

RANDOM NOTES

For Busy Households.

On a recent Sunday, Rev. Father Quinlivan, pastor of St. Patrick's, in making the announcements at High Mass, referred to the great labor and expense entailed in cleaning the Church, a work which he said occupied several weeks. As a general rule, said the esteemed pastor, parishioners have shown that respect becoming them, in Church; but there are some amongst us, he proceeded to say, who indulge in habits that are far from being respectful. He exhorted his hearers to be mindful of that spirit of reverence which is always characteristic of the devout Catholic.

A writer in a contemporary, in dealing with some phases of the subject says:—

Reverence in the Church is required of every one because of the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. He is there, in His Divine Majesty, in the Adorable Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, and as no subject can be un mindful of this King of Glory, our Lord, there should be no talking in the church or whispering either in the pews or in the aisles, in the front of the church, in the choir, or in the back of the church, or any gossiping in the vestibule. The church is not a market place or a news stand, but a place to adore our Lord, to pray, to receive the sacraments. "The church," to quote the sentiments of a Paulist Father, "is the best place to show good manners." A fact which few persons seem to overlook. For the sake of the minority a few hints are given:—

If there is a crowd going into the church don't try your utmost to elbow everybody else and increase the general discomfort. Take it easy. Don't aim a blow at the holy water font and immerse the hold hand. Dip the finger lightly and then sprinkle yourself alone, not the ones standing around you. Walk quietly down the aisle to your pew, and take the most convenient seat therein. Don't lay siege to the seat and hold it against all comers. We should like to see that "don't" printed in very large and black letters. Never disturb your neighbors by your prayers. Be attentive to the priest at the altar. A silent good example is most telling and most edifying. Never spit on the floor; it is exceedingly bad taste. In going out, after at least a short prayer of thanksgiving, take your time. Don't leave God's house in a hurry. Try to postpone any prolonged meeting with friends until you are outside.

During confession hours never deprive anyone of his or her place. It shows but a poor spirit in which to receive the Sacrament of Penance to rob one of what belongs to him. It is not at all forbidden to allow another, who for some necessary reason must hurry, to go ahead of yourself. Marriages or baptisms are not occasions on which to satisfy your curiosity. In all things use common sense. You would not forget yourself in visiting the house of a friend; do not do so in the house of God. Carry yourself modestly, becomingly, without affectation, without prominence. Look to the comforts of others. If inconvenience must be borne, let it be yourself who will be willing to bear it.

Home-made bread is always a luxury to men whose preferences are for the home cuisine.

It is always interesting to me to note the enthusiasm of a young housewife. I saw one lately with face aglow, who told me delightedly of her great success in bread-making, remarks a writer in an exchange recently. "I have never made any bread, you know—thought I couldn't but lately I learned how. The first batch was delicious, and, of course, I was more than pleased. I feared, however, that it was merely a piece of good luck, so, rather doubting my skill, I made the second attempt with equally good results. I was so delighted that I took a loaf to show at my father's home, and all the way as I walked with the loaf clasped carefully in hand I kept saying happily to myself, 'I made this bread; I made it myself.' Do you think I was foolish?"

Foolish? No, indeed, no young wife or mother may deem the acquiring of any household or culinary art as anything but commendable. Every woman has the right to be proud of each new domestic accomplishment she acquires, and in which she excels. Whatever tends to increase the happiness and comfort of the home is noble.

A contemporary suggests as a means of preserving good health, to drink three quarts of cold water

daily between meals, none during meals, and to walk from one to five miles daily according to strength.

The growth of a baby is most rapid in the first few weeks of its life. The child should gain in height from six to seven inches, and proportionately in breadth, during the first year; and from the fourth to the sixteenth year it should gain two inches every year. There are certain diseases, such as rickets and scrofula, which retard growth; and the mother should notice the development of the child in this direction most carefully, in order that some inherited malady may not gain a great deal of headway and so cause fatal results long before she knows anything about it.

Too much perspiration about the head when sleeping; a coldness in the feet and hands; an abnormal growth of the head, and slow closing of the fontanelles—all point to some chronic malady; and unless change of food or habits in exercise make a radical change the mother had best ask advice.

A mother or nurse should be especially careful in putting the child upon its feet too soon. The bones of a young child who is still nursing are deficient in lime and other earthly substances, which go to make up their strength; and many a case of how legs or distorted knees or ankles has been the result of a mother's pride in showing that her baby is smart enough to stand alone.

A baby under a year should never be encouraged to show its physical strength in any way, except in lying flat upon its back or stomach, and in kicking and thrusting about the arms, or, when left alone on the floor, making its own experiment in creeping. The natural restlessness of an infant will cause it to do its best to move about.

