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LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 6, 1923

" UNITY AND ROME"

A very remarkable book, "Unity and Rome," has recently reached us from the MacMillan Co. of Canada. It is the work of a Protestant Episcopalian clergyman, Dr. Edmund the gates of hell shall never prevail. Smith Middleton, who regards him- Once more the Spirit of God-this self as a Catholic priest and who time in His divine capacity as the yearns for Catholic Unity. There is | Spirit of Truth-is brooding over the no shadow of doubt left on the waters, enlightening men's undermind of the reader of the author's sincerity, earnestness and zeal for the will of Christ, showing them the cause of Unity; of his Catholic faith, or his "Christ-like charity."

Some matter of fact Catholics there may be who will promptly Almighty God is waiting to say of ask, then why does he not become a Catholic at once?

We may let Mr. G. K. Chesterton answer those downright souls who, sympathy in dealing with those outside the visible household of the

"In these notes, I do not intend to say anything in any direct moves mountains. Thousands of him a new name of special signi- in those last days between His criticism of the Anglican Church or individual souls throughout the ficance when the Primacy is taken Resurrection and Ascension—surely the Anglo-Catholic theory, because world are praying for Unity. into account. St. Mark, not an the most solemn and impressive I know it in my own case to be the Bishops, clergy, inmates of religious Apostle, says, 'And Simon He surtime in His earthly ministry — gave worst possible way of going to houses, the Pope, are daily praying named Peter.' St. John, an Apostle, a final and wide-sweeping charge to work. The Church drew me out of that the will of Christ regarding writes more in detail. 'And when St. Peter. The fact that another Anglicanism, as the very idea of His Church may be fulfilled. Each Jesus beheld him, He said, Thou Apostle St. John, testifies to these Our Lady drew me long before out of ordinary Protestantism, by being Feast of the Conversion of St. shalt be called Cephas, which is We read in the last chapter herself, that is, by being beautiful. Paul-and during the Octave, the by interpretation, a stone.' Both of the Fourth Gospel, 'So when I was converted by the positive Holy Sacrifice and the prayers of Peter and Cephas mean 'stone.' attractions of the things I had not the faithful are offered for this yet got, and not by negative intention. God is not unmindful of disparagements of such things as I the prayers of His saints. This had managed to get already. When great moving force—the work of How was he a rock.' To such we Yea, Lord; Thou knowest that I those disparagements were uttered, the Holy Ghost—is gradually would answer that Christ gave this love Thee. He saith unto him, they generally had, almost against illumining the hearts and minds of my will, the opposite effect to that men, impelling them to definite back. I think, in my heart, I was God is brooding over the waters." already hoping that Roman Cathoa standard in the mood of that of St. Paul.] moment. I am, therefore, very sharper fashion the conclusion to recognizes: which I, and every other convert, have eventually come. It would be arguing that England had suffered in a thousand ways from being Protestant, and yet, at the same time, arguing that she had remained Catholic. It would be easy, and in a sense only too true. English half-conscious hypocrisy; the attempt to remedy a mistake

without admitting it. "But of most souls in such a subtle, and of all I knew far more sympathetic: and I have deliberately approached this problem by a route that may seem circuitous, but which I believe to be the right approach in such a problem of subtlety and sympathy.'

The Holy Spirit of God is evidently leading earnest souls outside the visible Church to the realization that there is a divine scheme achieved only when that divine the Gospels." plan is accepted.

Perhaps the best method to seize this earnest advocate of Unity puts own words:

the subject before his fellow-Chris-

Dr. Middleton writes:

vincible ignorance. Opinions which ority. shaped themselves, and self-confidsity.

"Lovers of Unity see in the movechaos. Another chaos has invaded ordination of fit persons. the world-this time the Christian world-seeking to rend the Church against which Christ has promised standing, recalling to their minds the evil results of going contrary to that will, holding out before them the blessings that wait on Unity. the work of His Son-as He did at Creation-that it is 'good.'"

efforts to achieve varying degrees alway, even unto the end of the excellent Catholics though they be, of union amongst different denominstaunch, loyal, fearless, lack ations our author makes this imagination, understanding and edifying reference to the Church named in the Gospels, St. Peter mistaken, or lacked divine intention aspect of wickedness when featured the thing for a man to do is not to Unity Octave:

