#### A CHINESE GIRL'S LETTER

This year our country is again very ch afflicted. A terrible disease, Bubonic plague, broke out in aton which caused a large number leasts. It seems to have ceased w, but another horrible diseaser come. The spring rains have mexcessive and continuing to the sent time have flooded the country ag the rivers. Many have lost it lives.

In a place near us, Kom chouk, many Christians lived and were cared for by Father Wong, the oldest of our Chinese priests, more than seventy years. When the flood came he was forced to move upstairs; but the water mounted within three steps of the upstairs floor. He had nothing to eat, and could only wait for help.

ad asked them for food. Happily was rescued without other harm. More horrible still, the people in time places climbed up to the roofs high up in trees, but the water see over them. Some of them tied aeraselves to the trees in rows with the cords, so that if their strength we out they might not be drowned. Sople found a woman's corpse floating, a child was tied on her back as the Chinese custom and she held a ne Chinese custom and she held a ond by the hand even in death.

second by the hand even in death.

The drowned corpses float everywhere as on a sea. Some people saw they could not escape yet they hoped their children might be rescued, therefore they found tubs or large earthen urns, placed the children in and put them floating on the water. One of them was a baby wrapped carefully, with him a paper which told what family he belonged to and the day he was born. It begged those who found the child to take care of him with the money that his parents enclosed, more than \$200. But the man who found the child found no money. Some one had taken it and money. Some one had taken it and left the child to die.

How hard hearted poverty and suf-fering sometimes makes even sym-pathizing natures. MARY CHAN.

BISHOP DOWLING

# · HONORED

BENEDICT XV., POPE To Our Venerable Brother, Thomas Joseph Dowling, D. D., Bishop of Hamilton:

Venerable Brother, — Health and ostolic Benediction. It has always an a fundamental custom of the man Pontiffs to bestow special honors and privileges on Bishops who have been distinguished by sterling faith and exemplary reverence for this See of Blessed Peter.

Venerable Brother, you have ow, during twenty-eight years, see adorned with the sacred attre; you are the Dean of the Canadian: Hierarchy, and the discharge of your pastoral lee you have constantly exhibited tinguished testimony of loyal obe-mos to the Roman Chair, and, moredience to the Roman Chair, and, more-over, your zeal in promoting relig-ion and piety has been most con-spicuous. For these reasons, we deem you worthy to be honored by us with a new and higher dignity, and this dignity we bestow the more willingly since it is in conformity with the ardent desire of your clergy and people, and, as an additional proof of our special bene-volence we join in the congratulations you have received from all sides on the occasion of the fiftieth anniver-sary of your priesthood, as well as on sary of your priesthood, as well as on the occasion of the twenty-fifth year of your episcopate. Therefore, by these presents, we, in virtue of our apparents, we, in virtue of our apparents authority, enroll you among the Assistant Bishops at the Pontifical Throne; We appaint you our Domestic Prelate, and We like wise declare and create you a Noble, and We attach you to the numbers of those who are truly noble in every respect. We decorate you with the titles and insignia of these, and We titles and insignia of these, and We alse grant to you most fully the right to enjoy all the privileges and honors they use or may use in the future. And all these We bestow, notwithstanding constitutions and Apostolic canotions and all other things, even those worthy of special and individual mention and derogation to the

the Fisherman, the 7th day of Octo-ber, 1914, in the first year of our Pon-tificate. Given at Rome, under the ring of

P. CARDINAL GASPARRI. Secretary of State to His Holiness

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

Delegatio Apostolica, Ottawa, Nov. 26, 1914.

Right Rev. T. J. Dowling, D. D., Bishop of Hamilton:

My Dear Lord Bishop,—I am very much delighted indeed to learn from your letter of the well-merited distinc-tion which the Holy Father has been pleased to confer on you, by appointing you one of the Bishops Assistant

isings.

7ith kindest regards, I remain,
My dear Lord Bishop,
Very sincerely yours in Christ.,
P. F. STAGNI, O. S. M.,
Abp. of Aquila, Del. Ap.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM CAR DINAL BEGIN

Quebec, Nov. 3, 1914.