According to the last census 47.8 per cent. of the 12,700,000 families in the United States are home owners. Of the whole number of families 4,800,000 live on farms and 66 per cent. of them are owners. It is further stated that of the 4,200,000 families in the towns and villages, 44 per cent are home owners, while of the 3,600,000 families dwelling in cities of over 8,000 population, 20 per cent. are such. But the value of these homes is very small, and sometimes farms held by some of the negroes do not exceed over two or three hundred dollars in value, while mortgages are abundant on the buildings of the white population. That so few residents of New York city are home owners is largely due to the fact that real estate is far too expensive even for the man engaged in fairly profitable business, who must use his capital in his business. In New York the average house and lot—or at least the average mortgaged house and lot—is worth \$19,000. In no other city is it half so much; but the average for all cities towns and villages is \$3,250.

The instant a German fraulein accepts a young man's hand and heart, everybody who takes the least interest in the family is made aware of the important fact, and she is regarded as already half married. There is no more flirting, skating or dancing with other men; they look upon her as entirely appropriated, and she would be guilty of a serious faux pas if she continued to encourage in the smallest degree any other man than her fiance. She loves him with a faithful devotion, rarely seen in any other country, and all she asks is to have him sitting close beside her, holding her hand whether others are present or no. There is no question of "leading him on," "exciting his jealousy" or "pretending not to care for him," and this characteristic devotion for the most part continues during her married life until the end.

If the elixir of life was ever discovered, certainly the summer shirt waist has been dipped into it. Every season is predicted as its last, and each successive season sees it resurrected in brighter hues and greater variety than ever before. The woman said, when it was hinted that large sleeves would be discarded and tight ones the mode. "That kills the shirt waist. As soon as you put tight sleeves in it then it begins to break away at the armholes and becomes useless."

Last year's medium sized sleeves proved satisfactory, and this year's first display looked as though they might be proof against any ripping or giving away process.

White promises to be prime favorite in the summer shirt waist. This may be accounted for by the terrible experience in pale violets, blues and

pinks, that have returned from the laundry a muddy white and utterly unfit for wear in street or house.

The washable silk waist, which gave such satisfaction last year, promises to be greatly in demand for the coming season.

CAREERS OF NOBLE WOMEN.

A good woman never grows old for her virtues shine as diamonds, and her years pass over slowly and gently. When benevolence and virtue dwell in her heart, she is as cheerful as when the spring of life first opened to her view. When we look upon a good woman the thought of her age never bothers us, for she is like a rose that will never fade. In her neighborhood she is the friend and benefactor. She is always foremost when deeds of kindness and mercy are required. She is one of those who endeavors to make the world happier and better by her example. She is ever ready to dispel the dark clouds which hover round many a good family, and to bring consolation to the afflicted. She may be compared to a shining light which illumines the darksome path of many a poor creature, and brings the down trodden to a place which they are justly entitled to hold.

Our Divine Saviour became poor and lowly, and thus made poverty a sacred thing, and He exalted it in human estimation, and gave it a dignity in the eyes of the whole world, and moreover a power of merit in the eyes of God. How much goodness may be done by showing such kindness as little acts of charity to God's afflicted poor. In the "good old days" while England was yet Catholic, the kings and princes of that country were wont to look for virtue and piety in their queens rather than for mere worldly qualifications. This, it was, no doubt, that prompted Edward Third, to choose for his wife Philippa of Hainault, whose acts of charity and of justice, prompted by her pious heart, shed more glory on the English name than the most brilliant victories of her husband. When the tower of Calais in France, was forced to surrender to the English monarch, Edward stipulated that six of the principal citizens of the town should be delivered up for execution. The patriotic self-sacrifice of the noble-hearted men who volunteered to offer themselves, each eager to show his devotion for his native place, is a matter of history. When they reached the English camp, they were met by the soldiers that were gathered to behold and admire them, and were greeted with applause of that virtue which brave men cannot but revere in their enemies. They were on their way to the place of execution, when the good Queen Philippa arrived at the head of powerful reinforcements, with which she was hurrying to her husband's aid. Hearing of what was about to take place Philippa pleaded so earnestly and so tenderly for the lives of the captives that Edward relented, and ordered the men to be brought before him. There, the Queen addressed them saying:—

"You noble burghers! You excellent citizens! Though you were tenfold the enemies of our person and our throne, we can feel nothing for your part, save respect and affection. You have been sufficiently tested. We loose your chains; we snatch you from the scaffold; and we thank you for that lesson of humiliation which you teach us when you show us that excellence is not of blood, of title, or of station, that virtue gives a dignity superior to that of kings; and that those whom the Almighty informs with feelings like yours, are justly eminently raised above all human distinctions. You are now free to depart to your kinsfolk, to your countrymen, to all those whose lives and liberties you have so nobly redeemed, provided you refuse not the tokens our esteem. Yet we would rather bind you to ourselves by every endearing obligation; and for this purpose we offer to you your choice of the gifts and honors that Edward has to bestow. Rivals for fame, but always friends to virtue, we wish that England were entitled to call you her sons.

