### FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS.

Second Sunday in Advent.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. The beautiful feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin being so near at hand, let us consider it this morning. The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, then, my dear brethren, is simply this: that our Blessed Lady, though the off-spring merely of human parents, like the large transport of the and parents, like the large transport of the and parents like the large transport of the and parents like the large transport of the and parents like the large transport of rest of us, and naturally liable to inherit original sin from them as we have inherited it from ours, was never-theless by the special providence and decree of God entirely preserved from

She was preserved from it entirely, I say. This may be understood in two ways. First, it was never in her. It was not taken from her at the first moment of her existence, as it has hope we always shall be. As soon as I say. This may be understood in been taken from us at baptism; no, it was not taken from her, for it was not in her even at that first moment.

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Secondly, she was entirely saved from its effects, not partly, as we have been. None of its consequences remained in her, as I have said they do nained in her, as I have said they do in us. No, she was as if there had never been such a thing: except that her Son willed that she should suffer together with Him, on account of its

together with Him, on account of its being in us.

Now, my brethren, I hope you all understand this; for a great deal of nonsence is talked about this matter, especially by Protestants, most of whom have not the least idea what is meant by the Immaculate Conception of ours Blessed Mother, and who yet object to it just as bitterly as if they did. They either confound it with her virginal motherhood, in which they themselves believe and yet seem to object to our believing it, or they accuse us of saying that she was divine like her Son, our Lord. If they would only examine they would find that what the Church teaches is simply this: that our Lady is a creature of God like ourselves, having no existence at all before the time of her Immaculate Conception; but that she is a pure and perfect creature, the is a pure and perfect creature, the most pure and perfect whom God has bever made — immaculate, that is to say, spotless; free from any stain or imperfection, especially from the control of the control most pure and perfect whom God has ever made — immaculate, that is to imperfection, especially from the fatal stain of original sin. And that the reason why God made her so was that she was to be His own mother, than which no higher dignity can be conceived. If they object to this, let them do so; but let them at least know and say what they are objecting to.

Let us hope that some Protestants at least, will not object to this doctrine when they understand it. But perhaps some of them may say: "This is all very good, but what right has the Pope, or any one else at this late day, to make it a part of the Christian faith?" And it may be that even some Catholics will find the same difficulty.

I will answer this question now, though it is a little off of our present ect, on account of the prominence which has been given to it of late. The answer is simply this: The Pope has not added anything at all to the Christian faith in defining the doctrine the table among the pecan shells. of the Immaculate Conception. He has no more done so than the Council of Nicæa did in defining the dectrine

of the Divinity of our Lord.
You remember, my brethren, perhaps, that from this council the Nicene Creed, which is said or sung at Mass, "I'm—I'm—jealous," said Pepsie,

opposed or doubted the Immaculate Conception of our Lady were not so much to blame as those who opposed or doubted the Divinity of our Lord, or even in many cases not at all to blame. It was not such a prominent part of the faith, and had been more obscured by time. But the action of the Pope and the council in the two cases was just the same.

### Rev. Sylvanus Lana

Rev. Sylvanus Lane
Of the Cinclmati M. E. Conference, makes a good point when he says; "We have for years used Hood's Sarsaravilla in our family of five, and find it fully equal to all that is claimed for it. Some people are greatly prejudiced against patent medicines, but how the patent can hurt a medicine and not a machine it a mystery of mysteries to me."

a machine it a mystery of mysteries to me."

Cured Sick Headache.

Mrs. D. A. Campbell, North Segrum. Ont., writes:—" I cannot praise Dr. Williams' Pink Pills too highly. My daughter was a terrible sufferer with sick headache for twelve months, and no medical aid could relieve her, but, by the use of two boxes of your Pills, she is completely cured." From all dealers or by mail at 50c. a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Beware of imitations. Dr. Williams' Med. Co., Brockville, Ont.

A Remarkable Case.

GENTLEMEN, — About five years ago I noticed on my hands a great number of soft spongy warts, very painful, and which bled when touched. I never witnessed anything like it, and was quite alarmed. We are never without Hagyard's Yellow Oil, and one evening my little girls applied it to each wart. They did this several nights and in the morning the pain and itching were so bad I had to cool my hands with snow, but finally the warts dropped out and I have never been troubled since.

MRS. WM. CRAIG,
Brighton, Ont.

Little Jennie Was Cured.

I'm wicked and selfish! Yes, wicked and selfish! Yes, wicked and selfish! See you away. You cought to hate me for being so mean."

