Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRESUMPTION OF GOD'S MERCY. Unless you have believed in vain. (1 Cor. xv. 2.)

DEAR BRETHREN: The Apostle appears to be of a different mind from some of us, who seem to think that there is no such thing as believing in vain. Do not sinners rest quite secure in their wickedness just because they believe in the true religion? Do they not feel sure of salvation because they know how to be saved? Is not the blessed privilege of the holy faith the secret reason of many a person's delay of repentance? It is against all such that St. Paul stands when he speaks of a vain faith; and our Blessed Lord Himself when He says that pagan Tyre and Sidon shall rise up in witness against those who had the true religion and used it only to puff themselves up with spiritual pride.

To be guilty of an unused faith is the high-road to eternal loss among Catholics. Some poor souls will be lost because, though born in error, they have refused to follow the light of reason into the Church. But we shall be lost, if at all, because we have believed in vain. Some outside of the Church shall be lost because they have sinned even against the simplest precepts of nature's law. But we shall be condemned for believing all that our Lord revealed and making it vain by our wicked deeds. A vain faith is like the background of a picture: the eye catches and dwells on the objects in the foreground, but these could not be seen clearly but for the tints in the background against which they are drawn. So what we do will one day be contrasted with what we know; the strong light of a faith will only cause the black, filthy sins of our life to be more fully revealed to the Judge.

Have you never seen a blind man whose eyes seemed perfectly good, clear, and bright, and yet utterly blind? There is such a kind of blindness; some men really have eyes and see not, because the nerve is dead, and the nerve is like the soul of the eye. So with our faith: God gave it to us to see by and walk by and live by; to know His law and live up to it; to know our sins and to confess them with true sorrow-in a word, to practise what we know that we ought to practise. But some become like the idols of nations you read of in one of the Vesper psalms: "They have eyes, and see not; they have ears, and hear not." Wicked Catholic perceive the right way; they hear of the dangers of the wrong way, and go right along with this knowledge, and neglect prayer and Mass, blaspheme and fight, get drunk and debauch, and steal, yet having all the time full assurance that somehow or other their faith will save them. Brethren, their faith is vain; their hope of eternal life is not reasonable or well founded; the beauty of the truth they possess is like the cold beauty of a corpse, which makes one shudder only the more from its incongruity with the putrid decay so surely approaching.

Yet how rich a treasure is the true

faith! What a comfort to know the truths of religion! What a privilege know our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and to be in communion with Him, His Blessed Mother, His glorious saints, His holy Church! What a perversity, then, to use all this as a burglar uses his rope-ladder: a means of making a criminal life more secure. But it cannot be. It is a delusion. There is no means of making a criminal life world, the use of wildering and inconvenis no means of making a criminal life secure, except by turning quickly away from it, detesting it, confessing it, and, by the light of faith and the strength of charity, leading a good string agod.

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Monthly Prizes for Boys and Girls.

GENTLEMEN.—For twenty years I suffered from Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Poor Appetite, etc., and received no benefit from the many medicines I tried, but after taking five bottles of B. B. B. I can eat heartily of any food and am strong and smart. It is a grand medicine and has made a wonderful change in my health.

MRS. W. H. LEE, Harley, Ont.

Mrs. W. H. LEE, Harley, Out.
Mr. Henry Graham, Wingham, writes: "I was in North Dakota last May, and I took a bottle of Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery with me, as I did not feel safe without it. While there a lady friend was suffering with Indigestion, Biliousness and Headache. I recommended the Vegetable Discovery to her and she tried it, and the result was that it did her so much good that I had to leave the balance of the bottle with her."

LONG WORMS, Pin Worms, Round Worms or Tape Worms are promptly destroyed and removed by Dr. Low's Worm Syrup.

The Convention of German Catholic Societies at Dubuque Largely Attended.