"Besides these official actions of faith. In the last instalment of bodies of Christians, there is another Scriptures, if the Primacy of Peter "The special charge just referred "Where all Roads Lead" Chester- powerful agency at work, namely, is part of the divine plan. On the to was given before Christ's prayer-the most potent of all

lics would really prove to have pious and fervent observance of announced that He would build His Feed my sheep. He saith unto him more charity and humility than which is spreading throughout the Church. Notwithstanding Peter's the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, anybody else, and anything that world, begins Jan. 18, the feast of even seemed to savor of the the Chair of St. Peter and ends opposite was judged by too sensitive | Jan. 25, the feast of the Conversion |

The very first step after the recoganxious not to make that sort of nition of the evils of division is the mistake myself. It would be easy consideration of the principles of to put in a much shorter and unity. This Dr. Middleton frankly

"Two things are necessary precursors to real Unity-the spread easy to argue merely that our of Christ-like charity and the intelwhole position was a common ligent understanding of the Catholic contradiction; since we were always principles upon which alone Unity must rest.'

The plan of the book is thus set forth:

"It is a part of the author's to call the whole thing a piece of posals for Unity referred to above, transition the truth is far more the Fathers, the General Councils, and in degree and character what the essentials of Unity are. leaves no doubt on this point. It may sometimes wound our pride to do this, and test our courage to said, Thou art the Christ, the Son accept results arrived at, but fear- of the living God. And Jesus

attended by the blessing of God." of unity in the Church that Christ his plan may best be shown by say also unto thee, that thou art ever, result in Unity. . . . founded, and that Unity can be summarizing his chapter, "Unity in Peter, and upon this rock will I "It was a United Church for

direct Gospel narrative of the Andl will give unto thee the keys be One, even as He was One with

If our Lord had chosen an indefin- Matthew xvi., 16-19.) ite number of Apostles, or if He

the thoughts of men towards Unity Eucharist, to teach all nations, Holy Ghost, teaching them to questioned. . . . ment now under way the finger of observe whatsoever things He had Creation-bringing order out of continue the Ministry through the colleagues. There are to be twelve

> "Indeed, Christ could not have made His language stronger in conferring these powers on the twelve, as witness the following words:

'As my Father sent Me even so send I you.' ' All Power is given unto Me in

heaven and in earth.' 'Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Ghost.'

things whatsoever I have com- the power and responsibility of After referring to the various manded you: lo, I am with you strengthening his brethren of the world. Amen.'

always stands first. This is what in a matter affecting so intimately we should expect in the Inspired | the future of His Church. occasion of our Lord's choice of passion and suffering. As if this because behind it is the faith that Peter to the Apostleship, He gave was not enough, our blessed Lord year on the 25th of January-the art Simon, the son of Jona: Thou things, lends additional significance.

pay Paul, are fond of saying, 'Peter Jonas, lovest thou Me more denied His Lord not once but thrice. than these? He saith unto Him, new name to Simon with the most feed my lambs. He saith unto him deliberate intention. He called him again the second time, Simon, son intended, the effect of a slight set- action towards Unity. The spirit of Peter because he saw in this of Jonas, lovest thou me? He said Apostle the rock-like character unto Him, Lord, Thou knowest that The Church Unity Octave, the and faith, upon which He I love Thee. He saith unto him, blessed Lord saw in him the rock- grieved because He saith unto him man, who later on was to the third time. Lovest thou Me? denial goes, in the hour of Christ's knowest all things: Thou knowest humiliation all the Apostles forsook that I love Thee. Jesus saith unto Him and fled. The divine presci- him, Feed my sheep.' (John xxi, ence of Christ regarding Peter was 15-17.) part the Prince of the Apostles Scripture. How can they be power of the keys.' . . .

in which the highest powers of stance both attest to the solemnity present task to examine the pro- Ministry was bestowed is worthy of and meaning of this thrice-repeated special attention. As a matter of charge. If Peter was commanded, and compare them with what the fact, when the actual gift of Feed my lambs, Feed my sheep, Church in the past has set forth as Apostolic function was made, it then by direct and unavoidable the necessary conditions of Unity. was upon St. Peter first that the sequence the lambs and sheep of The study of our Catholic heritage- delegated authority was conferred, Christ must go to Peter to be fed. arrive at a clear understanding of language of the sacred narrative accepting the words of Christ in

"" And Simon Peter answered and lessness, accompanied by charity and answered and said unto him, humility, accomplishes much when Blessed art thou, Simon, Bar-Jona: for flesh and blood hath not lessness with which he carries out Father which is in heaven. And I has been done. It does not, how-He here follows the simple and hell shall not prevail against it. He intended that its members should

