[*From the American.*]

DEATH OF THE POPE, LEO XII.

The Catholic Church is in mourning. Its head, the worthy Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth has departed for a better life. He has gone to the bosom of God, to join the Holy Pontiffs who have been seated before him in the chair of St. Peter. The whole Catholic world will long regret him. His Pontificate has been short, but marked by acts which will make him celebrated in the annals of the Church.

Leo XII was born in 1760, near Spoletta, and belonged to the ancient and illustrious family *Della Genga*. Before his elevation to the pontifical throne he had been successively Archbishop of Tyre *in partibus*, Bishop of Senigaglia, Cardinal-Priest by the title of St. Mary Frastevera, and at last Vicar-General of His Holiness Pope *Pius vii*. The purple was conferred on him in 1816 by that sovereign Pontiff, after his return from France, where he had been charged with a mission at the court of His Most Christian Majesty. His elevation to the Papacy exhibits this peculiarity, that he was perhaps the Cardinal least thought of. This is so true that in the first fortnight of the Conclave of 1823, he obtained but very few suffrages. The greatest number of votes was given to Cardinal *Severoni*, who was on the point of being elected, when it was declared in Conclave that Austria was opposed to that nomination.* Cardinal *Severoni* then declared himself for the Cardinal *Della Genga*, who was elected a few days after. I am able to speak with certainty of this, for the accoun' of the election was shown me at Rome, and left in my hands for several days.

Leo XII. had scarcely been elevated to the Pontifical Throne when he undertook the reform of the Clergy in the Roman States, and in so efficient a manner that an important change was remarked in the habits and manners of the priests of that country. He declared in a Consistory, that in future the purple should be conferred on real merit only, without respect to birth and offices, which before gave a title to it; and in various selections which he made, he was faithful to his word.—Notwithstanding the representations of the King of Spain, he gave bulls to the bishops nominated by the governments of the new republics of America, because he considered himself the father of the Faithful, and thought that under this title he ought rather to watch for the good of the churches of those people, than to agree to the senseless policy of Ferdinand 7th.—These, among a thousand others, are acts which will immortalize the pontificate of Leo XII. and transmit his name to posterity together with those of Leo X. Innocent XI. and Benedict XIV.

The private character of this Sovereign Pontiff was not less admirable than his public. He divided his time equally between his devotions and the cares of business. He reduced the expenses of his household in order to be the better enabled to give succour to the unfortunate, and rewards to those who seemed to him worthy of them. His erudition was profound. The literature of no country was unknown to him, and he was acquainted in an eminent degree with that of France and Italy. Thus he encouraged letters, the sciences and the arts, by all the means in his power. He often went from the Vatican without retinue, to the work shop of a sculptor or a painter, and never departed without having given proofs of his good taste, or lett marks of his munificence. He conversed familiarly with every body, and his conversation had an indescribable charm. Those who had the happiness of being in his company, experienced mingled sentiments of respect, admiration and delight. I shall never forget his words to me the last time I had the honor of being admitted to his presence, in the September of 1827.—After some observations equally just and spirited, and counsels full of tenderness and paternal affection, he finished with these words: "My child it is not necessary that a young man should be a monk; it is suffieient that he be a good Christian."

Leo XII. laboured under a severe infirmity. He experienced at times violent pain, which reduced him to the point of death. The physicians even declared at the time of his election, that he would not long fill the pontifical chair. Their prediction happily was not accomplished till recently, and this Holy Father has had time to distinguish his pontificate by great actions, and to edify the Church by every species of virtue. My voice is too feeble to speak worthily of him; but I consider myself as fulfilling a duty of conscience in thus testifying the regret that his death has caused me. L. L. P.

*The King of France the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Spain have each the right to oppose the elevation of a cardinal to the pontifical chair; and when they have declared their intentions to the Conclave, the cardinals cannot elect him to whom these sovereigns are opposed.

