

**IS THE ROMAN CHURCH
"HOLY"?: A
RELIGIOUS REVIEW OF
THE LIVES OF THE POPES**

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Is the Roman church "Holy"?: a religious review of the lives of the popes by H. A. Henderson

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H. A. HENDERSON

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.. LIVES OF THE POPES. ..

.. BY ..

H. A. HENDERSON.

Author of "SHALL WE TOLERATE THE JESUITS?"

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"Holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, for ever."
Psalm xciii., 5.

"The way of holiness: the unclean shall not pass over it." Isaiah xxxv., 8.

"Holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."
Hebrews xii., 14.

"This Rome, this scene of false priests, clothed not in the beauty of holiness, but in far other vesture is false."—Thomas Carlyle.

"Julius Müller, Dorner, Rothe, Schleiermacher, no less than Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates, assert that, in the nature of things, there can be no blessedness without holiness."—Joseph Cook.

"A man is not honest who accepts all the papal decisions in questions of morality, for they have often been distinctly immoral; or who approves the conduct of the Popes in engrossing power, for it was stained by perfidy and falsehood; or who is ready to alter his convictions at their command, for his conscience is guided by no principle."—Lord Acton.

PREFACE.

The following pages are a religious and ethical review of the lives of the Popes of Rome, shewing in some detail the steps taken by them to mount the papal throne ; the methods used to circumvent an opponent, and the many tragedies encircling them.

The Holy Spirit is invoked at every election to the " Holy " See, to guide in the choice of a pontiff. I invite the reader after perusing these pages to decide in his mind whether the Holy Spirit could be present at many of the scenes that took place. It may be said that it is unnecessary in the interests of religion to portray the base side of the lives of these men, but since the Pope proclaims himself to be the Vicar of God on earth, the visible representative of the invisible God, the universal Governor of the world—and upon this claim the Papacy rests—the personal character of the man and his actions necessarily and emphatically

must come before us for consideration, and according to our view so we judge of the truth or falsity of the claim. To decide upon the claim we need to decide upon the life. In the case of the Papacy, which believes itself to be synonymous with Christianity, we may not divorce the private from the official life. The Holy Spirit will not govern the religious, while Satan governs the secular life.

H. A. H.