

## AN ADVERTISEMENT AND HOW IT WAS ANSWERED.

## "Sacred Heart Review."

Some few weeks ago the "Sacred Heart Review" stated in an editorial paragraph that no Catholic had just grounds for complaint because a business firm had advertised for a Protestant office boy. Reading this opinion, an esteemed subscriber in the West forwards for our consideration the following letters, showing how a young man with an Irish name from one of Massachusetts cities was answered, when, applying for a position as bookkeeper, he stated at once, without being asked, that he was a Protestant. The name we give is, for obvious reasons, fictitious, but the real name of the young man is every whit as Irish. The incident is of very recent occurrence. It suggests a number of reflections, all so well put in one of the following letters that it would be a useless repetition for us to dwell upon them any further. We may remark that the case presented in these letters is entirely different to the one about which we wrote in the "Review." The advertisement, which we give, and the letters, tell their own story.

"Wanted—First-class Bookkeeper for large concern in the West; salary \$150 per month; must be competent, experienced, healthy and of good habits; none but expert accountant need apply." References required. Address—"

—Mass., Aug. 2, 1904.

Gentlemen:—Referring to your advertisement in the— for a bookkeeper, I beg to hand you my application for the position.

I am a Protestant; twenty-eight years of age; unmarried; do not use liquor or tobacco in any form; and have had twelve years' experience in bookkeeping and general office work; six of which have been with my present employers, the — Co., of this city, as bookkeeper and stenographer.

I would refer you to Mr. —, treasurer of the company, with regard to my character and ability.

Yours respectfully,  
JAMES LYNCH.

Aug. 12, 1904.

James Lynch, Esq.

Dear Sir:—We have yours of the 2nd in reply to our advertisement for a bookkeeper. We should have been inclined to give your application consideration, but for one of the things you mentioned as a qualification viz., "I am a Protestant." We would respectfully suggest that we advertised for a bookkeeper, not for a Protestant. Since when has Protestantism become a sine qua non in accounting? You evidently put it forward as a special bookkeeping virtue. Is it considered such in Massachusetts? It is not in —. Brains, not particular forms of belief, count here in bookkeepers. Is it possible that you feared the authors of the advertisement could be so small-souled and benighted and unAmerican and unjust as to discriminate in their business against all human beings whom God took the trouble to create, save and except Protestants? If you did, your fears were groundless. Or is it possible that you anticipated being taken, because of your Hibernian name, for a vulgar Irish Catholic, and, knowing Protestants as you must, realized the fate that your application would meet at their hands? What a commentary on the justice and Christian charity of your co-religionists, and what a small soul you must be possessed of, if such was your reason. Is this the fruit of your creed? If so, God pity your creed and you.

You did not mention your color or your nationality as a qualification. Did you not fear we might have doubts on these points too? Or were you entirely satisfied of your predestination regardless of color, white, black or pink; regardless of blood—Swedish, Welsh or Pharisee, so long as you could "shoot the Pope?"

We should be beneath contempt did we consider for a moment in our employes whether or not they are Protestant, Choctaw or Catholic. Capability and character are the standards set for those whom we employ. We would not tolerate any one around us who for an instant considered that the form of his faith entitled him to special consideration. The fact that that one of your name gratuitously volunteers the information that he is a Protestant creates an immediate suspicion as to his other qualifications. Can it be possible that you

were born that way, or was it recently acquired for revenue only? It would seem to be the latter, since those "to the manner born," so far as my experience goes, finds no necessity for announcing the fact of their religious belief on occasion of applying for a situation. In any event, the announcement of one's religion unasked is the surest way of "queering" an applicant for a position with us. Your application is declined.

Yours very truly,  
—, Secretary.

—Mass., Aug. 17, 1904.

Messrs. —

Gentlemen:—Your letter of the 12th inst., received, and I deeply regret that the statement referred to should have so aroused your ire. In the three positions I have had since leaving school, the question has been asked as to my religion, and what church I attended, and in each case I have been as angry as yourselves at the absurdity of the question. I count my friends among all nationalities and creeds, and they would be very much offended were anyone to imply that I considered myself of the "elect" because I am a Protestant. I simply mentioned this as a statement of fact, and in anticipation of being asked, and trust you will see it in that light.