"Ah, my country!" exclaimed Eustace St. Pierre, who had been the first to offer himself, "it is now that I tremble for you. Edward only wins our cities, but Philippa conquers our hearts." The pious Queen then loaded them with presents, and hastened to relieve the suffering people of Calais.

On another occasion, while Philippa was resting after a weary day spent in relieving the inhabitants of another conquered city, she seemed to her a voice calling to her, "Come if you be a true mother." The night was dark, the wind whistled through

NERVES must be fed on pure, rich blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best nerve tonic. By enriching the blood it makes the nerves **STRONG.**

the castle's parapets and the Queen was tired. What wonder then, if she tried to shake off the impression and to attribute it to her imagination? But it was in vain. Again and again did the plaintive cry come to her. Believing it to be a call from Heaven, Philippa wrapped herself in a cloak, and accompanied by two ladies of her household, hastened out into the winter night.

Through narrow streets and the squalid quarters of the poor—already familiar to her—the good Queen made her way, listening eagerly for the cry that still lingered in her ear. More than once she turned aside to look at some shivering creature but not finding the object of her search continued on. Finally the wailing of a child was heard, and hurrying to the lane, whence the cry issued she found a weeping woman, poorly clad, bending over a basket in which lay a tiny babe, whose piteous cries pierced the night. Lifting the little creature in her arms, Philippa wrapped it tenderly in the ample folds of her cloak, saying: "Here indeed, I am needed, for am I not the mother of just a little one? The companions of the Queen roused the exhausted woman and led her to Philippa's palace, where she and her child were cared for, and ever afterwards remained under the Queen's protection. Not long afterwards Philippa's little son fell dangerously ill, and his afflicted mother powerless to save him, could only pray Almighty God to spare her child. One night while thus appealing to the merciful, she seemed to find herself in heaven, where she heard the dread decision that her boy must die. When lo! a stately lady appeared before our Lord, and said: "Mercy O Lord! mercy! Take not her child away, for she is a good mother." And then the Queen found herself again in her own chamber. Hurrying to the side of the little one she found him sleeping calmly, the fever gone, and knew that he was saved. In every age and in every clime are such noble and generous examples to be found, thus shedding forth those virtues which are the honor of womanhood, the glory of that Church whose Divine Founder inculcated by word and example during His life on earth, and left them as sacred deposits to be known, loved and practised; and the joy and admiration of thousands. Happiness marks the path of those noble souls, and when death claims them, their deeds are spoken of for years afterwards. It is no wonder that the poet cries out:—

"Lives of virtue oft remind us We can make our lives sublime, And departing leave behind us, Footprints on the sands of time."

Footprints that perhaps another, Sailing o'er life's solemn main, A forlorn and shipwrecked person, Seeing shall take heart again.

Let us then be up and doing, With a heart for any fate. Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor and to wait."

Value of Newspaper Advertising.

A business man in Philadelphia said the other day that Mr. Wanamaker's profits from his Philadelphia store last year were over \$1,700,000, and that those from his New York establishment will run close to that figure. The Saturday before Christmas the receipts in New York were even greater than those of Philadelphia, and exceeded \$500,000. The New York store has paid a profit from the very day it was opened, although two firms which occupied the establishment since A. T. Stewart's death have failed. The reason of Mr. Wanamaker's great success, both in New York and Philadelphia, is his skillful and extensive advertising in newspapers and magazines, on which he has spent annually more than \$300,000 in Philadelphia. The advertising bills of his New York establishment exceeded even that sum last year.

HOUSEKEEPING.

If a woman is in good health there is no more healthful employment than housework. Generally speaking, there is no happier woman in the world. But how different when every breath is pain, every step torture! This state of health, in nine cases out of ten comes from derangements of the delicate feminine organs of generation. He most usually insists upon an "examination." From this the modest woman naturally shrinks. She is right. Except in very usual cases of "feminine weakness" examinations are unnecessary. Dr. Pierce's favorite Prescription is a simple, natural remedy for these ills. It cures safely, permanently.

Send 31 one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing only, and receive free a copy of Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

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SQUARES.

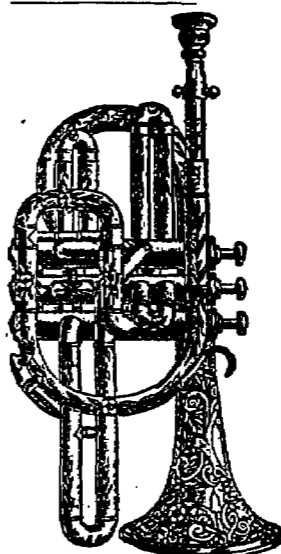
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