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Not Yet Satisfied

It would appear that the Masonic hatred of the Church in France is not satisfied notwithstanding the persecution of the last five years. It is reported that the poor nuns who still remain in the so-called Republic, though they live in their own property secured to them by years of possession are to be driven out into the world and this same property is to be confiscated by a heartless and religion-hating Government.

These French haters of all things religious are determined to stop at nothing to root out God from the mines and hearts of the people. Moral rights, considerations of equity, even law itself will not restrain them in their mad crusade.

We have an instance before us of a commissioner of charity refusing aid to an indigent widow unless she took her children from the Catholic school!

And this in a country supposed to correspond to the United States so far as personal and religious liberty are concerned!

What Balmez Says.

It is the amusement, to say nothing harsher, of the haters of the Church to prate about the way in which Science disproves Religion. They go far as to say that Religion and Science cannot travel in the same boat. These could well learn a lesson from Balmez, the eminent Spanish historian. He says:-

"I see the illustrious race still continue through the calamities of the eighteenth century; and in the nineteenth I see the fresh heroes who, after having followed error in all directions, come to hang their trophies at the Catholic Church. What, then, is this prodigy? Has a sect or a religion like this ever been seen before? These men study every thing; but always agreeing in unity of doctrine, they band their intellectual and noble brows in respectful obedience to faith."

Converts Numerous.

According to figures secured by the Apostolic Mission House, there were about 33,247 converts received into the Catholic Church during 1911. Careful figures say these figures are conservative rather than exaggerated. They claim that, on an average there is one convert in each 400 of the Catholic population of 15,000,000. This would foot up 36,000. These figures would add 10,000 more deathbed conversions, received in hospitals and so on, of which regular parish records have no trace officially.

However, taking the Mission House figures as authentic and they were secured from chancery records, the total is one which will mean much to the Church. As these converts go among their fellows, as they marry and rear their own families, as they enter the priesthoods and religious their influence for good can scarcely be measured.

The Mission House figures show this annual increase in con-

verts:-in 1908, 25,055; in 1909, 23,789 and in 1911 to 33,247. Truly the Church is alive in America!

Cannot Stand It!

It is refreshing, always, to hear non-Catholic praise but it is doubly so when non-Catholics refute bigoted attack from those of their own ilk.

An unnameable sheet has been publishing as a part of its propaganda against the Church an alleged Papal encyclical dated December 25, 1891, and addressed "To the Jesuits, Patriarchs, Primate, Archbishops, and other Ordinaries in peace and communion with the Apostolic See of the Entire world."

It would appear that any one with half an atom of acquaintance with Catholic usage, etiquette or procedure would not have attempted to palm off as genuine such bare-faced forgery but it would also appear that the sheet in question is edited by such an ignoramus that he could not see wherein his document bore internal evidence of its falsity. However, a writer in the Protestant Episcopal "Living Church" which is anti-Papal enough could not let the forgery pass and so he treats it as follows:-

"This absurd document, composed by some one so ignorant of the ordinary forms of the Roman Court as to make a tissue of blunders from beginning to end, purports to be a declaration of war against the American Republic, with a command to all Catholics to exterminate the heretics that live within its territories. This precious paper has been printed before in the same columns. The only authority given for it is the 'Christian Leader' of April 11, 1893, and the Sunday 'Oregonian' of April, 1895. Patently it is not intended as a joke. I am bound to say that men who circulate such a forgery in their endeavor still further to embitter religious prejudices are servants of the devil.

One for Sickles.

Generals Sickles and Miles, both retired United States officers, and as such drawing salary from the Government, part of which pension is drawn from the pockets of Catholic tax payers, are allied with the "Guardians of Liberty," the [new A. P. A. organization.

The Pittsburg Catholic reads these worthiest this lesson:- General Nelson Miles, going daft in his connection with the "Guardians of Liberty," might take a lesson from the great general Winfield Scott, who led our armies to victory in Mexico. He had no dark lantern blood in his veins. In his proclamation to the Mexicans he said: "We are friends of the peaceful inhabitants of the country we occupy, and the friends of your holy religion, its hierarchy, its priesthood. The same church is found in all parts of our country. Crowded with devout Catholics and respected by our government, laws and people."

Hon. E. G. Dunn, of Mason City, Iowa, who recently won the Democratic nomination for Governor of Iowa, is a young Catholic lawyer and at present state deputy of the Knights of Columbus.

In 1906 there were 240 special trains bearing pilgrims to Lourdes. In 1911 they had increased to 424.

The manuscripts in the Vatican number 40,000 and surpass not only in number but also in value and interest those of all other libraries in the world combined.

On one day recently Archbishop Prendergast, of Philadelphia, confirmed over 1,000 persons in one church, 875 in another, and in still another 585. Total, 2,450.

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