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we'll mention A. Roman catholic activity. America, as you know, was discovered before the protestant reformation, but not much before. Columbus discovered America in 1492 and Luther began the protestant reformation in 1517, just twenty-five years later, and in Luther's sermons frequently he drew illustrations from the stories that he had heard about the discoveries in America. The wealth that began to pour in from America to the coffers of Spain was a great factor in the power of the Spanish king to overcome the reformation in his land and a great deal of it was spent in trying to destroy the reformation in Europe. We're not at the present moment so interested in that, the effect of the American discoveries upon the church in Europe as we are in the question, what did the Roman catholics then do about bringing their religion to America.

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Now whatever else one might say about the church of Rome it must be said that it has been a missionary minded church all through the ages. During the period of perhaps two centuries after the reformation when comparatively little was accomplished by most of the protestant denominations for the spread of the gospel, the Roman catholic church was tremendously interested in spreading its doctrines to the lands beyond the sea and Roman catholic missionaries were among the early pioneers in America. The beliefs of Roman catholicism were brought with the Spanish soldiers as they settled in Mexico and in South America, and very soon after America was discovered there were Roman catholic churches established at many places in these lands. As you know, very often they seemed to have been more interested in extending the control of their organization than in reaching the hearts of the people and the result is that as Mr. Lytle mentioned this morning of the present situation in Peru you'll find that the old superstitions of the heathen before the Roman catholics came often were simply taken over by the Roman catholic missionaries and incorporated into their teaching so that today in many areas you find old heathenism retained with comparatively little change while words are used expressing adoration of Christ or prayer to the virgin