LIBERIA.—The March number of the African Repository contains a letter from the Colonial Agent, Dr. Randall, giving very satisfactory accounts of the condition and prospects of the colony. At the stores in Monrovia there are goods and African produce to the amount of not less than seventy thousand dollars, and there is twice that value in the settlement if we include all the convertible property. Of the climate, situation, fertility and popution of Liberia, Dr. Randall speaks in high terms. At the date of his letter, (28th Dec.) the climate was delightful, not being very warm during the day, and requiring a blanket at night; and though this was the sickly season, there was little disease, and that not of an alarming character. He considers Monrovia quite as healthy as any of our southern cities, and the settlements on the Stockton and the St. Paul's have even a better reputation for health. With proper precautions, and even moderate prudence, emigrants, he thinks, may come from any of the northern states with little risk from the climate. The situation of Monrovia is the most delightful that can be imagined, and nothing but some unfortunate disaster can prevent its becoming one of the most important commercial cities on the African coast. Even the most barren parts of the Cape lands are suitable for gardening, and the very worst part will produce coffee and the several varieties of fruits.—Most of the settlers also at Caldwell and the "half-way farms," have good houses, and all of them have flourishing plantations of rice, cassada, plantains and potatoes, with many other fruits and vegetables. These lands are admirably adapted to sugar and cotton. Those on both sides of Stockton creek, are equal in every respect to the best lands on the southern rivers of the United States. It is pleasing to hear that the recaptured Africans, whose terms of service to the colonists had expired, and who had been placed immediately in the rear of the half-way farms, have built themselves comfortable houses and enclosed lots in which cassada, plantains and potatoes are growing luxuriantly. Their position is particularly salubrious, and their situation, contrasted with that they were destined to by infamous slave traders, is grateful to the contemplation of humanity. Dr. Randall says that if he had under his direction an armed vessel, with forty men, principally black sailors from the United States, he would pledge himself that the slave-trade should not be carried on in the neighborhood of this colony, though it is now carried on to a greater extent, to the southward of it, at the Gallenas, than for many years. The slavers are generally fitted out at Cuba or Brazil. He wishes the Board of Managers to urge on Government the necessity of keeping a vessel on this coast, which he is certain can be done with little risk from disease.

The St. Paul's is a deep navigable river extending several hundred miles northerly, and free, after passing the falls at Millsburgh, from all obstructions. By means of it a trade will, in time, be opened far into the interior, and much of the gold and ivory now carried to Sierra Leone and Cape Coast, be diverted to Monrovia.

There is a mistake in announcing as a subscriber on Mr. Smith's plan, Robert Gibson of Baltimore. It should be Robert Gilmor, Esq.—[Balt. Amer.

MR. CLAY having exchanged a seat in his private carriage at Smithfield, for one in the public stage, to accelerate his arrival at Uniontown, Pa. and finding himself inconveniently crowded in the stage, took a seat with the driver. As he came within a few miles of Union, he met an escort intended for him, which having manifested some surprise at his situation, he observed, "Gentlemen, you find me here an *Out*, but, I assure you, that the *Ins*, behind me, are not more comfortably situated."—*Reporter.*

CONVENT OF THE GREAT ST. BERNARD.

I had not been two hours under its roof, before a burst of wind, that reminded me of nothing but the roar of Niagara, shot down the side of Mont Velan, stripped away the gathered snow of half a century in an immense sheet, and hurled it full upon the convent. All was in an instant commotion. The table deserted by the chief part of the brotherhood, who hurried to see that the casements and doors were made secure. The ground flour of the building, which is occupied with stables, and storehouses for wood and other supplies of the convent, was a scene of immediate confusion, from the crowding in of the menials and peasantry. I ventured one glance from my window. Summer was gone at once; and 'the winter wild," was come in its stead. The sun was blotted out of the heavens; snow in every shape that it could be flung into by the most furious wind, whirlpool drift, and hill, flashed and swept along. Before evening it was fourteen feet high in front of the Hospice. We could keep our fingers from being icicles only by thrusting them almost into the blazing wood fires; the bursts of wind shook the walls like cannon-shot, and I made a solemn recantation of all my raptures on the life of an Augustin of St. Bernard As the night fell, the storm lulled at intervals, and I listened with anxiety to the cries and noises that announced the dangers of travellers, surprised in the storm.—The fineness of the season had tempted many to cross the mountain without much precaution against the change, and the sound of horns, bells and the barking of dogs as the strangers arrived, kept me long awake. By morning the convent was full, the world was turned to universal snow; the monks came down girded for their winter excursions; the domestics were busy equipping the dogs, fires blazed, cauldrons smoked, every stranger was pelissed and furred up to the chin, and the whole scene might have passed for a Lapland carnival. But the Hospice is provided for such casualties; and after a little unavoidable tumult, all its new inhabitants were attended to with much more than the civility of a continental inn, and with infinitely less than its discomfort The gentlemen adjourned to the reading room, where they found papers and books which seldom passed the Italian frontier. The ladies turned over the portfolios of prints, many of which are the donations of strangers who had been indebted to the hospitality of the place, or amused themselves at the piano in the drawing room (for music is there above the flight of the lark) or poured over the shelves to plunge their souls in some "flattering tale" of hope and love, orange groves, and chevalier plumed, capped and guitarred into irresistible captivation. The scientific manipulated the ingenious collection of the mountain minerals made by the brotherhood. Half a dozen herbals from the adjoining regions lay open for the botanist; a finely bound and decorated album, that owed obligation to every art of poetry, lay open for the pleasantries, the memorials, and the wonderings of every body; and for those who loved sleep best, there were eighty beds.

