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THE ISOLATION OF THE CLERGY IN FRANCE.

Last week we dwelt upon the importance of thorough co-operation between the clergy and the laity in these islands, pointing out how necessary it is that priests should go amongst the people, take an interest in the movements in which they are engaged, encourage them in their efforts to improve their own condition and the position of the Church, and in fact, show that they consider nothing foreign to them that effects the welfare of mankind. An article on the present tendencies of the French clergy, which appears in the *Science Sociale*, appropriately gives emphasis to the arguments we used. The author of the article is a distinguished Dominican, Father Schwalm, and the reverend gentleman in forcible language insists on the falsity and danger of the doctrine which would restrict the priest to the sacristy, reducing him to the role of a hermit amidst a population of which he should be the apostle and inspirer. The acquiescence of the French clergy in this view of their duty has, in the opinion of Father Schwalm, had most pernicious results. But they are, he says, beginning to understand that a parish priest has something else to do besides administering the consolations of religion to the dying, confessing pious persons, and rearing canaries. A new tendency is making itself manifest, especially amongst the young priests. They feel that round about them, just as around our own clergymen in Great Britain, there are vast masses to be converted and saved, that they must go amongst them in a manful spirit, live their lives, enter into their aspirations and requirements, and thus win them from indifferentism.

This tendency, which Father Schwalm notes with great satisfaction, cannot, of course, make headway without encountering obstacles. Many old-fashioned Catholics say it is very well to talk of action, and progress, and sympathy with democracy, but if influence is to be obtained over the people religion must be respected and protected; in other words, the desired end could only be obtained if the clergy were looked upon with favor by a Government respectful of the rights of the Church and seconded in their efforts by the resources of the wealthy. To this Father Schwalm makes the following effective, unanswerable reply: "The apostles did not wait for a favorable Cæsar and a good Government before undertaking to evangelize the Provinces of the Empire. They evangelized the poor, the slaves, and all sorts and conditions of men before they converted many Patricians. They believed most thoroughly in the power of their priesthood and their mission, and in the necessity of remedying their own defects of character in accordance with the demands of their vocations, and they spoke and acted as their faith and good sense dictated. The Patricians of the Empire became Christians in due time." There are other French Catholics who warmly sympathize with this development of religious energy, but who fail to understand what its scope should be. Their idea is that workingmen societies and other associations of the kind are excellent affairs in their way, but that they should be destined for select classes of persons, that is to say, those who are sound in the profession of Christian principles. But what, says Father Schwalm, is to become of the multitude outside these classes? Must the clergy be content to remain passive and declare, "We cannot reach these?" Addresses constitute a means which some priests have wisely and skilfully employed for establishing a closer relationship with the people; but do they suffice? "Is a discourse of itself enough," asks Father Schwalm, "to stamp the truth on the minds of workingmen, filled as they often are with the sentiments and phrases of adverse newspapers? Enthusiasm may, indeed, be raised by an appeal coming straight from the heart; yet a week afterwards an anti-Catholic speaker at the Masonic lodge will remove the traces of the impression made and will excite applause not less vigorous." The clergy, this earnest Dominican thinks, must do more than this. They must go as real missionaries amongst the people, not once but constantly, and make themselves well known and their aims perfectly understood. They must avail themselves of every aid which is at their disposal, particularly of the press, that powerful instrument of stimulating popular movements. It should always, however, be borne in mind that nothing can be substituted for that great Apostolic lever, direct personal influence.

