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.. Comprehensive Statement of the Position of Catholics.

Although the church, which is the im-

mortal work of the all-merciful God,

writes Pope Leo XIII. in his encyclical letter, "Immortale Dei," has as its first and essential mission the salvation of souls and the possession of the kingdom of beaven, yet it is of itself in the domain of purely earthly interests, the source of so many precious blessings that it could not produce more even though it had bee. founded with no other object than that of promoting the happiness of this present life. At the present time the minds of men are troubled and perplexed by the social problem. Many are to be found who, not content with proclaiming themselves the promoters and true champions of social progress, openly accuse the Catholic church of being the great obstacle in the paths of civilization. It matters not to tell them that Christianity in general, and Catholicity in particular, have been the most potent factors in the world's civilization, that the spirit of Jesus Christ alone has been able to heal the woes and miseries of mankind, that He alone taught all men that they are brothers, children of One Common Father, that Christianity alone has abolished slavery, cared for and tended the sick and the poer, the widow and orphan. the wretched and the miserable, that the spirit of Christianity set a religious seal on political economy and on the whole industrial system, inculcating upon its followers that wealth and profit are not an end but a means, no the summum bonum, but a g ft of God to enable man to attala . aven, that the church raised woman again to her true position as man's equal, and sanctified the home; and that when the Roman empire of the west was shivered to pieces under the onslaught of the barbarian hordes of the north, that the church, like a mother, nursed Europe in its childhood, saved it from savagery, and trained it for a more prosperous career. Men are to be found even in this boasted age of enlightenment and scientific research to proclaim that it is the church's aim and endeavor to bar the progress of the human race, and more particularly of the human mind.

The assertion has been so often reiter

ated that it has come to be regarded as a nort of first principle which cannot be called in question. In the first place we must bear in mind that the main object of the church's mission is to ensure mau's salvation by safeguarding the deposit of divine faith entrusted to her by her Divine Founder. If the church had done nothing else than preserve the dochave merited the esteem and gratitude of the human race, for it is incontestable that the knowledge of the religious truth taught by the church is of itself the richest treasure possessed by the human intellect. The catechism has been justly styled the people's philosophy. Jauffray, one of the representatives of infidel phil caphy, could not deny it. These are the words he made use of when addressing a numerous audience of the Sorbonne on the resume of Catholic doctrine contained in the catechism: "There is a little book which children are taught and about which they are questioned in church; read this little book, which is the catechism, and you will find therein the solution of all the questions that I have treated of all without exception. Ask the Christian whence comes the human race, he knows; whither it goes, he knows; how it goes, he knows. Ask this little chil i why it is here below, what will happen to it after death, he will give you a truly sublime answer which he does not understand, but which is none the less admirable. Ask him how the world has been created, and for what purpose; why God has placed animals and plants thereon; how the earth has been peopled, whether by one family or many, why people speak in divers tongues why they suffer, why they struggle, and how will all this end-he knows the answer. Origin of the world, the origin of species, questions of race, man's destiny in this life and in the next, man's relations to God, man's duty to his rellow-men, man's rights over creation, he is ignorant of none of these things. and when he grows older he will not hesitate about natural law, or political law, or international law, for all that flows with clearness and is of itself from Christianity. That is what I call a grand religion: I recognize it by this sign that it does not leave unanswered any of the questions that interest humanity.' Aithough the church has directly in

mankind, this duty of teaching has never excluded the knowledge which can adorn the human intellect. Man loved by God with such intensity, saved by the precious blood, cannot but be in his entirety an object of maternal solicitude to the church. Moreover, haman knowledge is far from being useless when we examine the sublime destiny of Christiunity. It aids the intellect to grasp more tirmly the foundations of faith, and the truths that it teaches; it is like an open road whereby these truths penetrate more easily and more deeply into the intellect. So intimately convinced was the church of this grand truth that it has inscribed in its canon law these two sentences whereby its ideas are expressed with no less force than brevity, "Ignorance is the mother of all errors." "Ignorance is "Ignorance is barely tolerable in a layman, it is inexcusable and unpardonable in a priest.' But may it not be said that many of the fathers spoke contempuously of philosophy, and looked askance at the study of the cassicsf Undoubtedly they did, and berein oblowed the example of St. Paul. who warned the flock against "oppositions of knowledge faisely so-called." Bin against that science which lifts itself up against the science of God. These fatners were men who had been nursed and trained a the philosophical schools. who had been tossed to and fro upon the foaming billows of error and doubt, who had experienced the practical powerlessness of philosophy in the work of regenerating mankind, and who had at last found sale anchorage within the baven of tue church. But no sooner had philosopay recognized the superiority of faith than it began to join sands with faith