At this moment Tite Souris entered, and, seeing the traces of tears on her mistress's cheeks, broke out in stern, reproachful tones.

"Miss Lady, what's you be'n a-doin' so my Miss Peps'? You done made her cry. I see how she's be'n a-gwine on. You jes' look out, or her ma'll git a'ter.

#### LADY JANE.

CHAPTER XVI.

PEPSIE IS JEALOUS. When Mam'selle Diane joined Lady Jane in the garden, she had gained her mother's consent to give the child a music lesson once a week. The old lady had been querulous and difficult; her prejudices.
"You don't know what kind of

people her relatives are," the old lady said, complainingly, "and if we once open our doors to the child the aunt may try to crowd in. We don't want to make any new acquaintances. There's one satisfaction we still have, we allow those people to break down the barrier between us, they will rush in on us, and, in a little while, they

as well bred as the child, she will not annoy us. If we wish to know her, we

she will be an intrusion upon our privacy, I won't insist; but I should so like to have her, just for two hours, say, once a week. It would give me a new interest; it would renew my youth to hear her angelic little voice some-

"Oh, I suppose you must have your way, Diane, as you always do. Young people nowadays have no respect for the prejudices of age. We must yield all our traditions and habits to their new fashioned ideas, or else we are severe and tyrannical.'

I'm sure the child will interest you; beside, I'm getting on so well with the bird—you wouldn't have me give up my model, would you?"

"Certainly not, my dear. If you need her, let her come. At least you can try for a while, and if you find her troublesome, and the lessons a task, you can stop them when you like."

When this not very gracious consent was obtained, Mam'selle Diane hastened to tell Lady Jane that, if her aunt approved, she could come to her every Saturday, from one to three, when she would teach her the piano, as well as singing; and that after the lesson, if she liked to remain awhile in the garden with the birds and flowers, she

was at liberty to do so.

Lady Jane fairly flew to tell Pepsie the good news; but, much to her surprise, her merry and practical friend burst into tears and hid her face on

"Why, Pepsie—dear, dear Pepsie, what ails you?" cried Lady Jane, in an agony of terror, "tell me what ails you?" and, dropping Tony, she laid her little face among the shells and

Creed, which is said or sung at Mass, takes its name. It was called together to condemn the errors of some who maintained that our Lord was not truly God. And it solemnly defined that He was. Very well; was that adding anything to the Christian faith? Of course not; it was simply declaring what the Christian was to put an end to the doubts which were arising about it. That is plain enough, is it not?

"I'm—I'm—jealous," said Pepsie, looking up after a while, and rubbing her eyes furiously. "I'm a fool, I know, but I can't help it; I don't want her to have you. I don't want you to go there. Those fine, proud people will teach you to look down on us. We're poor, my mother sells put an end to the doubts which were arising about it. That is plain enough, is it not?

"I'm—I'm—jealous," said Pepsie, 'Oh, oh!" interrupted Lady Jane rapturously; "and you'll go with me, and it will be just as good as riding in Tante Modeste's milk cart."

"Better, much better," agreed Pepsie, and then you'll have a big, big house in the country, with grass, and trees, and flowers, and a fountain that will tinkle, tinkle all the time."

They've lived here ever since I was born, and no one's seen them, because born, and no one's seen them, because Now what was it that the Pope did born, and no one's seen them, because they've kept to themselves always; and in defining the Immaculate Conception? Exactly the same thing. He defined what the faith really was to want to take you away, they want to take you away, they want to take you away, they want to take you away. put an end to the doubts about it.
The only difference was that those who word in her passionate vehemence, while she still cried and rubbed

angrily.

"But don't cry, Pepsie," entreated
Lady Jane. "I don't love Mam'selle
Diane as well as I love you. It's the music, the singing. Oh, Pepsie, dear, dear Pepsie, let me learn music, and

I'll be good and love you dearly! "No,—do, you won't, care any more for me," insisted Pepsie, the little demon of jealously raging to such a degree that she was quite ready to be unjust, as well as unreasonable. "Are you cross at me, Pepsie?" and

Lady Jane crept almost across the table to cling tearfully to her friend's neck. "Don't be cross, and I won't go to Mam'selle Diane. I won't learn music, and, Pepsie dear, I'll—I'll give you Tony !"

This was the extreme of renunciation, and it touched the generous heart of the girl to the very quick. "You dear little angel!" she cried with a sudden revulsion of feeling, clasping and kisser whild passionately. "You're wouldn't dare turn the cold shoulder to see through their interest in the I'm wicked and selfish! Yes, wicked and selfish. It's for your good, and I'm trying to keep you away. You how very exclusive a d'Hautreve could

didn't want her to go to Mam'selle Diane. I was jealous, that's all."