The programme which Father Schwalm thus commends is really what Leo XIII. had in view when he issued his directions to the Catholics of France. As a writer who clearly understands the present situation observes in one of the French journals the Pope's object was to induce the French Catholics to take a practical interest in the progress of religion. He perceived that many of them were wasting in sterile political strife powers which might be otherwise exercised with great advantage to the Church. He therefore appealed to them to sacrifice their prejudices and individual preferences and utilize the forms of the constitution to Christianize it. If they all acted upon this advice there would undoubtedly be in the Chamber to day a powerful minority of Catholic deputies who would play a decisive part in moulding legislation and guiding the destinies of the country. But complete compliance with the new policy was scarcely to be expected. Besides, time was needed for organization. It is not in a few months that proper preparations are made for a great public movement. It was only on the eve of the elections that committees were formed for the support of the Catholic Republican candidates. There was no strong central executive and scarcely any uniform action. Victory could not be hoped for with forces mobilized in this way at the last moment. In order to succeed in a political battle men must be disciplined and officered like an army. The Catholics are accordingly, by no means discouraged; they are convinced the future belongs to them if they now set to work actively, and the Comte de Mun, though himself defeated in the recent struggle, lays down the duty of the hour in inspiriting words. "Let us not," he says, "spend our time in explaining, accusing, recriminating. Let us go forward. Whatever be the position in which God has placed us, we must serve the Church and the people with all our ability. Whether we are inside or outside the Chamber we can effectually advance our cause in case we are wholly devoted to it." This is the spirit in which the results of the elections should be regarded by the French Catholics. If they cultivate harmony of action, if their strength is thoroughly organized, and, above all, if the beneficent influence of religion is diffused amongst the masses by the clergy, we may safely look forward to a republic different from what it has been during the past twenty-three years—a republic dominated by Christian sentiment, and ready to recognize and aid every step the Church may deem advisable for the furtherance of the common weal. — *Liverpool, Eng., Catholic Times.*

THE CATHOLIC NUN.

A certain class of thoughtless Protestants, with feelings of religious passion and blind fanaticism in their hearts, listen with approval to tirades and libels uttered by renegades against Catholic nuns. The more outrageous and shameless are the charges and slanders uttered by these creatures the more popular and profitable are their discourses. To the men and women who applaud and pay for such abusive epithets the convents are nurseries of vice, crime and wickedness. It never occurs to them that if the inmates desired to live impure or corrupt lives they would not seek the opportunity inside of thick walls, away from the world; nor would they subject themselves to discipline of the severest kind and to privations and hardships. Some of them beg from door to door for food to keep some poor people from starving; others face the terrors of disease in infected cities; while others still hover between contending armies on the field of battle that they may minister to the wounded and give the consolations of religion to dying soldiers.

Thousands of cases have come to light showing the self-sacrifice, the purity, the sanctity and the devotion of their lives. We quote this tribute paid by an eminent physician to a heroic nun in Algeria who died in the service of humanity: "I saw her for the first time in 1867, when the cholera was raging. I noticed her sweetness and calm courage. I saw her tending the victims of the terrible typhus epidemic of 1868, and the feelings of esteem I had previously entertained for her ripened into those of a respectful and life-long friendship. The administration knew her to be strong among the strong and brave among the brave. She passed with a smiling face through the most terrible scenes, and always with words of strength and comfort on her lips for the weak and the despairing. No wonder that such a woman received the cross of the Legion of Honor. This honor was conferred upon her by the republic in 1885. She had expressed a wish to die like a soldier at her post. This was not to be. She fell a victim to a cruel malady."

It is against such saintly women as these that the slanderous attacks of a lot of cranks and freaks are directed. But they hurt not. The armor of Christian piety protects them. — *Boston Republic.*

When a doctor considers a necessity to prescribe sarsaparilla, he simply orders a bottle of Ayer's, knowing full well that he will obtain thereby a surer and purer preparation than any other which the drug-store can furnish. Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the superior medicine.

Hay fever takes a prominent place among the maladies that go to make life uncomfortable during this month. Through the use of Nasal Balm the sufferer will experience immediate relief and rapid cure. No other remedy equals it for the treatment of hay fever and catarrh. Sold by all dealers or sent on receipt of price (50. and $1 a bottle). G. T. Fulford & Co., Brockville, Ont.

Important to Workingmen.

Artizans, mechanics and laboring men are liable to sudden accidents and injuries, as well as painful cords, stiff joints and lameness. To all thus troubled we would recommend Hagyard's Yellow Oil, the handy and reliable pain cure, for outward and internal use.

Inflammatory Rheumatism. — Mr. S. Ackerman, commercial traveler, Belleville, writes: "Some years ago I used DR. THOMAS' ECLECTRIC OIL for Inflamatory rheumatism, and three bottles effected a complete cure. I was the whole of one summer unable to move without crutches, and every movement cause dexcruciating pains. I am now out on the road and exposed to all kinds of weather, but have never been troubled with rheumatism since. I, however, keep a bottle of DR. THOMAS' OIL on hand, and I always recommend it to others, as it did so much for me."