[Tales of the Great St. Bernard.

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

CATHOLIC DISABILITIES.—At a time when the whole population of Great Britain and America—nay of every Catholic and every Protestant country—are more or less excited on the subject of Catholic Emancipation, it may be interesting to inquire what are the disabilities under which so large a portion of His Majesty's subjects are labouring, and from which they have been praying almost for centuries, to be released? We shall state them as they stood in 1812, since which time, we believe, few or no changes have been made.

A Catholic Peer cannot sit and vote in the House of Peers.

Nor a Catholic Commoner in the House of Commons.

A Catholic Priest cannot celebrate marriage between two Protestants, or between a Protestant and Catholic unless already married by a Protestant, under penalty of £500.

A Catholic cannot be Lord High Chancellor, or Keeper or Commissioner of the Great Seal.

Nor Master or Keeper of the Rolls.

Nor a Justice of the King's Bench, or of the Common Pleas.

Nor a Baron of the Exchequer.

Nor Attorney or Solicitor General.

Nor King's Sergeant at Law.

Nor a Member of the King's Council.

Nor a Master in Chancery.

Nor Chairman of Sessions for the county of Dublin.

Nor Council to the Commissioners of Revenue.

Nor the Recorder of a City or Town.

Nor an Advocate in Spiritual Courts.

Nor a Sheriff of a County, City or Town.

Nor Sub-Sheriff.

He cannot be Lord Lieutenant, Lord Deputy, or other Governor of Ireland.

Lord High Treasurer, or Lord of Treasury.

Governor of a County, or Privy Counsellor.

Post Master General, Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Secretary of State.

Vice Treasurer, Teller or Cashier of the Exchequer.

Keeper of the Privy Seal, or Auditor General.

Provost or Fellow of Dublin University.

Lord Mayor or Alderman of a corporate city or town.

He cannot be a member of a Parish Vestry.

Nor bequeath any sum of money, or any lands for the maintenance of a clergyman, the support of a Chappel or School.

In corporate towns, Catholics are uniformly excluded from Grand Juries.

It would perhaps be tedious to recite the whole list of offices of trust, emolument, or dignity, from which the Catholics are excluded either by the express letter of the law, or by the application of oaths and tests.—Suffice it to say that the learned author of Vindiciæ Hibernicæ computes the number of stations in Ireland alone, which these offices embrace; at *three thousand, seven hundred and forty eight!!*

It is not strange that a people groaning under such oppression should be importunate; that they should have followed up their petitions year after year and generation after generation; and that, between hope and fear, they should some-times have overstepped the bounds of order and law. If England would heal the wound which weakens the body politic; if she should engage the real sympathies of Ireland in her behalf, and make one nation of lands which "abhor each other;" the course is a plain one Ireland must be admitted to the privileges of Englishmen. We know they are some chiefly connected with the Established Church who forebode the most disastrous consequences should Catholic Emancipation be granted. But why should they fear? In the United States the experiment has been fairly tried, of granting a free and full toleration to all religion and the result is such as to convince every American of the safety and wisdom of the principle.—Make men happy, and they will be loyal; oppress them, and their loyalty will be only a cloak to conceal the hand of an assassin.

From the Baltimore Gazette.