"Pepsie cried becarse she thought I wouldn't love her," put in Lady Jane. in an explanatory tone, quite ignoring Tite's burst of loyalty. "Mam'selle Daine is nobility — French nobility— and Pepsie thought I'd be proud, and love Mam'selle best, -didn't you, Pep-

sie?"

"Now, jes' hear that chile," cried Tite, scornfully. "If dey is nobil'ty, dey is po' white trase. Shore's I live, dat tall lean one wat look lak a graveyard figger, she git outen her bed 'fore sun-up, an' brick her banquette her own se'f. I done seed her, one mornin'; she war a-scrubbin' lak mad. An' bress yer, honey, she done had a An' bress yer, honey, she done had a veil on; so no one won't know her. Shore's I live, she done brick her banquette wid a veil on."

in on us, and, in a little while, they will forget who we are."

"Never fear, mama; if the aunt is as well bred as the child, she will not annoy us. If we wish to know her, we shall probably have to make the first one else. You couldn't tell who it was, if she had a veil on, as you say."

This argument did not in the least shake Tite Souris in her conviction

that she had seen the grand-daughter of the Count d'Hautreve bricking her banquette before "sun-up" with a

veil over her face. However, Lady Jane and Pepsie were reconciled, and the little cripple, to show her confidence in the child's affection, was now as anxious to have her go to Mam'selle Diane and learn music, as she was averse to it before.

"Yes, Lady dear, I want you to learn to play on the piano, and I'll tell you what I've been thinking of," said Pepsie as they leaned confidentially oward each other across the table, 'mama has some money in the bank. She's been saving it to get something for me. You know, she does every-thing I want her to do. I wanted to learn to read, and she had a teacher come to me every day until I could this is what it is. She must buy a piano to put right there in that space next the bed."

"For me to play on? Oh, Pepsie, how lovely!" and Lady Jane clasped her hands with delight.

"And you can practise all the time," continued the practical Pepsie.
"You know, if you ever learn music well you must practise a great deal. Cousin Marie practised three hours a day in the convent. And then, when you are grown up, you'll sing in the cathedral, and earn a great deal of money; and you can buy a beautiful white satin dress, all trimmed down the front with lace, and they will ask you to sing in the French Opera, on Rue Bourbon; and every one will bring you flowers, and rings and bracelets, and jewels, and you'll be just like a given."

riotous imagination.

"Yes," said Pepsie. Now that she had started she meant to give full rein to her fancy. "And every one will be ready to worship you, and you'll ride out in a blue carriage, with eight white horses.

"Oh, oh!" interrupted Lady Jane

live with me always." Here a sudden shadow passed over the bright little face, and the wide eyes grew very wistful, "and, Pepsie, perhaps God will let papa and mama come and live

with me again."
"Perhaps so, dear," returned Pepsie with quick sympathy. "When I say my prayers, I'll ask."

Presently Lady Jane said softly, with an anxious glance at Pepsie,

"You know, you told me that mama might come back before Christmas. It's nearly Christmas, isn't it? Oh, wish I could know if she was coming back! Can't you ask your cards, Pepsie? Perhaps they'll tell if she'll "I'll try," replied Pepsie, "yes, I'll

try; but sometimes they won't tell."
When Lady Jane asked permission of Madame Jozain to study music with Mam'selle Diane, Tante Pauline consented readily. In fact, she was over joyed. It was no common honor to have one's niece instructed by d'Hautreve, and it was another feather This was the extreme of renunciation, and it touched the generous heart of the girl to the very quick. "You dear treat her with greater consideration. be, under certain circumstances.

TO BE CONTINUED.

They did this several nights and in the morning the pain and itching were so bad I had warts dropped out and I have never been troubled since. MRS. W. CRAIG,
Brighton, Ont.

Little Jennie Was Cured.

DEAR SIRS,—My little Jennie was very bad with La Grippe which left a bad cough. I gave her Hagyard's Pectoral Balsalm and it soon cured her.

MRS. A. MCAUTHUR, Copleston, Ont.

Ask for Minard's, and take no other.

There's Magic in it.

What must be the satisfaction and gratification at so small a cost of one who writes like this? Mr. W. Mason, editor of the Ret. Ford and Gainsborough News, Retford, and Gainsborough News, Retford, and Gainsborough News, Cry. I see how she's be'n a-gwine on. You jes' look out, or her ma'll git a'ter you, ef yer makes dat po' crooked gal cry dat a-way."