It is too late to mend matters now, but I would like to hear from you that you do not hold it against me for making a statement which would not have aroused comment here.

Yours respectfully,  
JAMES LYNCH.

Aug. 18, 1904.

James Lynch, Esq.

Dear Sir:—We are glad to have your letter of August 17th. When we received your former letter we could not conceive of any reason for the statement which it contained as to your religious belief, except that it was intended as an inducement for us to employ you. We were not aware that it was the practice in Massachusetts, as your letter gives us to understand that it is, to inquire as to the religion of applicants for employment. It is not the practice here, and, personally, I believe it to be a vicious practice anywhere. I have had nearly 20 years' experience in hiring men, and yours is the second instance in all that time that an applicant for a position has ever suggested the form of his religious belief to me, or has ever been asked what it was. We employ between four and six hundred men, and to have your application the second one in all these years and among all these men to suggest religious belief was quite a new thing to me.

We do not of course "hold it up against you," but would suggest that if hereafter you have occasion to make application for a position you carefully keep to yourself your particular form of belief, unless it is asked of you. With very best wishes I am,

Yours very truly,  
—, Secretary.

## WITH CRICK IN THE BACK.

You are up against a whole lot of trouble unless you have a strong remedy like Nerviline to settle pain and dislodge stiffness from the muscles and joints. Just rub Nerviline on the painful spot—not much rubbing because Nerviline has more power than ordinary remedies. You won't suffer long after Nerviline is applied for it relieves almost instantly. Mr. Philip Adams, of Oakland, says: "If I hadn't used Nerviline I guess my back would be stiff yet. A few applications of Nerviline took out all the soreness and stiffness. I can recommend Nerviline for any kind of muscular pain, also for rheumatism. Price 25c."

## A WONDER-WORKING SUBSTANCE.

A large number of children die from cholera infantum, but there is a very simple cure, in a majority of cases. I got a hint from a Georgian then residing in Baltimore, who said: "I have a large family of boys and girls, now remarkably healthy, but I, so to speak, brought them, almost at death's door, back to life, God willing, by the use of salt. I gave them, in extremity, a tea of codfish, the old dried fish, washed from superficial impurities. They sucked this and got well without any other medication." This I found to be a specific, and I have induced mothers to try it, and as far as I know, successfully. It would be good for the world if old and young comprehended the virtues of salt and avoided drug addiction. I rid myself, years ago, of the tortures of neuralgia by taking a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in a tumblerful of cool, but not cold, water, and drank immediately before breakfast. Persisting in

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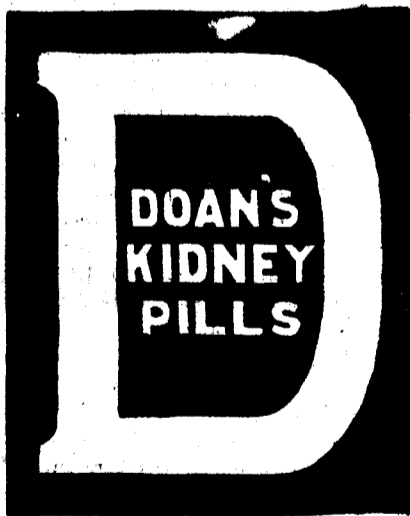
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Don't neglect it! Check it in time!  
Serious trouble will follow if you don't.  
Cure your Backache by taking

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this habitually, I found that it acted most benignly on the throat, stomach, heart and lungs. It is nearer to "the elixir of life" than any substance I am acquainted with, and if it were an expensive article it would be in greater request as a consummate remedy for mortal ills. Some people think that I am a crank on this subject, but I know what it has done for me and I prefer being that kind of a crank than becoming, as a majority do, prematurely old, infirm and "drug fiends."—J. R. Randall, in Catholic Columbian.

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of a

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