TROTTING MATCH—We publish below an account of the performances of the celebrated American Horse Tom Thumb, at the late trotting match in England. An account from Bells Life in London says that notice has been served upon the gentleman with whom the owner of the American horse some time ago, made a match of three parts, of his intention to attempt performing those matches on the 23d of March, within a hundred miles of London. The following were the bets made:—First, £750 to £250 that a horse could not be found to trot four miles in 12 minutes; second, £500 to £250 that the same horse did not trot four miles in twelve minutes and a half; and lastly, £250 even, that the same horse could not trot four miles in 13 minutes—all in harness, and all to be done on the same day. There is no stipulation as to the particular animal to be engaged. To win all his bets the horse must do at the rate of a mile in three minutes for four miles in succession, and this in a harness. The same work, Bell's Life, states that the conductors are authorised to back the American horse to trot 100 miles, in the same machine, in 10 hours, and the owner will take £1,000 to £500 on the performance of the distance within the time stipulated. They also offer to back him to trot with any horse in England in or out of harness, from one mile to five, for £1,000 aside.

EXTRAORDINARY TROTTING MATCH.

The London Sun, of the 5th of February, gives the following account of a trotting match on Sunbury Common, which we believe, exceeds any thing of the kind on record. The horse which performed this wonderful feat is well known among sporting Characters in this city as the celebrated TOM THUMB, which was sent out to England some time since. We have seen a more detailed account of this performance in Bell's Life in London of the 8th of February. That account, say among other particulars, that the owner of the horse, Mr. Jackson of this city, observed, after the match was concluded that, if it were not for the apparent inhumanity of the act, he would bet that the horse would then perform thirteen miles within the hour! It will be observed, in reference to the table below, that the distance was actually done in nine hours and a half which is at the rate of 10 10-19ths miles per hour!

N. Y. Gazette

This match, on which 200£ to 100£ were bet that a gentleman named Melov did not find a horse or a mare to trot one hundred miles in ten successive hours and a half in harness—a feat which had never been done in this country, was performed on a five mile piece of ground on Sunbury Common, on Monday last. The horse chosen on this occasion was an American by birth, about fourteen hands high, and twelve years old.

The distance were performed thus:	H.	M.
First twenty miles	1	59
Taken out and in the stable	0	8
Second twenty miles	1	59
Taken out and in the stable	0	8
Third twenty miles	1	58
Taken out and in stable	0	11
Fourth twenty miles	1	42
Taken out and in stable	0	8
Last ten miles but one	0	52
Stopped to wash mouth with gruel, which he took with good appetite	0	2
Last ten miles	1	0
	10	7

Thus performing the task in twenty-eight minutes within the time allotted. On being groomed and furnished with a fresh supply of gruel, the extraordinary animal was as playful and seemed to go to work on the hay with as good an appetite as if he had been merely performing an ordinary task.

From the Delaware Gazette of April 17.

THE MURDERS IN SUSSEX.

We stated briefly in our paper of Friday last, some circumstances respecting a most diabolical course of conduct which, for some years past, has been carried on in Sussex County, in this state, the evidences of which have just been brought to light; and promised, in our next number, to give further particulars. This promise we failed to perform; one reason for which was, that a family affliction called our attention to the consideration of other things, and another was, that as the Court was then about commencing its session, at which the examination into the circumstances was to be made, it would be better to omit saying any thing further upon the subject until after the trial would be likely to be ended. This we presume is now the case; and although we are ignorant of the result of the trial, we proceed to redeem our promise so far as we have it in our power.

From our correspondent's account we gather the following particulars: About ten days previous to his writing, a tenant, who lives on the farm where Patty Cannon and her son-in-law, the celebrated Joseph Johnson, negro trader, lived for many years in North West Fork Hundred, near the Maryland line, was ploughing in the field, in a place generally covered with water, and where a heap of brush has been laying for years, when his horse sunk in a grave, and on digging, he found a blue painted chest, about three feet long, and in it the bones of a man.—The news flew like wild fire, and people from many miles around, visited the place; among whom it was universally agreed that a negro trader from Georgia, named Bell or Miller, or perhaps both, had been murdered, by Johnson and his gang, about 10 or 12 years ago, and that the bones now discovered were those of one of them; as the man or men had been missed about that time, and the horse on which one of them rode was found at Patty Cannon's, who laid claim to the animal, until a person from Maryland, who had lent the horse, came forward and claimed his property; and she alledged, at the time, that Bell or Miller had sailed a short time previous, with a cargo of negroes for the South.

Since that time he has not been heard of, and it is said that a few days before he was missed, he was heard to say that he had with him fifteen thousand dollars with which he purposed to purchase negroes. The supposition now is that the knowledge of his having this money in his possession formed the inducement to take his life, and that to conceal the body it had been deposited in the place where the bones have been found.