"In a certain and very real sense had confined the authority dele- keys' was given to St. Peter no Flock, the lambs as well as the and that the pastor depicted in the others. Two men may not know it is sin for the followers of Christ gated to them to the general mention whatever was made of the sheep. to live in disunity, although we promise, 'I will make you fishers other Apostles. The Father in "Unity, as outlined in the Gospels, far removed from any living priest of life of the one will affect the believe that Almighty God in His of men,' it is easily conceivable heaven had revealed to one man must ever remain the norm of the in the East End as a jail-bird other. Either directly or indirectly mercy and understanding of human that the Church might have been a alone the necessary faith in Christ's Church. Men have departed from by the name of John is from every man affects others. No man frailty pardons the misguided very different affair, and the Min- Sonship of the living God, and it, but the divine plan remains the the Gospel-writer of that name; the can become wholly hardened in a actions, which proceed from in- istry of no special or binding auth- accordingly upon one special powers same." and distinction were conferred. It "The next thing which the Divine was a personal matter between ing during the Church Unity Octave. ence which assumed unwarranted Head of the Church did was to these two, the Divine Head of the It is revealing, inspiring; Faith, felt the breath of the hound on him recognition to the man who lives authority, in the heat and strife of instruct the twelve in the things Church on the one hand, and the Hope, Charity, all three, will be the Reformation struggle, have now pertaining to the kingdom of Prince of the Apostles on the other. quickened by its perusal. had abundant opportunity to test heaven, -as far as was necessary at In this way our Lord provided for themselves in the light of exper- the time, and their capacity to the Unity of the Church by ience and practical results. As receive permitted. Upon St. Peter singling out one person for the men look backward aided by the and his colleagues He gradually Primacy. If there had been no perspective of several centuries mis- conferred increasing powers of Reformation with its attendant givings are beginning to arise in Apostolic Ministry. He gave them controversies, its need of bolstering tion : many quarters. Under God this power to bi id and loose, to forgive up new positions by denying growing doubt and dissatisfaction sins in His name, to consecrate His unpalatable claims made in other with church conditions are turning sacred Body and Blood in the Holy quarters, it is probable that the plain language of Christ would be in a way which suggested that he -its desirability, nay, its neces- baptizing them in the name of the accepted at its face value, and the had immoral relations with the girl Father, and of the Son, and of the Primacy of 'the Fisherman' never concerned. It has been proved to

> sources of Apostolic labors and one. . .

nothing meaningless in founding the Church, two further actions of our Lord are to be noted. 'And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted, strenghten thy brethren.' danger lies in the fact that it he advised them to do. (St. Luke xxii, 31, 32.) To no other 'Teaching them to observe all Apostle did the Son of God grant Apostolic college. It would be temerarious in the extreme to

they had dined, Jesus saith to "Protestants, who rob Peter to Simon Peter, Simon, son of human weakness, our lovest Thou Me? Peter strenghten his brethren. As far as And he said unto Him Lord, Thou

abundantly verified by the great "These are the plain words of played in the founding of the ignored? All the Apostles, save Church. To belittle St. Peter is Judas Iscariot, were present. Why practically to charge our Lord with did Jesus Christ single out Peter poor judgment in the choice of the Surely the Son of God, about, to Apostle who was to receive 'the ascend in His glorified body to His Father in heaven, would not triffe "It was said above that the order or deceive. Reason and circum-

"If the Unity of the Church is their entirety and without fear of consequence. Of course if any one is satisfied with the words of Luther, Calvin, or any other discoverer of 'the new learning' of the sixteenth century, in preference to the words

soever thou shalt loose on earth must have a head. Then, having face of possible guilt.

"At the time ' the power of the appointed shepherd to feed His side the range of the mud-slinger, others. What one does affects

We commend this book for read- to be vindicated.

JACK CANUCK RUN DOWN In its issue of Dec. 30th Jack Canuck makes the following retrac-

"In our issue of October 21st we reported as a matter of news that us that the story was unfounded and that, therefore, the man who "None of the special prerogatives | brought it to us sought to deceive character of the priest in question."

