at all  
events, over 500 sects in Protestantism,  
all of which have risen since Luther's  
rebellion in 1517.

The Catholic Church preserves the  
unity of faith which comes down from  
the Apostles; and as it is a principle of  
good reasoning that the absurd con-  
sequences of a proposition prove the  
proposition itself to be absurd and false,  
the contradictions which arise from the  
principle of private interpretation of the  
Scripture prove it to be a false  
principle. We have still in existence  
the Church which Christ established on  
earth, and which all are bound to hear,  
and there is no authority given to  
private individuals to reject her teach-  
ings, or to establish new Churches, or  
a new ministry which has no succession  
from the Apostolic ministry which  
Christ established, for "neither doth  
any man take the honor of the Chris-  
tian priesthood (or ministry) to himself  
but he that is called by God as Aaron  
was." (Heb. v. 4.)

The recent union of the two Presby-  
terian Churches is a condemnation of  
their former schism. Either they were  
separated for reasons sufficient in the  
sight of God to keep them apart, or the  
causes of their separation were trivial.  
In the first hypothesis, one of them  
must have been not the Church of God.  
How then could they now recognize  
each other as branches of the true  
Church, uniting on equal terms, and  
professing recognizing in their new  
name the identity and legitimacy of  
each Church?

In the second hypothesis, both were  
guilty of schism in keeping asunder  
for so long a period, in the face of St.  
Paul's condemnation of schism as  
quoted above; and under either  
hypothesis the adoption of a name prac-  
tically declaring the legitimacy of  
their disensions is entirely irreconcil-  
able with the Scriptural description of  
the one true Church of God, "the  
pillar and the ground of truth."

It is not likely that any union will  
be formed for many years to come be-  
tween the Established Kirk of Scotland  
and this new Presbyterian body, so  
that the house is still "divided against  
itself," and how shall it stand?

## ADVENT.

On Sunday last began the Holy  
Season of Advent. The word Advent  
signifies the coming, and it expresses  
that the period so designated is the  
time set apart by the Catholic Church  
as suitable for our preparation for the  
coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
Christ, Who comes to us actually on  
Christmas day, the festival of His birth.

There are four Sundays in the holy  
season of Advent, which with the  
weeks following the first three, and the  
days which intervene between the

fourth Sunday of Advent and Christ-  
mas Day, comprise the time of Advent.  
These four Sundays with their respec-  
tive week-days are a symbol of the  
four thousand years which intervened  
between the fall of our first parents  
and the birth of Christ. During this  
long period, Almighty God sent His  
prophets to foretell the coming of the  
Saviour Who should redeem mankind  
from the sins and degradation into  
which the world was plunged in its  
fallen condition. As the time ap-  
proached, the prophecies of Christ  
coming were more clear, and it was  
revealed to the prophet Daniel that the  
long expected event would take place  
within seventy weeks (of years) or four  
hundred and ninety years "from the  
going forth of the word to build up  
Jerusalem again," which was uttered  
destroyed when the Jewish people were  
carried into captivity into Babylon.  
This decree of restoration was issued by  
King Artaxerxes in the twentieth year  
of his reign, and the prophecy indi-  
cated that in the middle of the last  
three weeks of years, the victim  
sacrifices of the Jews should cease, a  
that Christ Himself should be born  
after the true Sacrifice of the world  
who should conform the covenant  
God with many.

In this sense are taken the prophetic  
words, "In the half of the week  
victim and the sacrifice shall fall, and  
there shall be in the temple the abom-  
ination of desolation; and the desola-  
tion shall continue even to the consum-  
mation and to the end;" and, "The  
(Christ) shall confirm the covenant with  
many in one week." (Dan. ix. 27.)

These predictions were intended to  
make the Jews prepare themselves for  
works of penance and the practice  
all virtues, for the coming of our Lord  
Jesus Christ; for to Him God the  
Father "hath given power over  
flesh that He may give eternal life  
all whom God hath given Him."  
This is life everlasting, that they  
know thee, the only true God,  
Jesus Christ whom God has sent.  
(St. John xvii. 2, 3.)

If we approach Jesus with true  
trition and humility of heart during  
this time of preparation for His com-  
ing, He will be ready to receive us joy-  
fully as the Good Shepherd of the  
lost sheep, and to place His arms  
around us, and to lead us to Him,  
and which He found after a  
gent search.

We should be led to Jesus rather  
motives of love than by those of fear  
punishment, for though it is undoubt-  
edly well that we should be brought  
God even by motives of fear, but  
love make our union with Him  
complete. Christ Himself has told  
us that we must fear Him who can de-  
stroy both soul and body by conden-  
ning them to the eternal punishment of  
rather than those who can kill only  
body. This is a motive indeed  
should serve God, but it is a motive  
inferior to that of love for Him  
infinitely perfect, and therefore  
possesses all the qualities and attri-  
butes which deserve our love.

He is infinitely amiable in His  
and, besides, we should love Him  
His bounty to us. From Him  
good and perfect gift comes to  
our hour of necessity, every-  
thing which will enable us to resist  
sin, and, above all, our redemption  
from sin and the power of the  
without which we should not  
maintain children of wrath. It is  
thought which raised in the heart  
all the Saints that intense love  
Christ which was their character  
in the case of St. Paul was  
(Gal. ii. 20) "And I live, not  
but Christ liveth in me. And  
live now in the flesh: I live in  
of the Son of God who loved  
delivered Himself for me. I  
away the grace of God."

To receive the riches of God  
during this holy time, every  
should be reconciled to God through  
sacrament of penance, which is  
pointed means of recovering  
friendship, and should receive  
Holy Eucharist, without which  
nourishment our souls per-  
ish and die from the want of God  
and favor.

Advent stimulates growth in  
virtues. Trial in the form of  
good. Without doubt we must  
possess the healthy vigor of  
ship. Trial in the form of  
good. Without having to  
might become good eaters  
sleepers, but we would  
strengthened by the virtue  
try and endurance. No  
ever for a moment entertain  
that his affliction is the indi-  
God has marked him as a faithful  
such remember that affliction  
signboard that points to wis-  
ness.—Rev. W. K. Rogers.