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tus, already mentioned, and some others.—Some were sown up in nets and thrown on

the horns of wild bulls; and the carcasses of those who died in prison, previous to the appointed time of execution, were thrown to the dogs. Indeed, so far did the malice of the pagans proceed, that they set guards over the bodies while the beasts were devouring them, lest the friends of the deceased should get them by stealth. The martyrs of Lyons are said to have been forty-eight in number. They all died with great fortitude, glorifying God and the Redeemer.

Religious & Secular

What England owes to the Bible.

Foremost in the category, I reckon the emancipation of the land from the spiritual bondage, the degrading superstition, and the crying abominations of Popery. England it has been well said, owes all, to the Reformation.

mation. All, however, that we cherish as Protestants, we owe to the Bible. It was this

word of the Spirit which enabled the noble army of the martyred reformers to win the victory in the battle which they waged against Papal corruption and Papal usurpation. It was the flash of this word, unsheathed from its scabbard, as it waved over the land, which scattered the moral midnight of centuries, awoke reason from her slumber, and, disclosing the⁴⁶ mystery of abominations," gave the light to our forefathers by which they detected the opposition between the doctrines of Popery and those of God's eternal truth. The keen edge of this sword was too sharp for Popery, to encounter; it cut asunder the cords of spiritual despotism; wherewith the crafty Philistines sought to bind the slumbering Samson. Equipped with Bible truth, and fetching all their weapons from this armory, the gallant band of reformers confronted the Papal Hierarchy.

achieved a spiritual triumph, the fruits of which we, their descendants, still enjoy.

will never, never surrender. It is still the Bible which is the best weapon wherewith to withstand every form of Papal aggression. Very true it is that Popery may be assailed upon the ground of its manifest hostility to the prosperity of nations. When Rome is seeking plant in our midst the standard of Popery, we may legitimately point to other nations where she has had scope for development, and inquire what are the results that have followed from her rule? Has she contrived to elevate or to degrade, to emancipate or to enslave, the countries over which her banner has waved? If—we say in the name of England to the Pope, with his Cardinals and his Bishops—his retinue of twelve would-be bishops, who desire to luxuriate in the rich pastures, and to re-settle in the fertile valleys of Old England—if you aim to have your own, Rome, as you call it, flourish

free born Britons come and crouch at the feet of the Papacy—show us first of all that

other nations which have blindly submitted to Papal domination, have become happier and nobler, more intellectual and more religious, more prosperous and more powerful, beneath the shelter of her wing.

Rome cannot stand this appeal. All is against her. All lands in which she is enshrined, send up a voice of 'oitter, bitter accusation! What has Italy—that land of loveliness and beauty; land of azure skies and fertile soil; land of ancestral glory—whence once issued laws for the world—what I ask has Italy become beneath your rule? Italy, it has been aptly said, is like a flower that wishes to expand into beauty and efflorescence, but is compressed in every part by a cold and rude hand. From Italy turn to any other Roman Catholic community or state, and the same accusation against popery—of having stifled freedom, hindered

national progress, and fostered immorality
—is stereotyped in the annals of the country.

From across the bosom of the vast Atlantic, the same voice of condemnation wafts upon every breeze. Contrast Mexico with Massachusetts. Mexico was colonized a whole century before Massachusetts. Its first settlers were the noblest spirits of Spain in her Augustan age—the epoch of Cervantes, Cortes, Pizarro, Columbus, Gonzalvo de Cordova, Cardinal Ximenes, and the great and good Isabella.

Massachusetts was settled by Protestants, who carried with them nothing but the Bible, and faith upon that God from whom the Bible came. Mexico, with a rich soil adapted to everything which grows out of the earth, and possessing every metal used by man; Massachusetts, with a sterile soil, and uncongenial climate, and no single article of transportation but ice and rock; how have these blessings been improved in the one case? how have

these obstacles been overcome in the other? what is the respective condition of the two

countries? In productive industry, in wide spread diffusion of knowledge, in public institutions of every kind, — in letters, arts, morals, and religion, you find Massachusetts at the highest point, and Mexico at the very lowest. And this is the universal testimony. We appeal to every land where Popery is the dominant religion, and challenge you to deny that her influence is for evil in proportion to her power.

And, notwithstanding, I would prefer to wage battle *ag*inst Popery with the sword of the Spirit, rather than with any political weapon, whatever *se* its value. Our victory over Romanism is due, under God's Spirit, to the force of Bible truth. It is the Bible which