#### FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS.

Palm Sunday.

SERVING GOD FROM THE HEART. "Hosanna to the Son of David." (St. Matt.

To day, my dear brethren, we are reminded of that hour in the life of our Lord on earth in which He was receiv ing from the people of His own nation all the honor they could render Him. He then entered the chosen city of God in triumph over all who had opposed Thousands surrounded Him, went before Him and followed after Him. They paved the road before Him with their own clothing and with the branches of trees, that they might thus make His entry into Jerusalem as glor-

ious as possible. In a few days, when He had been arrested by His enemies, where was this great crowd? Where were those who had cried out so fervently, "Ho-sanna to the Son of David?" But few could there be found. The rest had either deserted Him or joined in with the crowd that mocked Him even while He was dying on the Cross Nearly all had abandoned Him in the day of His adversity. The first test of their faith in Him, the first trial that proved the strength of their love for Him, found them entirely wanting in that characteristic of true love, fidelity

Is it impossible for us to do as they did? No; it is not impossible, for many who are Catholics born and bred do the same thing now.
But who are these? They are those

who fail to keep the Ten Command-ments of God and the precepts and laws of the Church. Every Catholic who breaks the Commandments of God and refuses to obey the laws of the Church does worse than those did who church does worse than those did who deserted our Lord when He was condemned and crucified. With their lips they declare they are Catholics, and in this way cry out "Hosanna to the Son of David," but in their hearts and lives they live and associate with and lives they live and associate with the enemies of Christ.

But why are these men worse than the others? Simply because they received the graces of Christ in their baptism, in their confirmation, and their first Communion, well as in their many Communions thereafter. In Communion they re-ceive our Lord Himself, the Lord of eternal glory who is eternal life itself.
These have been, in truth, members of
the kingdom of heaven, but have cast the Kingdon of Reaven, but have east themselves out by not keeping the Commandments of God, by not obeying the laws of the Church. Truly does the Scripture say of many of them: "He that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead." For dead many of them are apparently-dead eternally. They seem to be in the spiritual slumber of eternal death. They appear to be eternally judged their eternal fate already sealed.

Why do I say this? Because nothing can move their hearts to return to God. Missions, sermons, exhortations, threatenings, warnings, counsels, the prayers and entreaties of fathers, mothers, kindred, and friends are all unheeded by them, are all in vain. Even the tears of their fathers and mothers, and the blushes of shame whenever they are alluded to by friends, have no effect upon them, none whatever. They will not return

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Poor souls! Remember that whatever excuse you make to yourself, this is true, that those who keep the commandments and the laws of the Church "Poor Harry!" he muttered as he show they are the true friends of our Lord; those who do not keep these show to all in heaven and earth that they are His enemies. We have but one sure and positive test of our love The Ten Commandfor our Lord. ments and the laws of the Church constitute that test. All who really love Him keep these faithfully. "If you Him keep these faithfully. "If you love Me," said our Lord, "keep My commandments." All who do not love Him break them and disregard them. God Himself is not their friend. They have no part in the triumphs of our Lord on this day. It is true they cry out with us, "Hosanna to the Son of David," but in their lives they side with His enemies and crucify our

What, then, is to be done? Let those who are faithful profit by the terrible examples of these abandoned souls. Let them dread and tremble lest they also be brought into the same state by their increasing tepidity and neglect. Let them take care to secure to our Lord a complete triumph in their own souls that He may rule there in time and eternity. "The kingdom of God is within you," said our Lord, and the Christian soul is truly the throne of God. None but faithful or truly repentant souls can cry out to-day, in all sincerity, "Hosanna to the Son of David.

The rapidity with which croup develops calls for instant treatment; and yet few households are prepared for its visits. An admirable remedy for this disease is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It has saved hundreds of lives and should be in every home where there are young children.

young children.

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Minard's Liniment Lumberman's

#### OUR WESTERN WAITS.

BY FRANCIS J. FINN, S. J.

"Oh, come let us worship!" sang a little lad at the head of the surpliced choir-boys, as they marched in solemn, stately procession up the deserted centre aisle of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. His notes were clear, low,

full, and golden.