view the religious and moral teaching of

CHURCH AND EDUCATION. and to establish a lasting friendship. Apologists of east and west, of the schools of Antioch and Alexandria, vied with one another in employing Greek philosophy to build up and explain Christian doc trine. Though many of the early" Chris tians declared "In Christ we have the truth, we need no other learning," and there were to be found many who abnorred classical learning as dangerous to Christian doctrine, yet the greatest and most clear-sighted of those who watched over the church's destinies, as well as the gr at majority of the eastern and western fathers -tarting from the principle that know rige is in i self 'a great gind, and that it abuse can never justify it suppression, from the first reaste, acathen superstition and heathen immorality, but not the Græco-Roman intellectual cu!

They discriminated between the com-

mon human element contained in classi

cal literature and the heathen element which enfolds it; the latter was to be rejected and the former to take its place within the circle of Christian ideas. They agree with St. Amphiloctius in the advice which he gave: "Be circumspect in dealing with them, collect the good that is in them, shun whatever is dangerous, imitate the wise bee, which rests upon all flowers and sucks only sweet juices from them." So clearly was this truth impressed upon the mind of the hurch that when Julian the apostate strove to deprive the Christian of this most important means of culture books were bastily composed by Christian authors for teach ing purposes, which, after Julian's death, were dropped for the ancient classics. When the barbaric horden of the north had swept down upon the venerable empire of Rome and it had crumbted to pieces beneath their repeated blows and they had established themselves upon its ruins, the church alone preserved the priceless treasures of antiquity and strive priceless treasures of antiquity and strive of this kind in modern things, a Rangdiol to turn them to account in the best inter- XIV whom ev n Voltaire hailed as the ests of mankind. All the enlightenment most learned man of the eighteenth cenof the present day, whereof the daring spirit of Europe will not permit us to forecast the ultimate consequences of ther to surselves or the other nations of the world, came originally from the bierarchy, which, when the Roman empire fell to pieces, surtained and directed the human race. It imported to the mind of North Europe which as yet possessed nelther elevation nor grasp of thought, a stirring, an energizing, and a life giving impulse, under the impact of which it was carried forward, retarted indeed by Who is there that fails to recognize the many adverse, and accelerated by some favorable circumstances, till it finally achieved the trium phs that are now before the world. The church seized up on and made its own the two languages, of the ancient world; by miprogriating XIII. as it has ever been by the Catholic them it immortalized them, by immortalizing them it saved the ideas with which they were impregnated, the notions which they contained: in a word, the whole of the intellectual treasure therein contained, for a language is like a running stream holding in solution all the elements of a people's life.

Thanks to the labors of the monks-

who have preserved for conturies now multiplied copies of the ancient classicsthe facilities for pursuing literary studies are more numerous and accessible than in any former age. In cloister schools and cathedral schools excellent masters were provided to impart free education to all comers and forbidden to receive any compensation for their labors. Soon the schools were transformed into universities, to which students flocked from all parts. "The pearl of knowledge," said Calixtus III., "makes man like to God. While everything else decreases by distribution, knowledge gains strength in proportion as it is. distributed." Hence, these seats of learning received then, as in every age since, special care and exceptional privileges from the popts. They were more numerous and far better attended in those so-called dark agos than in the present age of boasted progress and enlightenment. Ten thousand students flocked to the halls of Bologna, 18,000 were entered on the registers of Padus, 40,000 crowded the halls of Oxford. As early as the beginning of the fourteenth century Clement V. ordained that Hebrew, Arabic, and Chaldean should be taught at Rome, Paris, Oxford Bologna, and Salamanca. When the re action toward antiquity at the time of the rensissance took place what country took the lead? Italy, says a Protestant writer, in the middle ages was like Ararat in the deluge, the last reached by the flood, the first left. The great ascend ency of the papal power and the influence of Italian genius on the literature and fine arts of all countries made Italy es sentially the centre of light, the sovereign of thought, the capital of civilization. So thoroughly impressed was the papacy with the power of Christian science that Nicholas V., the founder of the Vatican library, himself an enthusiastic Christian humanist, did not besitate to place himself at the head of the great intellectual movement, hoping to make the capital of Christendom the capital also of classical literature and the centre of science and art. How blinded by prejudice, how ignorant of the history of the past, are they who accuse the church of paying but scant or no attention to the cultivation of