My Dear Lord Bishop —I most cordially thank you for your kind greetings on my return from the coronation of His Holiness Benedict XV. It gives me great pleasure to show that my old friend, the senior Bishop of the Canadian Hierarchy, has become the worthy rearchy, has become the worthy re-cipient of one of the first marks of

cipient of one of the first marks of the munificence of our newly elected Sovereign Pontiff. Such a dignity is the fitting complement of half a century of devotedness to the in-struction and salvation of souls in the government of a goodly portion of the Vineyard of the Church. I most cheerfully unite with the clergy and faithful of your flourish-ing diocese in praise to the Divine Master for having blessed your en-deavors and allowed you to belold the glorious ripening of the harvest you have sown in labore et fatiga-tione.

tione.
On the lovely Feast of the Immacu late Conception, titular of the venerable Basilica of Quebec, as well as of your own cathedral, and twofold anniversary of your sacerdotal ordin-ation and of your consecration unto the fulness of the priesthood of Christ, I shall send up to the Almighty an earnest prayer for your happiness here and hereafter, for the fulfilment of all your most cherished desires, and for an overflowing measure of that peace which the Divine Infant, on the day of His birth into the world, brought to men of good-will. May the Lord spare you many years more to the veneration and affection of your flock and of your brethren in the episcopacy. Such is the sincere wish of your devoted brother in Christ,
L. N. CARD. BEGIN,

The Right Rev. T. J. Dowling, Bishop of Hamilton, Assistant to the Apostolic Throne.

The Hamilton Herald of Dec. 9 says

editorially:
"Far more honorable than even the most coveted of the military dec-orations and titles that are being so lavishly distributed in recognition of lavishly distributed in recognition of distinguished service in the field, is the honor just bestowed on Bishop Dowling by Pope Benedict XV., "for half a century spent in promoting religion and piety."
Like the apostle, the Bishop of Hamilton has "fought a good fight" and "kept the faith;" but it is to be hoped that years will elapse before it must be said that he has "finished his course."

THE BABE IN BETHLEHEM

When Mary bids Thee sleep Thou sleepest,
Thou wakest when she calls; Thou art content upon her lap, Or in the rugged stalls.

When Joseph takes Thee in his arms, And smooths Thy little cheek;

Thou lookest up into his face, So helpless and so meek. Yes, dearest Babel Those tiny hands That play with Mary's hair, The weight of all this mighty world

This very moment bear. While thou are clasping Mary's neck In timid tight embrace;

The boldest scraphs veil themselves Before Thine infant face. When Mary hath appeared Thy

thirst,
And hushed Thy feeble cry;
The hearts of men lie open still,
Before Thy slumbering eye.

O dear, O wakeful hearted Child! Sleep on, dear Jesus, sleep! For thou must one day wake for me, To suffer and to weep.

—FATHER FABER

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND THE HOLY SOULS

Numerous are the highly indul-genced prayers and ejaculations which our Mother the Church puts into our hands for the comfort and relief of the souls of our beloved dead; and great are the advantages accruing to our own souls from the frequent use of these same aspirations. We have already earnestly recommended our readers to become recommended our readers to become familiar with many of these brief prayers, and to use them often through the day, making a general intention that the indulgences gained thereby shall be given, whenever so applicable, for the comfort and release of the suffering souls. Let us see how this practise may become not only helpful to them, but to ourselves. For instance, suppose that we make frequently through

these little prayers, that they may drop, like healing dews, on thirsty souls? Each one of these aspirations, devoutly repeated by a Catholic in the state of grace, is enriched with an indulgence of 800 days each time the words are said.

