

THE professors of the Roman form of what still continues to call itself Christianity, holding as they do an inferior worldly position in England, are distinguished there by a certain breadth and liberality of view not commonly to be found in the Established Church. Their priests are taken from all classes and put to all uses, and in all they display a large share of that wisdom of the serpent which was recommended to the original Apostles. They are all things to all men, and make friends of the mammon of unrighteousness with a success which is a perpetual source of alarm to the Established religionists. Monsignor Capel is a remarkable instance of the skill shown in training Roman priests for service in a heretical country. Notwithstanding his name he is a man of humble birth, sprung from so lowly a condition of life that it must have seemed in his first youth ambition to aspire even to the priesthood. Once received into it, however, his talents were soon recognised and developed; so that, rapidly passing through the various phases thereto leading, he has at last become a bishop *in partibus*, and one of the recognised leaders of his co-religionists. His special department of labour lies among the aristocracy, and his constant effort has been to make himself a fitting apostle to the genteel. Through his own care and that of his friends he is always neatly and daintily attired, with just that amount of ornamentation required to suggest the courtly man of the world. His manners have been toned down to a point of sauvity amounting nearly to fawning. He displays just that amount of affectation which indicates a sense of importance not to be wholly concealed even by the deepest humility, and parcels out his time in a way that betrays a difficulty in reconciling his purely mundane with his purely spiritual duties. He is withal, if not an admirer, at least a great controller and director of the fair sex, and he has probably made and unmade more important marriages than any man or mamma in the country. In England among all the rich and well-born Roman Catholics he is nearly as popular and as powerful as he presumes to be, and at Rome he is in great favour, having made one extremely valuable convert, and having but lately come forward to defend the somewhat decrepit order of the Jesuits.