

## THE BOY AND THE CHESTNUTS.

A RAT of a boy, who had in vain searched the Post office corridors for the nickel a careless hand occasionally dropped at the clerk's window, took his position before a chestnut stand and eyed the fresh nuts a long time before drawing a deep sigh, groaning, "Oh, I wish I were rich!" The chestnut-vendor made no reply, and the odor of the roasted nuts finally induced the boy to inquire, "Are chestnuts healthy?" "No, bub, they are prolific of indigestion," was the reply. After awhile the boy thought it time to remark: "Did you ever hear the story of the man who gave a poor boy a handful of chestnuts and when the boy grew up and got rich he rewarded the old man with a diamond pin and a four-horse team?" "No, never did, but I heard of the man who brought a poor boy to the edge of the grave by giving him a dozen chestnuts." The lad took a turn up and down, secured another sniff of the pleasant odor, and then leaned over and whispered: "If I take the chances on the edge-of-the-grave business will you take the chances on the chestnuts?" The vender finally thought he would.

## BOOK NOTICES.

**DION AND THE SIBYLS.** A Classic Christian Novel. By Miles Gerald Keon. New York: Hickey & Co., Publishers, 11 Barclay street.

"Dion and the Sibyls," is the first issue of the second series of the "Vatican Library." It was first published in London in 1866, and so meritorious was it considered, that notwithstanding the high price at which it was sold—one guinea—it had a considerable sale. It afterwards appeared in the *Catholic World*. The scene of the story is laid at the beginning of the Christian era, the period of the narrative extending from the year 11 A. D., to the time of the Crucifixion of Our Lord, about the year 33 A.D. It is a powerfully written story, and from the first page to the last holds the attention of the reader. It is a large book of 225 pages, and will be mailed to any address, by the Publisher, for the small sum of 25 cents.

**THE LIFE OF OUR LORD AND HIS BLESSED MOTHER.** Translated and adapted from the Original of Rev. L. C. Businger, by Rev. Richard Brennan, A. M. New York: Benziger Brothers.

We have received parts 9, 10, 11 and 12 of this admirable work. The Rev. Translator has received from the learned Jesuit, Father Thebaud, the following highly complimentary letter in reference to his work: "I am extremely thankful for the splendid present you have had the kindness to send me. The work, when finished, will be a priceless jewel; and what has already been published must attract general attention in this country. Who will not finally read the 'Life of our Lord' when it is offered in such an attractive and instructive form? You are conferring an immense benefit on all classes of people: for I hope that it will not be perused only by Catholics. There is not, in my opinion, any better means of reviving faith in the minds and hearts of men than the reading of this book with its most beautiful illustrations."

**MIXED MARRIAGES—Their Origin and their Results.** By the Rev. A. A. Lambing, author of "The Orphan's Friend," "Sunday School Teacher's Manual," etc

This is a pamphlet of 48 pages on a very important subject and one, too, about which too much cannot be said. Time and again our pastors deem it their duty to speak in the strongest terms against the practice. The numerous decrees of the Church, illustrated and explained by her constant practice, leaves no one in ignorance of her antipathy to Mixed Marriages. We should like to see this little work in the hands of every Catholic youth and maiden. Send to the "Ave Maria" office, Notre Dame, Indiana, for a copy, price only 15 cents.

**LIFE AND ACTS OF POPE LEO XIII.,** preceded by a sketch of the last days of Pius IX., and the Origin and Laws of the Conclave. Edited by Rev. Joseph E. Keller, S. J. New York: Benziger Brothers.

This work, like every other, from the establishment of Messrs. Benziger Bros., is a credit to those eminent publishers for the beauty and style of execution. The first portion of the book is devoted to a sketch of the life and last days of the illustrious Pius IX. The last part con-