No other Sarsaparilla has the merit to secure the confidence of entire communities and hold it year after year, like Hood' Sarsaparilla.

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THE PRIEST'S REVENGE.

One day, in the year 1793, the inhabitants of Fegreac, France, and the surrounding hamlets were assembled together to celebrate one of the solemn feasts of the Church. The Abbe Aurain was at the altar; the holy words of consecration had been pronounced; the God of heaven was now present in that rustic temple. The pious crowd was engaged in silent adoration, when suddenly the dreaded sound of the alarm bell resounded through the building. Instantly all the men in the church spring to their feet; the women huddled tremblingly together; the priest alone showed no emotion. "My friends," he said, "the sacrifice is begun, and it must be finished. God is with us; let us pray. Pray, my brethren."

Then, bending over the altar, he humbly struck his breast, and consumed the consecrated elements. Meanwhile the tumult outside increased; some of the peasants had hastily left the church, when a child rushed in, crying, "O, save him! save the pastor. The Blues have entered the village; they are following close after me." The priest took off his chasuble, stole and alb. Two dragoons of the Republican army came to the door of the church; the priest, seeing them, quickly descended the altar steps, and passed through the sacristy. In the churchyard he met two other soldiers, who attempted to seize him; but he dexterously eluded their grasp, and scaling the low wall of the cemetery, reached the open country. The Republicans followed. As he was strong and active he leapt over the fences and enclosures of the fields. His pursuers followed and were rapidly gaining upon him, when he found himself on the precipitous bank of a river. Without pausing to consider, he plunged into the water and swam across. When he reached the opposite bank, he looked behind him, and saw one of the two soldiers rushing into the water after him.

Continuing his flight, the abbe ascended the hill that rose before him; he increased his speed, and never paused until he reached the summit. And now he is out of sight and reach of those who sought his life: he is saved. But scarcely had he reflected with deep thankfulness on his escape from his pursuers, when a cry of distress struck his ear. He paused and listened, and again he heard the same piercing cry. Hastily retracing his steps to the brow of the hill, he saw one of the soldiers struggling in the water, and on the point of sinking to rise no more. The priest, who had ever inculcated lessons of charity and preached forgiveness, who had taught men to return good for evil, was not deaf to the voice of an enemy in distress. With the same speed with which he had fled from his pursuers did he now hasten to his rescue. When he reached the bank of the river the soldier had disappeared; but he plunged into the stream and dived again and again to seize the drowning man. At length he reappeared above the water, bringing back to land the senseless body of the dragoon, which he continued to chafe with his hands until animation was restored.

In a few moments the soldier opened his eyes, and, recognizing the priest of Fergreac, he gasped in faint accent, "What! is it you who have saved me—you whom I was pursuing, and whose life I had sworn to take?"

"It is so," said the priest calmly; "and now I am your prisoner; I have now no power to escape. Do you still wish to kill me?"

"I would rather die first," replied the soldier. "I will not touch a hair of your head. But how we have been deceived! We have always been told that the priests were our most determined enemies; that they thirsted for blood, and breathed nothing but revenge."

"My good man," said the abbe, "you now see whether we thirst only for revenge. Every priest, nay, every Christian, is bound to forgive his enemies, and to requite evil with good. In being able to save your life, I have been more than usually fortunate, that is all; and I thank God for it. Do you thank Him also; and cease to persecute those who believe in God, and serve Him."

"Go, go quick!" said the soldier; "here come my companions; we soldiers can only obey. Fly while you can. I will go and meet them, and tell them you have escaped. They may not share my feeling. Farewell! I shall never forget you. Here they come; save yourself!"

They separated, never to meet again.

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HOOD'S PILLS cure all liver ills.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

The Power of Nature.

For every ill nature has a cure. In the healing virtues of Norway Pine lies the cure for coughs, colds, croup, asthma, bronchitis, hoarseness, etc. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup represents the virtues of Norway Pine and other pectoral remedies. Price 25c.