The excitement produced by this discovery, as may naturally be supposed, was very great in the neighbourhood, and on the 2d instant, one of Johnson's gang, named Cyrus James, who has resided in Maryland, was caught in this state and brought before a justice of the Peace at Seaford, and on examination stated, that Joseph Johnson, Ebenezer F. Johnson and old Patty Cannon had shot the man while at supper in her house, and that he saw them all engaged in carrying him in the chest and burying him; and stated, morever, that many others also had been killed, and that he could show where they had been buried. The officers and citizens accordingly accompanied him to the places which he pointed out, and made the necessary search.—In one place in a garden they dug and found the bones of a young child, the mother of which he stated, was a negro woman belonging to Patty Cannon, which, being a mulatto, she had killed for the reason that she supposed its father to be one of her own family. Another place, a few feet distant, was then pointed out, when upon digging a few feet, two oak boxes were found, each of which contained human bones. Those in one of them had been those of a person about 7 years of age, which James said he saw Patty Cannon knock in the head with a billet of wood, and the other contained those of one whom he said they considered bad property; by which, it is supposed was meant, that he was free. As there was at the time much stir about the children, and there was no convenient opportunity to send them away, they were murdered to prevent discovery.—On examining the scull bone of the largest child, it was discovered to have been broken as described by James.

This fellow, James, was raised by Patty Cannon, having been bound to her at the age of seven years, and is said to have done much mischief in his time for her and Johnson.

Another witness by the name of Butler has already been secured; and it is thought that some others will be brought forward who are acquainted with the bloody deeds of Patty and Joe. This woman is now between 60 and 70 years of age, and looks more like a man than a woman; but old as she is, she is believed to be as heedless and heartless as the most abandoned wretch that breathes.

As stated by us on Friday last, Patty Cannon had been lodged in the Jail at Georgetown.—James and Butler were also placed there at the same time; and it is highly probable that ere this the trial has taken place, and the result of it will soon be known.

James stated that he had not shown all the places where murdered bodies had been buried, and at the time of writing, our correspondent informs us the people were still digging.

Joe Johnson, who is said to be residing, at this time, in Alabama, is stated to have been seen in this state in December or January last; and the probability is that his business here was to do something at his old business of kidnapping. He was convicted of this crime some years since at Georgetown and suffered the punishment of the lash and the pillory on account of it. He is a man of some celebrity, having, for many years, carried on the traffic of stealing and selling negroes, in which he was aided and instructed by the old hag, Patty Cannon, whose daughter he married, after she had lost a former husband on the gallows. He continued to reside near his tutoress until within a few years when a reward of $500 was offered by Mr. Watson, Mayor of Philadelphia, when having obtained information of the fact before any others in his neighbourhood, he suddenly decamped, and has since been very cautious in suffering himself to be seen in that part of the country.

The former husband of Joe's wife was hung for the murder of a negro trader, the plan for which is said to have been arranged at her mother's house.

From the circumstances which have already taken place, it would appear probable that such developements may be expected to take place as will present the wretched actors in the scenes of blood which have taken place on the border of our State in Sussex county, as successful rivals in depravity of the infamous Burke, whose bloody deeds and recent execution in Scotland, have occupied so large a portion of the public prints.

WORTH TRYING.—In an English miscellany we find the following fact stated, which is worth testing certainly:—

The danger of being suffocated by smoke to which persons are exposed who enter premises on fire, may be effectually obviated by tying a wet silk handkerchief single over the face.—A gentleman who lately tried the experiment was enabled to remain in a room which was on fire, in the most dense smoke, and work a small engine until he succeeded in extinguishing the flames.

[*For the Easton Gazette.*]