"Oh, come let us worship!" he repeated in a rich alto to the silvery voice of the solo soprano who walked beside him.

"Oh, come let us worship Christ the Lord!" chorused forth twenty pure, fresh voices; and the stately pile rang with that sacred melody, which, when uttered by childish trebles, is, perhaps, the nearest approach to the singing of the angels that can charm mortal ear.

Softly the chorus died away, as the procession moved into the vestry, where, presto! these pseudo angels became very real boys, and doffed their surplices with all the varied and inexhaustible accompaniments that animal

spirits so lightly create.
"Hasn't Harry Conway come, sir?" inquired he of the golden alto, appealing to Mr. Gibson, the choir director.
"No, Willie; its the first time he failed to be on hand."

"It's too bad," commented Willie. "We've but three quarters of an hour to have our last rehearsal of those Christmas carols, and without Harry we'll feel lost. What a gay voice he will be lost. What a gay prize to sprang I ever has! It's the prettiest soprano I ever heard.

"Yes," assented Mr. Gibson warmly "and his disposition is as charming as his voice. He's an honor to his Church, too. You remember, when I Church, too. You remember, when I asked him to help us out in our Christmas singing, how he answered modestly that he wouldn't do so because he was not a Catholic. His manner was good, and his answer showed charac-

ter." Continued Willie, "Well, boys," continued without "we'll have to get along without Harry. Even as it is, we'll barely have time to run through our carols." And in the fulness of the Christmas spirit these animated music-boxes gave themselves to their singing with a zest and, for the brief time allotted them, charmed the air with the sweet and simple melodies of Noel.

But Harry Conway was not charmed into appearing; and so when the choristers had resolved themselves into the regulation small boy, with his shout, hop, and a jump, Willie Simms leaped upon his pony and cantered off toward the outskirts of the town.

His acquaintance with Harry Conway, whom he had met but four times had come about in this way : Willie's father, desirous of reviving ancient Christmas customs, had presented the surpliced choir with a number of old English carols, with the understanding that the singers were to have them ready for a parlor concert on the afternoon of Christmas. How he happened upon Harry Conway, Willie knew not ; but Mr. Simms it was who, on their meeting for their third rehearsal, had introduced Harry to them-a modest, decently clad boy, with a voice such as none of them, accustomed as they were to beautiful sounds, had ever heard. Willie was at once taken with the sunny faced soprano, and their brief acquaintance had already ripened

into a sort of intimacy.

Very shortly Willie drew rein before the house which bore the address Harry had given him. It was a modest structure indeed; and he gazed upon it not without some feeling

threw the reins over his pony's neck and leaped to the ground. "I didn' imagine his people were so badly off. His knock was answered by a little girl, a beautiful child, with signs of subdued grief upon her expressive

"Is Harry Conway home?" "Yes sir," answered the little miss, her eyes filling as she spoke; "and, oh how I wish he wasn't! started to go to singing practice this afternoon, and just as he got outside our gate he slipped on the sidewalk

and broke his arm The little girl put her hand over her eyes and choked and gurgled in an unsuccessful attempt to restrain her feelings. A loud, rough voice from within broke upon the awkward pause. These were the words that Wille caught:

"Understand, ma'am, I'm not practising medicine for amusement. business. I've a family to support, and I don't know you from Adam ; so

next time I come I'd like you to settle." Whereupon there was the banging of a door, and with heavy strides the author of these cruel words clattered down the staircase, and rudely brush ing aside the two little ones, hurried

away. "Can I see him?" asked Willie, with the hot blood rushing to his cheeks at this his first experience of

the trials of poverty. "I'll ask mamma, sir; aren't you

Willie Simms?" "Yes," answered Willie. "Oh, I'm so glad! Harry's told me all about you. And he likes you that much"--the little maiden spread her

arms as far apart as they could go.
"He told me so himself," she con-

mild face an unmistakable touch of re-

"Come in, Willie," she said cor-ially. "I am indeed glad to meet dially. "I am indeed glad to meet one who has been so kind to my little He seems to have suffered more from being compelled to disappoint your good father and yourself than from his broken arm. Come upstairs."