Especially at Christmas time, when we are making so many Christmas gifts to our living friends, let us not forget our dead who used to share with us our Christmas joys. Let us have a Mass offered for them, let us offer a Communion for them, let us have a mass offered for them, let us offer a Communion for them, at some time during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Let us use often the indulgenced prayers, the rosary, the aspirations mentioned above. The Raccolta contains some beautiful indulgenced prayers that are par ticularly suited to this season. Suppose we take, as a novena in preparation for the devout celebration of Christmas, the following prayer, reflecting carefully on its meaning and endeavoring to get its spirit and in-tention into our very hearts and

ives: Most dear Infant Jesus, Who being made an infant for us, wast willing to be born in a cave, to free us to Thyself, and to inflame us with Thy holy love; we adore Thee as our Creator and Redeemer, we accept and choose Thee for our King and Lord, and for tribute we offer Thee all the affections of our poor hearts. Dear Jesus, our Lord and God, deign to accept this offering; and that it may be worthy of Thy acceptance, pardon us our faults, enlighten us, and inflame us with that holy fire world and enkindle in men's hearts. May our souls thus become a per-petual sacrifice in Thy honor. Grant that we may ever seek Thy greater glory here on earth, so that we may one day come to rejoice in Thy infinite loveliness in heaven.

For this prayer there is granted an indulgence of 100 days once a day; and if used daily for nine days as a little novena for Christmat, for which novena "any form of prayer may be used," then we can gain 300 days more, each day, and a plenary indul gence under the usual conditions on Christmas Day or during the octave and we may offer these indulgences for the dead, while we prepare for Christmas.—Sacred Heart Review.

BEST CHRISTMAS GREETING EVER WRITTEN

which I have derived good, by which I have not profited I dare say, Christ-mas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time when it came around—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely and to think of people below them as if they were really fellow-passengers to the grave and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys."—Charles Dick-

It is worth remembering that Christmas is the birthday of Jesus, the Man who never gave the world a dollar. He bestowed upon mankind not a solitary material gift. He carved no statue, painted no picture, wrote no poem, composed no song, fashioned no piece of jewelry, built no edifice, founded no city, erected no triumphal arch; but He stands in history as the great Giver. Silver He had He gave to men.-Dr.C. E.

## THE POPE AND THE HOLY GOSPELS

It is well known—if to no one else, to a certain kind of Protestant at least—that the Catholic Church with the Pope at its head is bitterly opposed to the Bible; and, as a Pro-testant minister recently declared, would rather see the Bible burned Pope Benedict XV. to Cassetts, president of the Society of twelve years ago for the spreading of the sacred book of the Gospels. In this letter, Pope Benedict says:

it hardly needs pointing out that the errors of society to-day arise from the fact that the life, works, and teaching of our Lord Jesus Curist, have fallen into the profoundest oblivion, and that men no longer think of gaining inspiration from them for their daily actions. There can not Experience shows so clearly that it hardly needs pointing out that the their dairy actions. There can not be the slightest doubt, then, that a work in the highest degree advan-tageous for the leading of souls toward Christian perfection is being done by those who strive, as you are striving, for the spreading of the Divine Gospels; and we have every ing you one of the Bishops Assistant at his Pontifical Throne. The beautiful words of the Brief will rightly be a gratification to Your Lordship and a source of joy to your good diergy and people. Among the motives which moved the Hely Father to show you this mark of paternal esteem and benevolence, not the least I am sure, has been your tireless devotion to provide for the spiritual care of the foreigners settled in your diocese.

In spirit and in prayer I shall very willingly join with your clergy and people on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception to bessech the

The well-informed Protestant, of course, no matter how he may be opposed to the Catholic Church, is careful not to make the foolish assertion that the Catholic Church would rather see the Bible burned than read; but there are all too many of our separated brothren, who, thinking themselves well informed, undertake to use their pens for the instruction of the world. These are the men who will he These are the men who will be found reiterating the statement that the Catholic Church is opposed to the Bible.—Sacred Heart Review.

THE CRIB

Forningt the Crib there kneels a little child, Behind him in her ragged shawl his

For all the ages that have passed, one child Still finds God in another.

Now look how he wonders when he The shepherds with their lambs be side the manger.

The cattle, poor dumb creatures looking down

Upon the little Stranger. An' there's our Saviour lying in the

hay, Behind Him in her shawl His watchful mother. Two mothers with their sons, each

knows the joys And sorrows of the other. The hands he clasps in prayer are rough with labor.
The likes of him that hunger and

that toil
Once called Saint Joseph neighbor.

