

Bishop Chatard.

It is not surprising that Indianapolis mourns the passing of the good and venerable Chatard, bishop of the diocese of Indianapolis, or Vincennes. For many years he had been a sort of institution of the capital city. His deep erudition, his tact, his liberality, his humanity, won the admiration and affection of all the people regardless of sect. And as the years lengthened and the shadows deepened the love of the people deepened too. What a wonderful career! The year of his birth witnessed the birth of the diocese of Vincennes—1834. Before he became the bishop, however, four predecessors lived, worked and died. These were all Frenchmen who had lived long in the western section of America. Strangely enough, previous to his appointment, albeit born and educated in America, the greater portion of his work had been done in Rome. There many years ago he studied. There in time he became the rector of the American college in Rome. There he served for some time as a chamberlain of the papal court. There he received his appointment in 1878. His arrival at Vincennes to take up his duties was made the occasion of a non-sectarian reception with Governor Williams participating in the ceremonies. It was he who was responsible for the

removal of the episcopal city to Indianapolis—and that, too, years ago.

To the general public he is best known as a writer. His "Christian Truths," a compilation of lectures, has been enjoyed by Protestants, and the first chapters treating of the general evidence of Christianity are beyond sectarian controversy. Even more enjoyable to the Protestant perhaps his book entitled "Occasional Essays." Two of these, "Darwin's Mistake" and "Herbert Spencer's Enigma," have attracted wide attention among scientific men.

But it is not the intellectual whose death is mourned so much as the man of great sympathies and broad humanity, the gentle, tactful, generous, human being who was loved by all who knew him.