Corns cause intolerable pain. Holloway's Corn Cure removes the trouble. Try it, and see what an amount of pain is saved.

Minard's Liniment Is the Best.

A YOUNG LADY'S ESCAPE.

An Interesting Story From Norfolk County—General Debility and Chronic Neuralgia Made Miss Lizzie Bentley's Life Miserable—Her Parents Feared she was Going into Consumption—Brought Back From the Brink of the Grave.

From the Simcoe Reformer.

Miss Lizzie Bentley is the daughter of Mr. Ira Bentley, of Waterford, a former well known resident of Simcoe. It is well-known that Miss Bentley was long and seriously ill, and it was recently reported that she had fully regained her health and strength. Her case has excited considerable interest in Waterford, and coming to the ears of the *Reformer*, we felt more than a passing interest in the matter for the reason that for a period of nearly three years, there have been from time to time published in our columns, particulars of alleged cures of various serious cases of illness that have been effected through the use of a remedy known as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. The scenes of these cures have been located in widely scattered portions of the country, it might almost be said of the globe, for some of these stories come from the United States and some from England, to such great distances have the proprietors extended the sphere of their usefulness.

It is of course the common idea that the age of miracles has long passed, and thousands of people who would not relish a classification among "doubting Thomases," and who are quite ready to believe any long story, so that it does not trespass upon their pre conceived notions, and what old line physicians tell them of the limits and capabilities of the medical pharmacopœia, as laid down by the schools, hear with a shrug of the shoulder and a smile of incredulity, of cases the evidence of which is of so certain a character that no court or jury in the land would question it. Take one of the best known and striking instances of the efficacy of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. We refer to the case of Mr. John Marshall. Could any evidence be clearer or more convincing even to a sceptic? Mr. Marshall is a well known citizen of so large a city as Hamilton. He was paid by the Royal Templars of Temperance the sum of one thousand dollars, that being the sum paid by that institution to its members who are proven to the satisfaction of its physicians to have become permanently incurable. Every fact in connection with the case was investigated by the Hamilton papers and vouched for by them. Not satisfied to take its evidence at second-hand, the Toronto *Globe* sent a representative to Hamilton. The result of these investigations was the publication by the *Globe* of an article in which every claim made by Mr. Marshall and the proprietors of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills was fully conceded, and the "Hamilton Miracle" unreservedly endorsed by this great Canadian newspaper.

In a way it reminds us of the story of the great lawyer who attended a prayer meeting. His own views of religion were of the most heterodox character. He went to be amused; he came away with all his preconceived ideas changed. He said: "I heard these men whose word was as good as the Bank of England get upon their feet and tell what religion had done for them, not theoretically, it was their own personal experience of it. Were these men in a witness box I would not have the slightest inclination to doubt their word; as a consistent man I was unable to doubt them anywhere else. I had doubted, now I believe."

The man or woman who will give an hour's attention to the evidence that the Dr. William's Medicine Company have to submit, must, if able to reason at all, concede that their Pink Pills contain wonderful properties for the amelioration of human ailments.

All these reflections are introductory to the case that has come under our notice. Mr. Ira Bentley is widely known in this district, where he has carried on business as a pump and wind mill manufacturer for years. He formerly lived in Tilsonburg, afterwards in Simcoe, and now resides in the village of Waterford. A representative of the *Reformer* visited Waterford not long since to interview Mr. Bentley as to his daughter's recovery. For be it understood this journal is as little prone to be carried away by fair spoken or written words as the rest of humanity; and as we had heard that Miss Bentley's cure was due to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, we were anxious to investigate, that we might add our personal testimony, if possible, to the many who have already spoken and written on behalf of this great Canadian remedy. The result of the writer's journey to Waterford was eminently satisfactory. We failed in finding Mr. Bentley at home, for he was in Caledonia that day setting up a windmill, but Mrs. and Miss Bentley who were the immediate beneficiaries of the good effects of Pink Pills proved quite able to give full particulars. Mrs. Bentley was apparently enjoying the best of health, and we were more than surprised to be told by her that it was she who first of the family had experimented with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. She told us that a couple of years ago she had been grievously attacked by rheumatism, and had after solicitation by some friends sought relief in Pink Pills. The result had been eminently satisfactory, as any observer could see. It was, however, to become acquainted with the case of Miss Bentley that we had gone to Waterford. In answer to our enquiries Mrs. Bentley told us that her eldest daughter, Lizzie, was nineteen years of age, that from her infancy she had been a sufferer and that her chances of growing to womanhood had never been considered good. She early became a victim of acute neuralgia, that for weeks at a time racked her body and made life a burden. She would at times go down to the very brink of the grave; she was in appearance a mere shadow, thin, pale and weak, unable to do anything. After finding how Pink Pills had benefitted her mother she too began to use them. No change from sickness to health could have been more rapid, no cure more complete. "You can say," Mrs. Bentley said to us, "she is a well girl; that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cured her and we are willing to tell the whole world that such is the case."