Outside the church the people travel The sick and sad, the needy, the neg

But just across the threshold Bethlebem lies Where none will be rejected.

#### CUTTING TO PIECES THE WORD OF GOD

The cutting up of the Word of God which follows the private inter-pretation of the Holy Scriptures be-gan long ago before Martin Luther rejected the Epistle of St. James began long ago before Martin Luther of missionaries the only notice that rejected the Epistle of St. James because it contained the doctrine of Extreme Unction. We find in the paper basket.—The Missionary. Book of Jeremias (Chap. xxxvi) that Joakim, King of Juda, not satisfied with the Scriptures read in the temple by Baruch, the servant of the Prophet Jeremiss, ordered the sacred roll to be brought into his presence. On examination it was found that the prophecies of God's priests were not quite reconcilable with the king's mode of life and Government. He mode of life and Government. He took his penknife, cut the roll to pieces, and threw the fragments into the fire. The process has been repeated so often that, had not the Catholic Church held with firm grasp that which was committed to her kasping centuries ago, hardly a line of the Bible would be left. One is sometimes amazed at the extent to which the arrogance born of the boasted privilege of private interpretations of the Bible can see W. pretation of the Bible can go. We find a good illustration in far-away Inoia. An educated Hindoo, Mr. Venkataratoam, jate Vice Principal of a Training College at Rajamundry, has taken it upon himself to publis 'expurgated' edition of the Bible. There is not much left of the word of God after Mr. Venkataratnam and

# Useful New Invention

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A Detroit musician has invented a wonderful new system which en-ables any person or little child to earn to play the plane or organ in one evening. Even though you know absolutely nothing about know absolutely nothing about music or have never touched a piano than read. Proof positive of this dislike for the Word of God, such persons will doubtless find in a letter, written the other day, by in an hour or two People who do Pope Benedict XV. to Cardinal able to play their favorite music with this method without any assist-

ance whatever from anyone.

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You are not asked to send any money until you have tried and are satisfied with the new method. The Numeral Company is willing to send it to you on one week's free trial, and you will not have to pay them one cent unless you desire to keep it. There are no express charges to be There are no express charges to be paid, as everything will be sent by mail. Simply write a letter or post card to the Numeral Method Music Co. of Canada, 1184 Curry Hall, Windsor, Ontario, saying "Please send me the Numeral Method on seven days' free trial." If you are satisfied after trying it, the Method on the series of the series o and fifty different pieces of sheet music will cost you only \$5, although the regular price of these is \$10. You should not delay writing, as the Numeral Company will not continue this special half-price effer indefinitely. Later on, the Method and fifty pieces of music will be sold at the regular price.

There are many differences only time can bridge, but a friendly feeling must be promoted and a frie

his printers are done with it. The Old Testament is contained in seventy small pages, and the New Testament in eighty-eight. The book published by the Professor with the long name can be read in about two hours. His own "Introduction" contains twenty seven pages, and at the end of it he says:

In this Expurgated Edition is preserved all in the Bible that is best and universally applicable to man.

served all in the Bible that is best and universally applicable to mankind for enabling them to become good men and women, and when the wheat is thus separated from the chaff, it isteasier to see what its true worth is and wherein its excellence really exists. It is believed that it is the only form in which the Bible should be circulated in the world for the benefit of the masses, the entire original being reserved for study by original being reserved for study by the learned few alone. Will the Bible Societies take a hint from

this ? We do not believe the Bible So cieties will take a hint from Mr. Venkataratnam's question, for the Bible Societies have a way of doing things according to their own inter-pretation. But Mr. Venkataratnam has more than multilated the Holy Scriptures—he has torn them to pieces; he has made way with nearly the whole of them; he has left only a few mangled remains; and who cares to pay any attention to the be-hests of a corpse?