She ushered him into a little room, so scant, yet so tidy in its apartments, where upon his bed of pain lay Harry. While the two lads were exchanging greetings, Mrs. Conway withdrew; and even before she had shut herself without-so quick of growth are boyish intimacies - these two had deve loped into the warmest of friends.
God be thanked for it, that young hearts are so innocent and so warm!

"Wille," said Harry, as the door closed, "did you hear that doctor talking? Ah! I see you did. Well, poor mamma has to stand that kind of thing pretty often now. It's been going on for over three weeks. Would you like to hear the story?" By way of answer Willie seated him

self on the edge of the bed and caught the unbandaged hand in a warm clasp. "Well, last summer papa went out omewhere in the Rockies to do some business and to collect a big lot of money that a man out there owed him. He was to be back in a month; but we didn't even get a letter. Weeks and weeks went on without a word. Last October mamma ran out of money, and we began to get in debt. November came, and mamma had to take in sewing-there are three of us children and I am the oldest-and then, Willie -oh! she's such a good mother-she nearly starved and killed herself to

Do you remember the day that I came to your rehearsal first?"
"Yes, indeed," answered gentle-hearted Willie, mastering his voice

keep us comfortable, and just asked us

to keep on praying for papa's return.

sufficiently to speak. "On that morning a letter reached us which had been wrongly directed and had been travelling all over the country. It was dated November 4th, and came from an inn-keeper in a Colorado village, who wrote us that my father had died from effects of exposure, and that he had hardly enough with him to pay his expenses.

Willie put his handkerchief to his eyes, not trusting himself to speak; and for a few moments there was sil-

ence. "That's all the letter told us; it didn't even give any address. As soon as I heard the news I went down town and tried to get work to help poor mamma. Then I heard of your father's plan to get up those Christmas carols, and I know it was very bold, but I went and told him part of my story, and offered to sing for him if he would give me a little money for my mamma's Christmas. And he was so kind; he made me sing a little, and seemed to be much pleased, and said he'd engage me and give me \$20 on Christmas. And, Willie you've no notion how I've been looking forward to that money. It would give mamma And, Willie you've no

a new start. He added in a whisper:

"Willie, she's pawned nearly all her own little articles to keep me and my two sisters in everything we want She doesn't think I know it, but I do And now everthing is wrong. I'm afraid I won't be able to sing to-morrow: and I'm so sorry I wont't take a cent,

Willie, if I can't sing."
"Then you'll sing," said Willie with decision. "We'll wrap you up, and send our closed carriage after you; and you'll not catch a bit of cold, and— Episcopalian boy's praying for you,

would you?
"Object!" cried Harry, opening his blue eyes to their widest. couldn't please me better."

"Well, I'll pray; and you'll sing to Now good-by, Harry ; I've morrow. got an idea."

Willie as he spoke, was gazing out of the window; the snow was falling in large, heavy flakes, and the ground vas already mantled in white.

He dashed home at a mad gallop, his little brain awhirl with a novel scheme "Mamma," he burst out, as he joined the family at dinner, "I've an awful favor to ask of you." Mamma smiled.

"Will you loan me our big sleigh? I want to give our singers a ride; it's the first snow this winter, and -

mamma, I've got an idea." What mother is not pleased at her darling's having an idea? That as sertion turned the doubtful scales in Willie's favor; and an hour later the bells jingled merrily as he drove forth in state along the principal residence

street, pausing at various houses to gather in his glee-singers. Presently the sleigh had become a crowded mass of mirth-bubbling juven ility. There literally wasn't room enough for one more when Charlie Edwards, the twentieth of the midgets,

squeezed himself,in.
"Now, boys," began Willie, using his golden voice to some purpose, so as to be heard above the bustle inevitable to the massing together of a score of small boys, "listen one

TO BE CONTINUED.

minute.'

tinued, smiling through her tears.

'My name is Mary, and I'm his sister.

Don't I look like him? He says we're twins; only, you know, he's three years older, and so I think he must be joking. Ah! here's mamma. Mamma, this is Willie Simms, the boy that Harry likes that much"— and Mary repeated the expressive gesture.