"Hush, Tite," cried Pepsie, "you nit soon cured her.

Ask for Minard's, and take no other.

Ask for Minard's, and take no other.

Frank Mathew tells the following amusing anecdote in the last number of the Idler. Once upon a time there was a Cockney and Catholic tradesman whose shop was in the Brompton Road, close to the Oratory. It was a strange little room, so full of Church ornaments and rare vestments, that, finding your-self in it, you would have thought it was either a curiosity shop or a sacristy One day, as the tradesman, whose name was Jones, leant on his counter waiting — with more patience than hope -- for customers, a stranger came in, wearing the everyday dress of a Catholic Bishop; his presence was stately, and his manner had so gentle and tender a dignity that all good Shore's I live, she done brick her banquette wid a veil on."

"If she cleans the banquette herself, they must be very poor," was Pepsie's logical conclusion. "Perhaps, after all, they're not so proud; only they don't want people to know how your wanted an outfit of wanted and most dogs loved him at first sight. He had recently been made Bishop, he said—and he spoke with such simple humility that Jones could hardly believe him—made Bishop of some outlandish country, and he wanted an outfit of vestments and altar vessels. A proud man was Jones then; he brought out the treasures of hisstock, crosiers and glittering mitres, mystic vestments—with long names that no layman is worthy to remember, even if he could-jewelled and golden chalices. The stranger was full of wonder; he was too lowly, he said, for such things, and yet he asked what could be too glorious or too costly for the high office that he had been forced to accept? He knew nothing of pomp and ceremony, his work had been among the poor, but would Jones put on a mitre and vestments to show him how they looked? So Jones robed him-self from head to foot in the full ponti-ficals of a Bishop; he put on wonder-ful vestments, stiff with jewels and gold, he leant his right hand on a priceless crosier, and a mitre shope on priceless crosier, and a mitre shone on his head. Then, as he saw himself in the glass at the end of his shop, for a moment all the world changed to him. He forgot his drudging and huckster ing life-he was no worried tradesman, but a brother of the Apostles and a bulwark of the Church; he forgot his big ledgers and his daily task of bow read and write very well, so I'm sure ing and smirking at chance customers she'll do this, if I want her to; and instead of the clatter of the Brompton Road, he heard the echo of Litanies instead of his shop, he saw a Cathedral dimmed by incense and crammed with worshippers, and he was the shepherd of that beloved multitude. For that moment he saw all his common and prosy history become noble and beautiful; and I, for one, have not the heart to blame him. But he bought that fine moment at a great price, for the stranger seized the two richest chalices, and fled into the street. Jones rushed to the shop-door, but even if a Bishop's robes had been better suited for runn ing, I doubt if he would have hunted that thief through Brompton with mitre and crosier for all the Roman chalices. And the thief and the chalices vanished down the Bromptom Road.

The next anecdote comes nearer home

By a simple system of registered numbers Messrs, Tuckett & Son can tell which of their workmen manipulated any particular plug of their "Myrtle Navy" tobacco, if the caddy which contained it is known. Should any imperfection be found in any plug, therefore, they can at once single out the workmanfrom among their 400 hands—who is responsible for it. This system works so thoroughly that the complaints do not average one for every 200,000 plugs turned out.

"It Cured Mother."

"It Cured Mother."

GENTLEMEN, — My mother was suffering from dyspepsia and had no appetite. Everything failed to cure her until one day, while visiting a friend's house, I saw a bottle of B. B. B. on the table; on enquiring what they used it for, I soon found out what it cured, and when I went home told mother that she should try it; she said she had no faith in anything, and objected to try it. Notwithstanding her objection I went in the evening and brought home a bottle, but it was in the house for a week before we could induce her to take it. At last, as she was getting worse all the time she consented to try it, and on taking half the bottle found it was curing her. Another bottle cured her, and, we believe, saved her life. We are never without B. B. B. now. It is such a good remedy for headache as well. E. WESTON, 15 Dahousie street, Montreal.

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EPISCOPAL ANECDOTES.

"And sit on a throne, and wear a crown?" gasped Lady Jane, her eyes wide and sparkling, and her cheeks flushed over the glories of Darwins. The most picturesque and forceful of ism, where his ability brought him early recognition and advancement. Innumerable incidents are related of his dry humor. One must suffice. A "delegation" waited on him to complain of the bibulous propensities of one of his subordinates. The Bishop, ever a staunch supporter of his clergy, listened somewhat impatiently as the

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