Concerning this latest mutilation of the Holy Scriptures, our distant contemporary, the Catholic Watch-man of Madras, comments as fol-

To a Christian mind it will seem sacrilege to treat like this a b that has come down entire through the ages as a sacred volume, a volume in which many millions of people have found comfort and consolation. If he had declared it as his intention to produce a summary of the Bible for Hindu readers, his work might have een without reproach : but it is a piece of impertinence to treat the acred volume of Christians like this, and to say that, in accordance with his materialistic convictions, "this Edition is offered to the notice of the more educated and liberal section among the missionaries and other teachers and preachers of the Gospel of Jesus in this land." We imagine that if a copy came into the hands of any of the most educated

## EX ORE INFANTUM

Little Jesus wast Thou shy Once, and so small as I?
And what did it feel like to be Out of Heaven, and just like me? Didst Thou sometimes think of there And ask where all the angels were? I should think that I would cry For my house, all made of sky; I would look about the air And would look about the air
And wonder where my angels were,
And at waking, 'twould distress me,
Not an angel there to dress me.
Hadst Thou ever any toys,
Like us little girls and boys?
And didst Thou play in Heaven with

all
The angels, that were not too tall, With stars for marbles? Did the

things
Play, "Can you see me" through their wings? Didst Thou kneel at night to pray, And didst Thou join Thy hands, this

way? And did they tire sometimes, being

young. And make the prayer seem very And didst thou like it best that we

Should join our hands to pray to I used to think, before I knew, The prayer not said unless we do. And did Thy mother at the night

Kiss Thee, and fold the clothes in tight? And didst Thou feel quite good in

Kissed, and sweet, and Thy prayers

said? Thou canst not have forgotten all That it feels like to be small; And Thou know'st I cannot pray To Thee in my father's way. When Thou wast so little, say Couldst Thou talk Thy Father's way? So, a Little Child, come down And hear a child's tongue like Thine

Take me by the hand and walk, And listen to my baby talk.

To the Father, show my prayer
(He will look, Thou art so fair)
And say; "O Father, I, Thy Son,
Bring the prayer of a little one,
And He will smile that child And He will smile that children's

tongue
Has not changed since Thou was young. -FRANCIS THOMPSON

DEPLORES ENMITY OF CREEDS "The Catholic and the Protestant should be friends."

Thus spoke Rev. Washington Gladden, pastor emeritus of the First Congregational church of Columbus,

chronic unfriendliness is something very appalling.

"I have a dear friend who was defeated in the last election simply because he would not make a promise that if elected to office he would not appoint or recommend the appointment of any Catholic to office.

"A Protestant minister wrote me a letter stating what a splendid thing it was for the country that Glynn, Catholic, in New York State, and Hogan, Catholic, in Ohio, and other Catholics were defeated for office in the last election.

the last election.
"Such feeling as this is anti Christian and to be deplored."—Intermountain Catholic.

GRIMM.-In Preston, Ont., Dec. 12th 1914, Martin Grimm. May his soul rest in peace!

O'MALLEY.-At Stayner, Ont., on Thursday, December 10, 1914, Miss Marcella O'Malley. May her soul rest

There is no real love without suffering.

#### TEACHERS WANTED

A QUALIFIED NORMAL TRAINED CATHO-olic teacher for Separate school. Duties be-ginning after Christmas holidays. Apply stating salary, to W. Ryan, Box 22, Charlton, Ont.

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WANTED FEMALE TEACHER FOR C. S. S., No. 5, Raleigh, holding first or second class professional certificate. Duties to commence after holidays. School well located and boarding house convenient. Apply stating salary and experience to L. Wadduck, See, R. R. No. 6, Chatham, Open of the convenient of th

WANTED FOR C. S. S. S. No. 1, Stanley, professional teacher. Salary \$400 per aunum. Duties to commence Jan. 4th. Apply E. J. Gelinas, Zurich, R. R. No. 2.

WANTED A CATHOLIC TEACHER FOR the bilingual Separate school No. 2, of Massey, Ont. Apply to Rev. Ed. Prouix, S. J. Sec., R. S. O., No. 2, Massey, Ont. 1888-3 TEACHER WANTED, HOLDING FIRST OR scond class certificate, for Catholic school, Fort William, Ont. Salary \$600 per year. Duties to commence Jan. Apply to G. P. Smith, Sec., 114 Simpson street, Fort William, Ont.

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