



"RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION: BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE."—Prov. xiv 34.

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ORIGINAL POETRY. (For the Protector.) THE VOICE OF SPRING.

With thy soft voice, O Spring, thou art the first to greet the dawn, and with thy gentle breeze, thou art the first to stir the leaves of the trees. Thy voice is sweet, and thy breeze is soft, and thy presence is felt in every flower that buds, and in every bird that sings.

TALK ON THE ROAD. We have not lost sight of Pat and John, and perhaps our readers may like to know what we have heard of them.

Well, a few days ago, they were setting potatoes for a farmer, working one on each side of the same ridge; and their father, who was with them, was sitting on a wooden plank laid on a cloth, and they sat under a thorn bush to eat it; and when they had done so, Pat pulled a book out of his pocket, and John looked over his shoulder, reading with him, till the bell would ring for work.

Now, Father John was getting mighty uneasy in his mind when he saw people reading; so he gave his horse to a boy in the lane, and he walked up quiet, till he got to the book, and when he saw that your reading boys were there, he said, "What book is that you are reading, boys?"

"What do you know about that?" said Father John. "Please your reverence," said Pat, "sure it's the Catholic Bible that's there; and sure, your reverence, that isn't a bad book."

And at that Father John looked less pleased than ever but he was not just ready with an answer, and Pat did not want to talk much about that to Pat's own glory. But the Blessed Virgin say that he was appointed the mediator between sinners and God, and he said the same thing.

"How do I know?" said Father John, getting out of all patience at being so bothered. "Sure your reverence, didn't I read it out of this book?" said John, holding up the Gloria of Mary.

"I'll tell you what," said Father John, turning round upon him. "If it's reading the Bible you are, you'll soon be out of the Catholic Church, and out of that there is no salvation. I tell you that that Bible would do you as much harm as it would do me good."

"Well, your reverence, that's not it," said John; "for while I was only reading the Bible I was getting quiet, and I was thinking of God, and I was thinking of my sins, and I was thinking of my neighbor, and I was thinking of my country, and I was thinking of my King, and I was thinking of my God."

"And what about that?" said Father John. "I'm sorry you ever came across it," said John. "And what about that?" said Father John. "I'm sorry you ever came across it," said John.

again—Christ Jesus, our hope.—1st Ep. to Timothy 1. 1. But not one word in the Dearly Beloved of Mary being said there; and sure, your reverence, that isn't a bad book."

From the French Correspondent of the New York Observer. ITALY—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. Having rapidly glanced over the past duties of Italy, we devote this letter to its present situation, taking up separately each of the principal States of the Peninsula, and examining their various political parties.

The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies is the largest in Italy; it contains about eight millions of inhabitants, and it was homogeneous and well governed, it would be very prosperous, and its inhabitants would be happy and contented. It contains almost insuperable mineral riches, and its commerce might be incalculably valuable.

"I'll tell you what," said Father John, for he was getting afraid of losing John entirely. "Doesn't that book itself tell you that Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and man, and that if you don't believe in him, you'll be damned?"

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traces; priests siding the civil power to still the least manifestations of liberal opinion; a watchful police fearful with state's prisons, and supported by foreign bayonets; only one free king, but which has been invaded by Austria after the restoration of 1843, and annihilated by the Roman see.

Italy is a vast province, whose gates are guarded by blood soldiers. There is a middle class in the Two Sicilies, active and intelligent; but the nobles are degenerate, and without military courage. As to the lazzaroni, the Neapolitan and Sicilian peasantry, they are the most ignorant and superstitious of any people in the world.

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THE DUTIES AND DIGNITY OF THE TEACHER'S CALLING. (The following is an Address delivered last winter, at the Island, to an Association of Teachers, by REV. A. H. KAY.)

(Concluded.) Let me, then, with all earnestness, exhort you to improve upon your mind as far as the improvement which you can, upon the minds of the young assembled in these small houses, often filled by uneducated and uneducated travellers, shall not transpire by his efforts, when you and they take leave of one another.

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