The thirty-seventh annual general ssembly of the German Catholic Central society of North America opened in Dubuque Sept. 18. Bishop Schwe-bach of La Crosse celebrated Mass and Bishop Marty of Sioux Falls, S. D., delivered a very appropriate sermon. Nicholas Gonner, president of the local committee, welcomed the visitors and briefly traced the history of the Church and its remarkable growth in the Mississippi valley. Mayor Saunders followed in a speech of welcome, which was responded to in behalf of the convention by President Adolph Weber of Racine. The orator of the day, Bishop Marty, spoke of the objects of the German societies represented in the convention. He referred briefly to the school question, holding that education of children is at present incomplete. In the afternoon the parade of Catholic societies and delegates took place. The procession consisted of eleven divisions, each headed by a band. There were about 3,000 men in line

On Monday Bishop Hennessy addressed the assembly. He commended the thrift, enterprise and love of nationality of the German race and the societies devoted to Christian educa-tion. His address elicited great enthusiasm. President Weber's report showed the organization to consist of 509 societies in 29 states with 45,364 members and a reserve fund of \$87,-750. During the past year 7,532 sick members were aided to the extent of \$172,000, and the heirs of 838 decease members received \$122,000. Nearly 3,000 members were added. On mo tion of President Spannhorst of St. Louis a cablegram was sent to the Pope asking his blessing, and \$300 was contributed to the Peter's pence fund. Resolutions were presented by the Wisconsin delegation. They pro-vide for state organizations, public meetings once a year, the parochial school system in its purity, a thrust at the Faribault plan, retaliation against members of the American Protective Union and the know-nothing organi zation pledged to vote against Catho lics, and biennial meetings of the Cen tral society. The society unanimously adopted a petition to Archbishop Katzer asking the coming council of Archbishops of the United States to issue an address defining the term "secret society" in unmistakable language, and warning Catholics under penalty of excommunication to shun such. The convention closed Thurs day. The next convention will probably be held in Milwaukee.

Mr. C. Harper, Ottawa, Ont., writes:—"I have pleasure in stating that your Pink Pills are a wonderful tonic and reconstructor of the system. Since beginning their use, I have gained on an average, a pound of flesh a week. I have recommended them to a number of my friends, who declare that they are the only medicine that they have ever used that done all that is claimed for it. Sold by all dealers.

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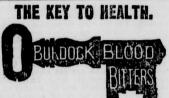
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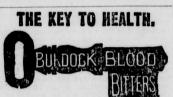
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LADY

OCTOBER

CHAPTER V The child intere Although she had bred children in noticed that this l Children Street. black sash, and v certain grace und ter, and every mo an elegant ease, v around Pepsie's w

However, it wa beauty, her tastef high-bred air tha it was the pale, and the frail littl wan and ill. Th the hand, and she and feebly; the young man car which the child w Pepsie could if see the child ag coming out, as sh after they had l

much to her joy s flinging open the with quite an air she saw the woma and veil, and the them on a hool Presently, the li the small side-ga in her arms. eyes, and leaned lameness would see what the chil see it flutter its bird, a large, str

wonder what it her excitement almost tipped ou the child looked ess, unintereste down on the ste closely and strok "Certainly, t said Pepsie to he n't open all the their things. (have ; I'll just g

But Pepsie's o main silent, for, spread on the ta furniture-wagon drove up to the her cards into th At the same m Souris entered li braids of wool face all eyes and out on the banqu

with news. un's done tuk d is a-movin' in woman an' a bo I means a littl' ove' her, an' she goslin', a-huggi tond uv it." "Oh, stop, T work," cried Pe

to her voluble see them with kitchen, or mar she comes home 'Shore 'nuf Peps', an' I'se j dat banquette; o dat banquelte 1

an' I'se gwine

by."
"Very well,
banquette," ret indulgently.
about the kitch in Good Childre common. Peps had lived there did n't blame T out with the otl what was going

Stood the banque At last all th in, and with it that quarter a " Par exemi nandez, "who That madame velled much in they use them And, straigh

greater import

that she had tr

Then the wa was discreetly

loungers dispe her coign of every movem She saw Raste and she was su market. She a pretty lace and she was c tended to hav blind was thro 'bowed" all that some one That must b thought; "th back room ner little girl will the room on th if she will hav sole, with vas

So she wone day; and all child sat ald

and a cabine

parlor; she ha

ago, and it wa

This

holding her when night sugared her read her pray