

LEO XIII AND MODERN CIVILIZATION

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Leo XIII and Modern Civilization by J. Bleecker Miller

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J. BLEECKER MILLER

**LEO XIII AND
MODERN
CIVILIZATION**

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AND

MODERN CIVILIZATION

BY

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From BISHOP POTTER :

"Accept my thanks for your 'Leo XIII and Modern Civilization.' It is a very timely and suggestive book, not merely because it traces the principles of a great ecclesiastical policy to its pagan source, but because it reveals the hostility of that policy to American ideals, whether of the state, the family, or the freedom of the individual. It is a book for statesmen, for workingmen, for parents, for all loyal citizens to read and ponder; and its temperate tone and wide range of authorities ought to make it a handbook for all who are concerned for the integrity of our institutions and the maintenance of our liberties."

From BISHOP DOANE :

"I commend to the attentive study of our citizens the startling and important facts collected in 'Leo XIII and Modern Civilization.'"

From PROFESSOR BODY

of the General Theological Seminary:

"I have been much interested in your work on 'Leo XIII and Modern Civilization.'

"It places the reader in possession of a mass of material relative to the aims and policy of the Roman Catholic Church, selected from original sources, of great interest and information to all American citizens. The importance of the subject can hardly be overrated, and it is treated in a way intelligible to all. I was especially struck with the arguments on astrology as an original factor in Roman philosophy. This opens up an apparently new line of historical investigation well worthy of attention."

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INTRODUCTION.

While the booming cannons and pealing bells were announcing during the past year that a quarter of a century had fled since the defeat of the temporal power of the Papal Government by force of arms at the Porta Pia, is it not an appropriate time to give a few thoughts also to the victory which the Papacy won in that same year, in the spiritual field?

The war concerning the prerogatives of the Pope which was ended by this victory in favor of infallibility was a long one, extending over centuries, prosecuted on one side against enormous odds with all the sagacity and vigor which has become identified with the name of the Society of Jesus, and on the other hand with all the learning and piety associated with the name of Gallicanism.

Twenty-five years may seem perhaps too short a time to estimate the full effect of a victory, so important that men have been willing to toil through centuries for its achievement; but the task is lightened by the fact that the Roman Catholic Church, during the greater part of this time, had for its head a pontiff of the extraordinary enterprise, vigor and learning of Leo XIII., who has not hesitated to use to its fullest extent what was probably the greatest opportunity for the exercise of power ever given to mortal man, by outlining the future of Roman Catholic thought, in all the chief departments of human life.