Mr Graham,

The proceedings of the late anniversary of the "Female Bible Society of Talbot county," has excited an interest, and awakened thoughts & feelings in the breast of at least one spectator, which might probably, but for this occasion, have slumbered forever. It arises, sir, from the absence of sufficient reflection on this subject—from the want of a due understanding of the motives that animate, and the sphere of action that engages the managers and members of all such associations, that they do not receive, as they deserve, the highest meed of human applause.—The eloquent and beautiful Address delivered on that day before the Society, could not have failed to force conviction upon every mind, of the utility, and even absolute necessity of exertions of this nature. Though all admire the ransom, yet few the price will pay. With what an overflowing of love & good will to their neighbours, therefore, must those abound, who encounter every difficulty, and persevere in a work so glorious—so benevolent—so sublime. Most, if not all such are in the enjoyment of the "good things" and luxuries of this life, and many have without doubt felt upon their hearts the breathings of that spirit that moved, of old, upon the waters, and consequently can derive no accession of interest or happiness in this world, by distributing Bibles amongst the Poor. The Great Creator of the Universe enjoyed within himself, long before Man or Angel was created, perfect beatitude, and needed not their praises or offerings to add thereto; but he has proved his beneficence by communicating a capacity for bliss to those whom his omnific word called from non-existence. Thus this active principle of charity—this breath of Divinity that was breathed into man by his Maker, and proves his lofty lineage—this spark of heavenly fire which the original fall, and consequent depravity of our first Parents could not *totally* extinguish, burns still brightly in the breasts of our Talbot Fair Ones, and prompts them to imitate the Deity, (as far as human nature can Divine,) and dispense to those who are destitute, the bread of eternal life. For when we see Females dedicating their time—their talents and their money to such purposes, and what is more than all, sacrificing their invaluable health in the service of their poor perishing fellow-mortals, without the remotest prospect of self interest, we must conclude, that their motives are divine.

And I must here congratulate the members of this Society upon the powerful aid they have derived from the eloquence of the youthful Orator, who "has chosen the good part which cannot be taken from him," and is engaged in directing all the energies of his mind to the aim of "turning many unto righteousness." What a worthy example—what an affecting appeal is here offered to the young, and even the aged of this his native county! All the golden dreams—all the glittering and alluring prospects of worldly ambition sacrificed on the altar of his God! How grateful to Heaven must be the incense of that piety, which has thus devoted the morn of manhood, and the prime of life, to the propagation of *truths of such weighty import*, that, to those who disregard or doubt them, "the throne of mercy is inaccessible, and the Saviour of the world has been born in vain." AMICUS.

Talbot co. April 21, 1829.

[For the Easton Gazette.]

SABBATH & SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Mr. Graham,

The injunction, to keep the Sabbath holy, is one of the Ten Commandments; and in addition to this, was a covenant article between God & the Jews—so that it is partly moral and partly ceremonious. As all the decalogue except this one article is strictly and essentially moral there might be strong doubts excited in the minds of those who live in the bounds and days of Christianity, how far they are obligated by the above commandment.

Our Saviour has solved all this difficulty by his short but full & satisfactory comment on the text.

The 'Sabbath (says he) was made for man.' Unfortunately too loose a construction has been given to this comment. The ceremonial part or the adoption of the 7th day has been very generally established whilst the moral part of doing good has been neglected to a great extent and in its place the doing of evil substituted. The minds and hands of most people being released on that day from their usual occupations, have been badly employed in sports, pleasures, pastimes and wretched amusements, or given up to total apathy & idleness—so that in such cases both the Law & Gospel construction has been disregarded, for the Sabbath was never made for man to do evil in, nor to become a sort of blank in human agency. Among the means to embrace the principle alluded to by our Saviour, the most prominent adopted by Christians was that of collecting the people together in Churches on the Sabbath to hear the word of God expounded and offer up prayer and thanksgiving to the giver of all good But as this alone was found inadequate to restrain evil and insufficient alone to inculcate good, the Christians of these enlightened days have added Sunday Schools so that the most illiterate and destitute may hear, learn, and obey the heavenly precepts of the Gospel. By means of these schools the mind is occupied and thus stayed from evil thoughts and intentions—Wicked amusements and idleness are prevented, and what is of the greatest importance, the youthful scholar is initiated into the way for all necessary instruction to guide him through life—to which we may add as most important of all he is prepared for the reception of the Gospel, the way of salvation. He is thus (as it were) taken by the hand and presented to Jesus for his blessing. 'Suffer (said he) little children to come unto me.' It is worthy of remark that even the Gospel requires a *means* for its communication of benefits and as it is said in scripture 'how shall they hear without a preacher,' so we may add how shall they understand unless they have access to the word of God? It is true that the word is expounded from the pulpit, but this is occasional and is received by the ear, whereas by reading we have an almost constant access to the word itself in all its purity, and that by the more impressive and lasting way of ocular inspection. It is needless for those acquainted with the human constitution—with the nature of morals, and with the

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