As we gaze back through the long vista of centuries what a giorious and magnificent line of thinkers and writers looms up before us! Hardly has the church come forth from the Catacombs, leaning on the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments, than she sees rising up for her defence champions such as Origen and Tertullian, Justin and Athenagoras A little later when the blasts of heresy seem destined to wither her away, there sten forth on her behalf the giant minds and eloquent tongues of saints like John Curysostom, Basil of Casarea, Gregory of Nazianzen, Jerome and Ambrose, Augustine and Leo the Great; later still she inspires the mighty works of Alfred toe Great and Anselem, Thomas Agnines and Bonaventure, Bossuet and Bourdalone, Fenelon and Massillon. Who can reckon up the remarkable works published in every language to expose, demonstrate, develop and defend religious truth. We must not forget that the first Hterary works of every kind are due to

Christian inspiration. The Divine Comedia, Jersalem Delivered, Paradise Lost, Athalic, hear witness to this truth If Paganum can boast of the age of Pericles and that of Augustus, Christianity has given birth to that of Leo X. and Louis IV. Had the church not clone anything else save rescue the master pieces of pagan literature from the wreck of the old world civilization, the church would deserve the gratitude of every thinking mind. It was the monks who snatched the precious manuscripts from the flames, that multiplied copies, that built those noble cathedrais watch cover the face of Europe, Whilst Guizot affirms that the Benedictines have educated Europe, Gibbons declares that one concent of that order has probably rendered more service to literature than the two universities of Oxford and Cambridge. What, too, have the popes not done for the cultivation of the intellect? I should never end were I to enumerate all the services rendered by the papacy to the sacred cause of learning. May we not point with pride and exultation to a pope at the head of the Renaissance, to the refugees from Constantinople seeking a shelter under the shadow of the papal throne, to Las earls teaching Greek to astoaish Europe on the Esquiline close to the palaco of Leo X to Nicholas V. supporting a legion of learned men for the purpose of collect ing manuscripts throughout the world to Pine II mingling his own lights with hee of his own disciples?

Or, coming nearer to our ow times, was it not Paul III, who encour ad Co pernicus la bis immortal discoveries, Gregory XIII who reformed the calendar, S.xtus V. who developed the Vatican library which is the admiration of the universe! Was there not scated on the pontifical throne on Urban VIII. whose poetical effusions in Latin verse rank with justice among the finest productions tury! In conclusion the reverend preacher said that despite every provocation the church is in no way hostile to science. As the bas been its friend in the past, so will she be in the future. What greater proof of the caurch's desire for the intellectual welfare of her children could I give you tuan the action of the present glorious pondiff, Leo XIII.) Who is there that knows not that by his knowledge, his writings and his works, he marches out at the head of contemporary civilization! zeal with which Loo XIII. favors and recommends deep and carnest study, by it in literature or natural science, or history, or philosophy, or theology- in a word, in every branch of human knowle church. It is the science which is immerced in matter and assigns elernity unto it, the science which lowers man to the level of the brute beast, denies the spirituality and immortality of the soul, and that which by its extravagances undermines the foundation of moral, do mestic and social order; it is the solence which seeks to prove teat there is no God. that man may wallow undisturbed in the with and mire of sensual denghts: It is the science which is ever foolishly striving to convince the human race that Christ is an impostor and His Revelation a lie. With this there has been, is now, and shall over be, unceasing, truccless, unrelenting war. - Father Donnelly.

Suspicion is the sure read to misurader standing.