Desirous of seeing Miss Bentley herself, we next repaired to the Waterford Post Office, where she is employed as a telegraph operator. We had known Miss Bentley when she lived in Simcoe. We remembered her pale, delicate face as it was then. One glance at the bright young girl before us, her cheeks aglow with ruddy health, was sufficient. Her story was a repetition of the one told us by her mother, only with an added depth of thankfulness to the means of her recovery. We came away from our interview with Miss Bentley fully satisfied that we now knew of our own knowledge of at least one marvellous cure to be credited to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

An analysis shows that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood, and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, nervous prostration, all diseases depending upon vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of whatever nature.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are manufactured by the Dr Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold in boxes (never in loose form by the dozen or hundred, and the public are cautioned against numerous imitations sold in this shape) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for $2 50, and may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, from either address.

The joints and muscles are so lubricated by Hood's Sarsaparilla that all rheumatism and stiffness soon disappears. Get only Hood's.

Minard's Liniment for Rheumatism.

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With agonizing Eczemas and other Itching, Burning, Bleeding, Scaly, Blotchy, and Pimply Skin and Scalp Diseases are instantly relieved and speedily cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, consisting of CUTICURA, the great skin cure,

CUTICURA

SOAP, an exquisite skin purifier and beautifier, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, greatest of humor remedies. This is strong language, but every word is true, as proven by thousands of grateful testimonials. CUTICURA REMEDIES are, beyond all doubt, the greatest Skin Cures, Blood Purifiers, and Humor Remedies of modern times. Sold everywhere.

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Of Frederick, Md., suffered terribly for over ten years with abscesses and running sores on his left leg. He wasted away, grew weak and thin, and was obliged to use a cane and crutch. Everything which could be thought of was done without good result, until he began taking

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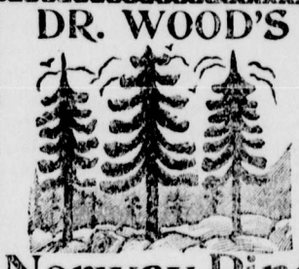

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Hoarseness, Asthma, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Croup and all THROAT, BRONCHIAL and LUNG DISEASES. Obstinate coughs which resist other remedies yield promptly to this pleasant pine syrup.

PRICE 25C. AND 50C. PER BOTTLE.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

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Should be used, if it is desired to make the **Finest Class of Gems**—Rolls, Biscuit, Pancakes, Johnny Cakes, Pie Crust, Boiled Paste, etc. Light, sweet, snow-white and digestible food results from the use of Cook's Friend. Guaranteed free from alum. Ask your grocer for **McLaren's Cook's Friend.**

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JOHN BEATTIE, - Vice-President

DEPOSITS of $1 and upwards received at highest current rates.

DEBENTURES issued, payable in Canada or in England. Executors and trustees are authorized by law to invest in the debentures of this company.

MONEY LOANED on mortgages of real estate.

MORTGAGES purchased.

G. A. SOMERVILLE,
MANAGER.
London, Ont.

PLUMBING WORK
in operation, can be seen at our warerooms,
Opp. Masonic Temple.
SMITH BROS.
Sanitary Plumbers and Heating Engineers, London, Ont. Telephone 538.
Sole Agents for Peerless Water Heaters.