> panders to the rough-and-ready The big things of the world are intelligence of the masses without to be done by the individual. appreciation of moral principles.

slanderer, who, accepting the risk them into his power. of a lawsuit on the foolish imagination so wantonly atrocious.

reading public, and because priests were in another.

when the first is smitten. others they should not lack the can. courage to stand by their own lives When the private citizen decides lion-hearted Brébeuf, the patientlyour readers of this important fact founding of the Church by our of the Kingdom of heaven: and the Father. He provided a Primate and personal acts, when silence may to obey God's will, it may at first enduring Lalemant, and those many and of its stupendous significance divine Lord. Our object can best whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth among the Apostles, knowing that be interpreted as indifference to not be clear to him just what he is other martyrs or confessors of the is to quote the very words in which be served by quoting the writer's shall be bound in heaven; and what- every society, human or divine, wrongdoing, or as cowardice in the doing for his country; but consider Faith whose names are the cherished

powers, Christ bade the lawfully in that section of Toronto were out- munity; what one does is known to

that he withdrew his vile accusation right, and though they may be and the story a fabrication. Like there are many good men. most journals which labor in dark The influence of many individuals unless the bluff is called.

a priest in the east end of Toronto SHALL WE MAKEIT BETTER OR WORSE?

BY THE OBSERVER

will depend upon ourselves. The industrial town where men had to God. They think of the Spirit of commanded them, and finally granted to St. Peter individually us and the public. We regret that average citizen may say, "What get to their work at a very early God brooding over the waters at bestowed the enabling power to are shared by his Apostolic aspersion was thus cast upon the can I do to make the world better?" Well, we may be perfectly sure they should have a Mass and Printed uncleanness though not that any improvement that is made mission, but only one source of so realistic as acted uncleanness has in the world will be made by the said, in a thoughtful manner, Primacy. Unity proceeds from a much wider appeal. The public action of individuals, each in his "If there's anything in religion, mind is more affected by the daily own little place in life. No very that surely is genuine religion. "Remembering that Christ did newspaper press than by the stage, great thing to make the world the platform or the legislature. better can be done by one man or Unlike the actor who recites his by a few. The greatest preacher, piece and evokes a single round of orator, saint or law giver amongst applause, the press supplies the all the men who have lived and subject, preaches the sermon and died has done comparatively little invariably makes an application to better the world, save in so far as that strikes the imagination or he was able to persuade many rouses the senses. Its greatest others to act with him and to do as

> standard or model, and without any Reform that is enduring must begin with the individual, spread In view of its potentialities for from him to many other individuals, wrongdoing, the sins of calumny and so at last make a change in life "When the twelve Apostles are assert that Christ failed, or was and detraction put on a special and manners and morality. And so on the newspaper page. A glaring waste his time in moralizing in example of this abuse of power words as to what man ought to be appeared recently in the notorious and do, but to start and put his publication, Jack Canuck, which principles into action in his own reflects in its columns the miry life and in his own little affairs. It world of social evil that abounds was by that means that the early in "Toronto the Good." In that Christians made a impression upon article, an East Toronto priest was the pagans; and that is the way charged with indecencies shockingly for those who love truth and gross. Though the name of the justice to make an impression upon priest was not given, lest it might the new pagans. The world today lead to an expensive appearance is full of new pagans; but their in court, the imputation was outside paganism is not new; it is very old. the domain of generalities. The In all the ages since the devil began past history of our country the

publications, even it be the opposite with the capture of the individual removed, therefore, and in so tragirelationship of plaintiff and defend- soul. He does not capture any cally sudden a manner, must be ant. It is, moreover, felt that jour- nation or race as a nation or race; regarded as in a very real sense a nals, which seek out the running he deals with the individual; and it national loss. sores of society as vultures scent is the individual that must deal with a new feast, can blacken nobody, him. The victory for Christ must surprise nobody and shock nobody. be won by each individual for him- historical monuments in Canada There is also the higher considera- self and in the soul God gave him. (and we have to mourn many of tion of suffering infamy for Christ's The morality of a nation or a race is them) one is reminded that their sake, of turning the second cheek only the sum total of the morality disappearance has not in every case the Creeds, should enable us to superior to his brethren. The to be restored, men must begin by with uncomplaining submission of the individual citizens who com- been due to the elements, or to other pose that nation or race, and it is unavoidable causes, but to the ruth-This no doubt is a high brand of not as nations or races that we shall less hand of man. The old Jesuit Christian ethics, and well suited be saved or damned but as individ- College at Quebec is an outstanding to the contemplative life. It has uals, each for himself. Therefore example. Founded in 1685, one no home, however, in the rough it is by each man for bimself that year before Harvard, it had market place of life. Isolationists improvements are to be made in the sheltered at one time or another and anchorites are hardly recognized | condition of the world. The private | within its walls, those many pioneer of Christ, he will go his own way. in this century of noise and shout. citizen may not realize when he missionaries and explorers whose The admirable honesty and fear- revealed it unto thee, but my Such a procedure is conceivable. It Hence diocesan clergy who are takes up the practice of virtue that names are perpetuated in the great charged with the conduct and care he is doing anything in particular cities and waterways of this continof their flocks must often speak the for the improvement of his race or ent. Here Marquette, discoverer of words hirelings are afraid to utter. nation or of the world; but as a the Mississippi, prepared himself build my Church; and the gates of which Christ made these provisions. Having furnished leadership for matter of fact he is doing all he for the great task he was destined