When two ride the same horse one must ride behind. He who will never stoop will never

stand highest. It is hard to keep a fire burning in the

teeth of a storm. Intolerance most intolerantly denounces

intolerance.

Self-sufficiency proceeds from independence.—Addison. Love is a severe critic. Hate can par-

don more than love. An idle reason lessens the weight of the

good ones you gave before. To remember-to forget! Alas, this is

what makes us young and old.

He who can suppress a moment's anger may suppress a day of sorrow.

Those who trample on the helpless are liable to cringe to the powerful.

Never excuse a wrong action by saying that some one else does the same thing. The smallest party is big enough for friends; the biggest party is too small for

enemics. Sometimes the man steals money; other times, and more frequently, money steals.

the man. The excesses of our youth are drafts on

old age, payable about thirty years after late.--Colton.

Avarice, which too often aftends wealth. is a greater evil than any that is found in

poverty.-Fielding. The most innocent pleasures are the

sweetest, the most sensible, the most affecting, and the most lasting.

Home is sometimes thought flat and dull, and too often mare so, just for want of understanding what it stands for. The best portion of a man's life is his

kindness.-Wm. Wordsworth. True pleasure is only found in the union of what charms the heart as well

little, nameless, unremembered acts of

as the senses and leaves behind no regret. "I said 'Our Fether' with so much contrition and recollection. pronouncing every word, and though I was plunged in great auguish by the thought of my sins, yet received immense consolation, and chosen in the Catholic church, the tasted something of the blise God crants His beloved ones. I have never found a better way of realizing His mercy than by saying that prayer which Jesus Him- the bishops of the socialisatical province self taught us."-B. Angela.

Rev. Father Joseph Grein of the Redemptorist orden and a professor in St case; the Ray, John L. Railly o. Soke-Clement's college, is dead of pneumonia at Saratoga, N. Y. He was 26 years of exe. Archbishop Satolli, the respit delegate ally known that the blabous of the New

to the United States, wrote that he Took province here met yet, but they would be unable to be present at the con held a secret conference in Albany on accration of Bishop Tierney, of Hart Feb. 5 after the month's mind mass for fort, Conn. He had made another Bishop McNelrny. Achbishop Corriges engagement previous to the selection of passided at this meeting, and the others

of the French" republic for An explana Newark, McQuaid of Rochester, Ludden tion of the reports that an entente is pend of Syracuse and O'Farrell of Trenton. The French ambas ador to the rations primis were andmitted to them, but it is alliance was formed.

The grand jury at Fort Wayne, Ind. has returned an indictment against priests, it is generally from the bishops W. P. Bidwell, editor of the American Eagle, the A. P. A. paper, charging him Mgr. Farley, it is believed by cleray here with criminal libel, the alleged victim being Rev. Father Borg, of St. Vincent's Nelrny, and Father Mooney, no the story Orphan asylum. Editor Bidwell was released on \$300 bond. In a recent civil suit brought by Bishop Rademacher, Bluwell be formed in the present arch was fined \$600 by Judge O'Hourke for

The Roman Catholic grobiliocsas York is so large that its division has been snoken of for several years. It comprises the city and county o. Now York and the countles of West chester, Putnam, Dutchess, Vister, Sullivan, Orange, Richtend and Rocklind and the Bahama islands. In this territory are more Catholics than any other Ameri can see can boast of. They are estimated at 600,000. The archidocese of Chicago has \$50,000 Catholics and Philadelphia claims 470,000. In making the visitations of the 212 churches under his jurisdiction and administering confirmation in them-Archbishop Corrivan is kept pretty busy for more than half of every year. The new diocese, it is said, will comprise the upper portion of the present territory, with the

residence of the blatop in Poughkeepsie. White in Lansing, Mich., Grand Com-mander D. A. Raynolds of the Ancient Order of Loyal Americans, the may semisecret industrial organization which is he expects to muster in thirty-seven regi-ments of the order. "The United Labor organizations of that city," hesaid, "have decided to enlist under our banner, which, I think, will give the order a men and wonderful impetua" Commander Roynolds mays that the organization now has a strong footing in lorty-lour-states and territories, and that 1,000 counties are completely organized. He expects to an list 1,000 recruits in this city before leaving for Chicago.

