

# The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century.

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### ITS VALUE

Most of us faintly apprehend Time as a condition of universal existence, a mystery which has been conventionally divided into past and future, but is in itself an immense, unending, motionless Present, wherein our Yesterdays and Tomorrows are indistinguishably merged.

We may play the fool with the days and years of our brief pilgrimages, or wait on time and tide to embrace opportunity while we may; some are tamed by its touch, others seem heedless of its flight save when the whips and scorns of failure hurt their pride and beat them down.

Work has been lauded as a solvent of the mind's perplexities; and no doubt they are to be envied who can escape from despondency through the gateway of brisk occupation. But work is not the end of existence; the idle from choice or from necessity may be justifiably "loading and possessing their souls," as Walt Whitman avowed. Most toilers are bent upon providing a margin in which they can disport their unused faculties, taking full breaths of life before their term here runs out. The rewards of work, at all events that which cannot be classified as artistry, are mostly material and transient; the best things spring, like the lilies of the field, out of the virgin soil of that innermost nature which has a higher origin than we can trace by mere laboratory methods. As means to useful ends we cannot go far astray in praising work; but to make a sacrament of it is a mistake, for only boorish people who do not know what to do with hours of leisure fail to long for attainable rest. The quality of that rest is the important thing, as fixing the grade to which we belong, in the scale of real values. To live in the changeless world, communing with "the mighty living and the glorious dead" is to make peace with Time.

### OUR DUTY NOW

The airs that blow on these serene heights of contemplation are too rarefied for continuous breathing. Coming down to the plains of daily experience, we meet with abundant sign posts and milestones which record the directions and distances that space out the social activities of the common life. Here timeliness counts for a virtue of the most practical kind. We remember the Ecclesiast's words and find echoes of them in the vicissitudes of our daily life:—"A time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to get and a time to lose; a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted." A certain fitness to the occasion is the mark of a cultivated nature; one does not expect to have one's feelings outraged by speech and conduct that jars with the appropriate mood of the hour. "To every thing there is a season," even in the matter of dress and deportment. Time and event demand care from all who respect the laws of mutual consideration which prevent society from degenerating into a mere herd. A singular emphasis is given to this requirement by unwonted calamities, great crises which test men's souls to the utmost. Many there are who cannot grasp this special appeal to the deeper faiths and sympathies; they speak and act, take their pleasure and hunt after profit as though all were in a conscientiously-ordered world. They surmise that days of conflict pass, that old habits will resume their sway; easy going respectabilities in social life, in politics, in morals retain their inertia as of yore. This is not the spirit with which the terrible catastrophe that has befallen civilization should be encountered. No such call for measureless sacrifice, resistance even to blood in the service of elemental truth and justice, absolute devotion to a cause less tainted with selfish hunger has ever claimed the entire allegiance of those who call themselves by the most sacred of names. How can any of us defend an attitude of indifference to the extraordinary claims of this tremendous epoch? In things great and small, in expenditure and

personal behaviour, by enlarged generosity and pinching economy we are bound to adapt our conduct to the unique needs of this day of decision. To stand aside now is to betray the cause. Only they who cast their all into the Treasury, giving themselves first and last, can lift rejoicing faces in the time of triumph over a righteous peace.

### THE GOLDEN RULE

In every branch of knowledge the principle of due proportion holds good. All sound education aims at making it a mental habit. In morals it is indispensable to right judgment. The critical faculty in art and literature is almost identical with an intuitive or an acquired appreciation of proportionate effects in sound, color, and form. Style is better or worse as it answers to this test. Only in their brooding hours of self-scrutiny do even the most candid men and women admit their frequent breach of this law of right thinking and just conduct, otherwise they could never indulge their foolish prejudices to the extent that they do. Think what a changed world we should be living in if we all weighed our words before we uttered them; if we tried to do justice to our neighbors from whom we differed in opinion, to comprehend their mental attitude and allow for their inherited standpoint—in a word, to treat them as we would be treated ourselves. Politicians might not rise so high or fall so suddenly, and the circulation of Party prints and financial ventures would suffer. But how much sweeter and more salubrious public life and social intercourse would be.

### SELF DENIAL

Descending to the common details of every day life, we may instance this very matter of food which is now urgent—as urgent as any such question is ever likely to be. In its general aspect, as the shortage occasioned by the War affects the national table and cupboard, it is easy to see how a lack of due proportion vitiates much popular complaint respecting prices and supplies. People who hold the notion that scarcity is due to "profiteering" and that the Government should undertake the direct distribution of all requisitioned stocks overlook certain plain facts. The present situation is a result of combined causes—the harvest deficiency in some of the world's great exporting countries, the vast consumption in the fields of war, partial breakdown in the shipping trades, neutral fears and suspicions—not to be wondered at when the savagery of the submarine piracy is considered. The conspicuous failure of the German food supply system, with its manifest unfairness and disproportionate cost in the shape of an enormous civil army-police for its enforcement, should make it clear to us that self-denial remains the chief remedy until a normal state of international commerce is attained.

