

A CHINESE GIRL'S LETTER

This year our country is again very much afflicted. A terrible disease, the Bubonic plague, broke out in Canton which caused a large number of deaths.

In a place near us, Kom chook, many Christians lived and were cared for by Father Wong, the oldest of our Chinese priests, more than seventy years.

How hard-hearted poverty and suffering sometimes makes even sympathizing nature.

MARY CHAN.

BISHOP DOWLING HONORED

BENEDIKT XV., POPE

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

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

Venerable Brother, you have now, during twenty-eight years, been adorned with the sacred miter; you are the Dean of the Canadian Hierarchy, and in the discharge of your pastoral office you have constantly exhibited distinguished testimony of loyal obedience to the Roman Chair, and, moreover, your zeal in promoting religion and piety has been most conspicuous.

When Mary hath appeared Thy third, And hushed Thy feeble cry; The hearts of men lie open still, Before Thy slumbering eye.

THORNS OF GRACE TO BESTOW ON YOUR LORDSHIP

With 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 CARDINAL BEGIN

Quebec, Nov. 8, 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.

On the lovely Feast of the Immaculate Conception, titular of the venerable Basilica of Quebec, as well as of your own cathedral, and twofold anniversary of your sacerdotal ordination and of your consecration into the fullness of the priesthood of Christ, I shall send up to the Almighty an earnest prayer for your happiness here and hereafter, for the fulfillment 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.

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

L. N. CARD. BEGIN, Arch. of Quebec.

THE BABE IN BETHLEHEM

The Hamilton Herald of Dec. 9 says editorially: "Far more honorable than even the most coveted of the military decorations and titles that are being so lavishly distributed in recognition of distinguished service in the field, is the honor just bestowed on Bishop Dowling by Pope Benedict XV."

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.

When Mary hath appeared Thy third, 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.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND THE HOLY SOULS

Numerous are the highly indulgent 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.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE APOSTOLICAL DELEGATE

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

These little prayers, that they may drop, like healing dew, 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, at some time during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Most dear Infant Jesus, Who, being made an infant for us, wast willing to be born in a cave, to free us from the darkness of sin, to draw 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.

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 Christmas, for which novena "any form of prayer may be used," then we can gain 800 days more, each day, and a plenary indulgence 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

"There are many things from which I have derived good, by which I have not profited I dare say, Christmas 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 separated 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 to 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 Dickens.

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 and gold He had none, but such as He had He gave to men.—Dr. C. E. Jefferson.

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 Protestant minister recently declared, would rather see the Bible burned 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 Pope Benedict XV. to Cardinal Casatte, president of the Society of St. Jerome, founded in Rome about twelve years ago for the spreading of the sacred book of the Gospels.

Experience shows so clearly that 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 Christ, have fallen into the profoundest oblivion, and that men no longer think of gaining inspiration from them for their daily actions. There can not be the slightest doubt, then, that a work in the highest degree advantageous 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 reason to congratulate all the members of the Society, and especially you, venerable brother, not only for the undertaking, excellent in itself and most pleasing to us, but also for the zeal with which, as we ourselves have seen, you have striven during these years, to spread the Holy Books in greater numbers and more accurate form.

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 brethren, who, thinking themselves well informed, undertake to use their pens for the instruction of the world. 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

Form the crib there kneels a little child, Behind him in her ragged shawl his mother, For all the ages that have passed, one child Still finds God in another.

CUTTING UP PIECES THE WORD OF GOD

The cutting up of the Word of God which follows the private interpretation of the Holy Scriptures began long ago before Martin Luther rejected the Epistle of St. James because it contained the doctrine of Extreme Unction. We find in the Book of Jeremiah (Chap. xxvii) that Joakim, King of Jude, not satisfied with the Scriptures read in the temple by Baruch, the servant of the Prophet Jeremiah, ordered the sacred roll to be brought into his presence.

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 wonder where my angels were, And at waking, thy own 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?

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DEPLORES ENMITY OF CREEDS "The Catholic and the Protestant should be friends." Thus spoke Rev. Washington Gladstone, pastor emeritus of the First Congregational church of Columbus, O., writer of a dozen books on religion, in addressing a large gathering in the community forum of Epworth Memorial church, recently.

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 Expurged Edition is preserved 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 is easier 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 the learned few alone.

Concerning this latest mutilation of the Holy Scriptures, our distant contemporary, the Catholic Watchman of Madras, comments as follows:

To a Christian mind it will seem a sacrilege to treat like this a book 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 been without reproach; but it is a piece of impertinence to treat the sacred 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."

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 wonder where my angels were, And at waking, thy own 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 long? And didst thou like it best that we Should join our hands to pray to Thee? 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 bed 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 own.

The Ontario Catholic Year Book and Directory

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truth. The moral injury suffered by both these classes through their chronic unkindness 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. "Such feeling as this is anti-Christian and to be deplored."—Intermountain Catholic.

DIED

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 in peace!

There is no real love without suffering.

TEACHERS WANTED

A QUALIFIED NORMAL TRAINED CATHOLIC teacher for separate school. Duties beginning after Christmas holidays. Apply stating salary, to W. Ryan, Box 32, Charlton, Ont.

A QUALIFIED TEACHER FOR SEPARATE school, Stanfieldville. Salary \$500. Duties to commence after New Year. E. I. Byrne, Sec. Treas., Stanfieldville.

TEACHER WANTED FOR THE PEMBRROKE Separate school, an assistant teacher, holding professional normal school certificate, to enter on duty January 1st, 1915. Applicants to state salary and experience. Apply to A. J. Fortier, Sec., Pembroke, Ont.

WANTED TEACHER FOR CATHOLIC Separate school, section No. 1, McGillivray. Holding first or second professional certificate. Duties to commence January 4th, 1915. Salary \$500. Apply stating experience to Denis Farmer, Sec., Crediton, R. R. 1, Ont.

FEMALE TEACHER FOR C. S. S. NO. 3 AND 4, Ardenburg. Salary \$450 per annum. Apply to Sec. Treas., Timothy Kelly, Amherstburg, P. O., Ont.

TEACHER WANTED FOR ROLE SEPARATE school No. 5, for senior class room, Township Sherwood. Apply to William Ryan, Sec. Treas., Barry Bay, Ont.

WANTED FEMALE TEACHER FOR C. S. S. No. 5, Raleigh, holding first or second class professional certificate. Duties to commence after holidays. Schools well located and boarding house convenient. Apply stating salary and experience to L. Waddick, Sec. R. R. No. 6, Chatham, Ont.

WANTED FOR C. S. S. No. 1, Stanley, professional certificate, holding first or second class. Duties to commence Jan. 4th. Apply E. J. Gelinas, Zurich, R. R. No. 2.

WANTED A CATHOLIC TEACHER FOR the building of a new school, good salary. Ont. Apply to Rev. Ed. Proulx, S. J., Sec. R. S. O. No. 2, Massey, Ont.

TEACHER WANTED, HOLDING FIRST OR second 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.

POSITION WANTED LADY WOULD LIKE A POSITION AS matron or assistant matron of an institution, capable of good management and able to superintend the sewing. Best references and experienced. Apply to Box 24, Catholic Record.

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