Dr. Granger, of Chater, the famous physic and oculist, who has been in ating so until Easter.

Catholics may not have direct interest in freemasonry, but the opposition of that order to the church lends a certain importance to its affairs. The latest masonic news is that Mrs. Mary E. Lease claims to be a Mason and makes the startling statement that she troposes to organise lodges of Masoury for women throughout the country. Mrs. Lease wears upon her bosom suspended by a gold chain, a Knights Templer charm, with the usual keystons of the chapter on the reverse side, and she declared that she is as much entitled to wear it as any man who belongs to the Templar order. She says her commundery is Hugh de Payne, of Fort Scott, Kan., and offers to prove to Masons that she knows all the signs and passes of the order, blue lodge and chapter, and that she obtained them legitimately. She says it Masoury is good for men it is much better for women, me they are more needful of protection that men. She says once by giving a sign of the order she was sayed from personal violence, and from that moment she resolved to give to women the same advantages of Masonry that she shjoys. She said that she was thoroughly up in the Masonic work and it was not necessary for her to obtain the consent or aid of men in fulflating women, and if the men refused to recognize her disciples as Masons, they could and would not independenely of them and conduct lodges and grand lodges of their own. Mrs. Lease admits that it is contrary to the Masonic rule for women to become members, but she declines to state how she gained the secrets of the order. She challenges any Mason to test her on the secret work of the order. The Masons demy her claims and say she is not a Mason, and that if the splitting, the striping, the mooninging, she has obtained the metrics of the order the blown of the rough flet upon that in it was by undue means It is known that all the necessary stops

loward making a New York priest bishop of the diocese of Albany have been taken. That priest, it is declared, will be either Mgn John M. arley, pastor of St. Gabriel's church in East Thirty seventh street. New York, or the Rev. Joseph Mooney pastor of the church of the Sacred Heart in West Fifty-dist street, New York city. When a bishop of a diocese is to priests of the vacant diocese, represented by the irremovable rectors and the late bishop's coronitors and in which the diocese is located make un

lists of candidates and send them to the pope Each list is composited three names. The priests list is made up fir t It is submitted to the blabous, and they may dither indorse it of make up a new list. The Albany priests met atter Rishop McNierny's funeral, and is in said the clergymen they selected are the Very Rev. Thunks M. A. Barke of Albatty, vicar ground of the Albany diopectade and the Very Ray. James Mo-Dercott of Giens Falls. It is not generpresent were Bishow McDounett w The vatican has asked the government Bruklyn, Ryan of Buffalo, Wigger as

ing between France and the couldnat. The candidates selected by the Albany has assured Cardinal Rampolla, papal said the blahope did not ratify the select By the decision of Pope Lea XIIL, as secretary of state, that France will main thous. It is said in this city that the tain reserve on the subject until the ex- oper chosen by this conference of bishops cardinals who compose the congregation piration of the time for which the tripple as candidates are Mgr. Farley, Father Mooney and Father Burke, whose manie heads the list prepared by the Albany list that the pare welects the new bishop. will be appointed to succeed Blakop Me goes, will be reserved to become the head of the new diocese that rumor says is to

> More than 100,000 persons gut ered at St. Peter's, Rome, Feb. 18, to see the rope celebrate the last mass of his jubiles year. During the mass the pope were the mitrogiven him by the German emperce and afterward the tiers presented to him by Emperor Frank Jumph of Anktria-Hungary. He looked exceptionally well and his voice was clear and airceg.

> The man was abended by pilgrims from all parts of Italy, many tourists, a majority of the diplomation in Mouse and a host of Italian noblemen and Knighta of Malks. The pope was burns to the alter the marile Restrictorie's Incheses ph. signdinals and bis ops. At the some inclusion of the mass His Holiness intened the to deum, the rust congregation responding. Designing were the cheers when the popemtered and left the church.