a moment. No man lives to himself possession of every true Canadian,

"First, He chose twelve Apostles. shall be loosed in heaven." (St. clothed this head with necessary It mattered not that the priests alone; all are members of a comguise of a ravening wolf was as each other to speak to; yet the way priesthood was attacked and needed | community where the ordinary way of life is good. Men may sneer, but It was only when Jack Canuck despite themselves they give and came to the conclusion that unwilling to admit it, bad men are his informant was untrustworthy less bad in a community where

> places J. C. will continue to serve who are guided by principle is very up news at the price of calumny powerful though it may not be openly acknowledged. "Look here," said a man of the world to me one day. "I saw a great number of people coming out of the Catholic Church this morning before daylight. What's the meaning of Whether the world shall be made that?" I explained: There was a better or worse in the new year | mission going on; and as it was an hour, it had been arranged that sermon very early. "Well." he

> > The course of his thought seemed to be that if men were willing to give up a part of their well-deserved repose to practicing religion, there must be something in it. It is not only great preachers that sway opinion. All sermons are not preached in words. All commentaries on piety and morality are not to be found in printed books. The individual life is a continual means of edification or of scandal to others; and in this the responsibility of the individual consists in great part.

Let us then not look for too much from laws and governments and teachers and not even from preachers or missionaries. The immediate responsibility of man to God must be discharged individually; and that holds true even amongst Catholics who are united in an institution divinely founded to hold them together. Even here one man can only save the souls of others in the course of saving his

NOTES AND COMMENTS

By ALL those interested in the article stated the supposed culprit his attack upon the creatures of destruction by fire of the Basilica was one of the East Toronto clergy. God in the Garden of Eden, he at Quebec will be regarded as a It was in this particular that the has found no new ways of drawing calamity of the first order. It was not only one of the oldest, but far There are no new sins. All are and away the most historic monuation he could give the slip and old, very old. The desire to set | ment that we possessed, linking, as manage to get by, made his funda- themselves up as independent of God | it did, the Canada of today and its mental mistake. The constituency was the cause of our parents eating vastly different conditions, with the was too small to lie under an accus- the forbidden fruit; and the same earliest days of the French regime. desire is the cause of all the evils Its stone walls, too, stood as an From the manner in which the that still afflict the world. There epitome of the history and develgauntlet was thrown down, it was are no new moral evils. The devil opment of the Church in Canada. at once obvious that the skeleton can manufacture no new ones. All Not only was it associated with the of Ananias had no terrors for the he can do is to keep on appealing to great first Bishop of Quebec, Mgr. clergy of the East End. The human pride and vanity, and curi- de Laval, and with his long line of heinousness of the libel provoked osity, and lust and greed and selfish- successors, but from its storied their indignation to the point when ness; the same job he started in the portals have gone in years long past they determined neither to give nor Garden of Eden; and his methods those many valiant soldiers of the take quarter till the calumny was are the same now as they were then; Cross whose mission it was to carry retracted. The tarnishing vapor they have to be because the things the glad tidings of Christianity to had to be dispelled, or the journal- he wants to take from us are the the inmost recesses of the continistic polecat caged. The case was same now as they were then, and ent, and to blaze the way for the forthwith handed over to the law the only way he can take them from civilization that was to be. Within firm of Phelan and Balfour. This us is to get the individual soul into its walls, too, have assembled was an unusual step as ordinarily his power and away from God; and Diocesan and Provincial Councils such attacks are allowed to go as the passions of man have not without number, and last of all the unnoticed, for the reason that they changed, neither can the methods of first Canadian Plenary Council. So only appear in gutter journals which appealing to those passions be any that the venerable Basilica beare beneath the notice of the decent different in one age from what they longed not alone to the archdiocese of Quebec but to the whole Dominshun all association with such vile The devil's purpose is concerned ion. That it should now be

> REFERRING TO the destruction of to accomplish, and here, too, the