The thin, pale-faced woman who stood before him wore, despite her surroundings, the air of a lady. Grief and poverty had not banished from her

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"The Catholic Boycott."

The Derry Journal says: In an article under the above heading the Irish Catholic and Nation of the present week incorporates an exhausive table showing the relative numbers and salaries of the Protestant and Catholic officials of the several Irish Government departments. The table is in the highest degree instructive, and for the information of our readers we give the

appended condensation:
Chief Secretary's Office—Protestant, 20; salaries, £10,442; Catholics, 3 salaries, £1,281. The Justiciary - Protestants, 14

salaries, £47,100; Catholics, 3; salaries, £13,100. Legal Officials-Protestants, 27; sal

aries, £18,403; Catholics, 7; salaries

Local Government Board - Protestants, 20; salaries, £12,700; Catholics, 7; salaries, £6,300.

Fisheries Department — Protestants, 3; salaries, £2,100; Catholic 1; sal-

ary, £306. Public Record Office—Protestants, 9 salaries, £4,477; Catholics, 2; salar es, £450

Public Works Office-Protestants, 5 salaries, £4,100; Catholics, 2; salaries, £1,857.

The total number of Protestant officials is 98, who get £99,222, and of Catholics 25, who receive £26,842. The Protestant officials, therefore, are in the ratio of about 4 to 1, although the Catholics number about centum of the population, or 4 to 1 of all others denominations, which means in plain words that the Catholics have only one-twelfth of their equitable representation.

### Religion's Loss of Social Prestige

Whatever the reasons-and they are watever the reasons—and they they many—religion has ceased to hold that high, unquestioned social position assigned to it in former ages; yet it remains, in the midst of all our modern and they are they are the second to be a secon mains, in the midst of all our modern worldiness and unbelief, one of the greatest concerns of individual souls and of the public mind in the civilized world at large, and most notably in this country of ours. Whether firmly held or anxiously sought for; whether as an occasional impulse or as an habitual practical profession, some sort of faith underlies the existence of almost all. After the imperative needs of bodily life, that of religion, of one kind or another, is perhaps the most widely felt. For the thousands interested in politics or in the pursuit of wealth, there are millions concerned about their ultimate end. A proof, or at least a sign, of this may be seen in the curious fact that among the books sent forth year after year by the press, there are more devoted to religion than to any other individual way and the most notable by express office can have book forwarded to the one nearest their residence. Please there are more devoted to religion than to any other individual way and the most press office can have book forwarded to the one nearest their residence. Please there are more devoted to religion than to any other individual way and the most proposed for a year for Seven Dollars. Subscribers who live where there is no express office can have book forwarded to the one nearest their residence. Please press office are neared at our expense, and the money will be refunded. Bibles similar to these have for years been sold by agents for ten dollars each. there are more devoted to religion than to any other individual subject. The faiths of the human race; the sacred books of all nations, above all the Bible in its diverse parts and viewed under every conceivable aspect; the teachings of the Gospel in its manifold bearings: such are the subjects which continue to draw the minds of the most cultured and the most thoughtful. — Abbe Hogan, in March Donahoe's.

## Newman at Oxford

Dean Hele, who is lecturing in this country, was at Oxford with Newman. He says: "Although Newman wore, when I saw him first, the costume of the clergy then in use, but now relegated to the respectable waiter, dress coat, low waistcoat, and white neckerchief, clumsily tied, a brief inspection convinced you that he was a man of ou'll not caten a bit of cold, and—
say; you wouldn't object to an
exceptional power and purpose.
tellect looked out of the windows of eyes, ere it came forth from the door of his lips. The expression of the thin, ascetic face was grave and thoughtful, but ever and anon a brief smile of humor came like sunshine on dark waters in our April days. You saw at once that he must be an ecclesiastic, and if you had met him for the first time in his shirt sleeves you would have said-That man is a priest. He preached with a plaintive pathos, that one which the French describe as 'tears in the voice,' which fascinates like the notes of the nightingale when he presses his breast against the thorn and sings.

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