The season of lent is here. Our mother

the church, calls upon us to fast and pray

and do renance for our sine. Rack one who cannot fast should sak for some practical and methodical work of picty to other states, said that he should leave be found that ten minutes serious modi-Lord. It could be varied in many ways some of them so simple that a shild might lears then; and God alose knows of what lummane value to us this practice faithfally continued through one less would be. Let us consider, then, by His quist-ing grace, that most helpful spiritual de-votion realled meditation. Father Paper hangald that our life must be an unretemoted supermutural love, he if it were a purt of God's life rather than our own: mam a at entage a tade on siles orlas is a mam what our not me well on what he only need by faith as ou what he sees with his eyes: tendance upon Mr. Gladstone, has faith is the more real of the two to him. been interviewed in regard to the coundly On the strength of these words of his, les tion of Mr. Gladatone's eyes, it having his some time during the first day of lenk been said in some quarters that the prime kneel down before the crucific either in minister was threstened with blinksess church or is our home. By Torus dies resulting from tataracts. Dr. Granger that we may take the posture essiest for said that Mr. Gladstone's system are as us to keep ourselves from distraction and good as they were a year ago. His gen- that smables us best to make our prayer. eral condition was also good. He further But let us kneel at first in the hely pressaid, when question upon the statement emos of God, to beg His sid; then sek onethat he had been aummoned to examine selves who is it that suffere? What does Mr. Gladstone's eyes on the arrival a Hesuffer! Why does Hesuffer! Whe is week ago of the prime minister from this that suffered Did you ever see a Blarritz, France, that he was to make an mother when her little child lay dying? examination, but had no intention of do. Did you ever wonder how she sadured to watch the slight form writes in anguish, the dear lips become purched and purple, the eyes sook her eyes in piseous pleading, and then grow fixed sed dime the faint voice salt her by her award

name mother, and is a sey she will seem

to hear forever, and yet will never hear

agraint He who suffers on Calvacy to

more to us than shild to mother or

mother to child. Oh, as we look up and

watch Him, are not our hearts beating

with grief and level Yet, why does He miffer? We know the answer. Shame covers car faces, and one eyes burn away from that blood-stained faces united there to the shameful tree. He suffers-God bein us!-for your sine and mine. We drove the mails through those innocont hands, those harmless foot the speer through that blossed side; we present the thorns into His venerable forehead, where the crowns of the universe should be. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Can you tell me why grief and love do not overwhelm us, why these hearts of I is wisdom to my little ours do not break? One day, one hour, that we cannot endure to semember now. we oracided Jesus Christ. Why does He suffer! We all must suffer. If we think of what He vouchsafed to endure, we in all be better fitted to bette our own dietress. Ho suffered bodily angulas to an unparalleled degree, because of the nuparalleled sensitive organization of His human frame. Besides this, He antiered in-tartor augusts beyond our powers of sonception, and ignoming and insule to the last degree few persons are able to dwell lant degree new persons are a see to await long at a time, at least under ordinary spiritual conditions, upon the notical depths of shame and angulak to which our most dear and holy Lord descended in these final hours of wos. We speak of nocent head and face, the tennes, the gibes the sneers the vile and awful lies: but what words can seavey the elekening and outrageous horser of the whole terrible trial? The Immaculate Mother of God could stand to behold it. We sinners fall down with Magdalen at the foot of the awful tree. And there we learn less some that nothing else would have such the free thing to power to teach us lessons of heartfelt contrition, patient endurance, forgiven an of enemies, bearing of wrongs; and we learn there expecially to-day's lesson of charity for while we were yet sinners.

Christ died for us. Generally speaking there is no sin so hard to excuse as the

wrong which touches ourselves 4 H

Thy holiest mame The standaress and slayers ? forgive them for they know not

pretification at the position action of the church on Joan & honoring a type of which not one nath only, but all the world, will gladly pay homage—the type of pure and woman kood in a semmal and moretical upon the formal recommendations of C of rites, Joan of Arc is henceforth fluded in the ranks of those when t Catholic church halfs as "yenerabla" Although the "Introduction of the am tolic process, as it is technically strict does not lead to cannobization or PVVIII the minor honors of heatification. make a distinct step forward in that Vi arm of the Maid of Orleans manh; matter at all will allow to seek to

and the hore love of the to Jank of Arc. "Is to busine own fair fruits. It is the

no remail right if the would you go to the bire in ajusies pou ânce pu malir losses in the end if w all the beek biting and been by the way. The

are sick with His lett arms the Latter and the appropriate the Birth and I feel more con agos against Bud-