

THE PRACTICAL CATHOLIC

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The practical Catholic by Gabriel Palau & George Charles Hungerford Pollen

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GABRIEL PALAU & GEORGE CHARLES HUNGERFORD POLLEN

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BY
GABRIEL PALÁU, S.J.

TRANSLATED FROM THE SPANISH BY
GEORGE CHARLES HUNGERFORD POLLEN, S.J.

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PONTIFICAL APPROBATION OF THE
FIRST EDITION.

LETTER from H.E. the Cardinal Secretary of
State to the Author :

Rev. Father,

I have the happiness of communicating to you the lively and particular pleasure with which the Holy Father has received the homage of your valuable book entitled *El Católico de Acción*. The Holy Father has observed with satisfaction the deep penetration of this little work, which, although small in size, contains so much of the substance of practical religious life, that it has justly merited the favourable applause of the Spanish Episcopate and it can be fitly indicated as a light and guide to Catholic practice. His Holiness, therefore, through me, thanks you for this filial homage, and, desiring that the good which this little book will do, should redound to its devout author with interest, he sends him with a full heart the Apostolic Benediction.

Thanking you for the copy which you have courteously sent me, I assure you of my sentiments of most sincere esteem, etc.

R. CARD. MERRY DEL VAL.

Rome, 15th Nov. 1905.

REV. FATHER GABRIEL PALÁU, S.J.
Tortosa.

PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

So many books of devotion have been translated from foreign languages for the use of English-speaking Catholics, that an apology may be called for when another is added to the list. It is, however, hoped that the present work will meet with approval, since it has proved most popular both in the original Spanish and in its French translation.¹ Each of these have run to over 24,000 copies, and each also bears letters of approval and recommendation from the Episcopate.

The author, in his fourth edition, has printed extracts from letters written by three Cardinals, six Archbishops, thirty-one Bishops, and three Administrators of dioceses. Besides these, which are often

¹ The work has also been translated into Italian, Hungarian, Polish (three versions), and Dutch. Versions in Portuguese, German, and Arabic Maronite are in the press.

expressed in the warmest terms, he has a letter from the Cardinal Secretary of State giving him the approbation of His Holiness Pope Pius X., a translation of which is given in the present version.

The aim of this translation has been to reproduce very faithfully the thoughts, and even the words of the author. At the same time, as the whole work is an address of Christ to His disciple, it was desirable to approximate, where possible, to the words and style of the New Testament.

Lastly, it may be well to add that this translation is the only one approved by the author for the British Empire.

CONTENTS.

BOOK I.

Diverte a Malo—"Turn away from Evil."

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. Of wisdom more useful than all knowledge which I can acquire	1
II. How the Lord intendeth my comfort and repose	5
III. In how many ways my Master inviteth and draweth me to Him	7
IV. That I must be very consistent in following my Master	9
V. Of light that I can obtain from certain truths and errors	11
VI. Of the most profitable way of dealing with our own affairs	13
VII. Of the care of myself, that I be not deceived	16
VIII. Some words of the Lord, which move me deeply	19
IX. Of a very sure way of correcting myself and of becoming useful	22
X. That I can profit much from my past faults	24
XI. Of some things which I must forsake so as not to be lost	27
XII. Of certain great errors that at times I labour under	29
XIII. That I must rise to the heights of divine thought	32
XIV. How I must enlighten myself so as not to fall into error	35
XV. How I must avoid extremes to go the straight way	38
XVI. How to encourage myself, if my strength groweth weak	40