### FOOD

Gastronomy has been a leading branch of study since civilization began. "East is east, and West is west," however, and climate has profoundly modified racial habits in regard to eating and drinking. What changes followed the irruption of the northern tribes into Italy and the adjacent lands! Caesar and Tacitus record some of them, and indeed they stand out clearly enough in all the literature of Rome's decline. Luxury and riot were rife in the high places of the Empire while the legions were being pressed back on the Rhine and the Elbe. When Goth and Vandal burst into the city they learned to copy vices and ostentation of the former masters of the world, and the note of "good living" has been echoed with every advance at home and abroad. Our own ancestors were famous trenchermen. We need only the evidence of Shakespeare in illustration of the importance attached to abundant feeding by many of the Elizabethan lights. Truly the cellars and butteries and larders of those spacious days in castle and mansion were replete with strong liquors and rich fare of various kinds. Haunches of venison, barons of beef, fish and fowl exercised the talents of cooks

and officers of the household. Among the common folk quantity ruled rather than quality—incredible amounts of feshment, pastries, and boiled or baked products of the garden disappeared in the retainers' halls, while 'prentices, in city purities fared better in some ways than our labouring class does today. Such extremes as we meet with now were unknown, for a rapidly growing population had not begun to press upon the natural resources of the country. We are all familiar with extracts from the plays of the period concerning the huge appetites of those unsophisticated times, as our modern chefs and gourmards deem them. No doubt we have gained in superficial refinement since then—whether taste and waste are further apart is very questionable.

### ILLUSTRIOUS EDITOR DIES

FOUNDED THE SACRED HEART REVIEW—WAS PRIEST FOR ALMOST HALF A CENTURY

The Right Rev. Monsignor John O'Brien, known throughout almost all of Christendom as founder and editor of the Sacred Heart Review and for the last forty-four years rector of the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, East Cambridge, Mass., died there on July 19. He was in his seventieth year and was a priest for more than forty-nine years. He was made a domestic prelate, with the rank of Monsignor, in April, 1909.

He celebrated on June 6, 1908, his triple anniversary, the fortieth of his ordination to the priesthood, the thirty-fifth as pastor of the Sacred Heart Church and the twentieth as founder of the Sacred Heart Review. The event brought an outpouring of congratulation and appreciation from every part of the country for the beloved editor-priest.

Monsignor O'Brien was born on April 2, 1838, at Garrahanjames, parish of Imogeela, Diocese of Cloyne, County Cork, Ireland. He came to the United States with his parents in 1850 and settled in West Springfield, Mass. He was employed on a farm and later in a factory during the Know-Nothing days, when Catholics were rarely employed and the Church in New England was undergoing tribulation in a strenuous period of stress. During those years of hard manual labor, which often began at 5:30 o'clock a. m., he gave all his spare time to study and the defense of his religion. He came to the Catholic children around him were receiving little or no religious instruction, he obtained from the superintendent of the mill the use of a hall where he gathered the children and young people every Sunday afternoon for catechism.

### LOVE FOR SCULPTURE AND BOOKS

He subsequently acted as book-agent and canvasser for the Boston Pilot and he read every work that came within his reach from Milner's End of Controversy, and Pope and Maguire's Oral Controversy to the Bible. About that time a Father Powers, on a visit from Ireland, noticed his passionate love for books and for souls and proposed his becoming a priest, an idea that finally took shape. He was sent to Miss Stebbins' school in Springfield, Mass., then to St. Charles' College, Ellicott City, Md., later making his theological studies at St. Joseph's Seminary, Troy, N. Y. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 6, 1868. He was pastor at Concord and Lexington, Mass. in 1871, and in 1873 he went to the church of the Sacred Heart, East Cambridge, where he erected the church in 1874 and built the school and convent in 1888. In 1888 he founded the Sacred Heart Review, a small Catholic weekly, mainly for the use of his advanced class in Christian doctrine. Under his splendid editorship the magazine grew until it reached a high rank among similar publications of the country.—Philadelphia Standard and Times.

### \$100,000 AID TO CATHOLIC WORK

Atlantic City, July 19.—An endowment fund of \$100,000 was given to the Catholic Church Extension Society today by the National Convention of the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association.

The convention has also under consideration the erection of a hall of science in Trinity College, Washington, D. C., which is affiliated with the Catholic University in that city and is noted as a training school for professional women.

There was great enthusiasm at the close of the address of the Rev. W. D. O'Brien, of Chicago, secretary of the Catholic Church Extension Society. Father O'Brien made an earnest appeal for help for missionaries in remote sections of the South and Northwest in their work of providing parishes, missions and schools.

### CARDINAL MERCIER

AN EPISCOPALIAN BISHOP EULOGIZES CATHOLIC CARDINAL

Right Rev. Joseph Johnson, Episcopal Bishop of Southern California, at the banquet tendered to the Belgian delegates in Los Angeles, on July 14, responded to the toast "Cardinal Mercier." The response of Bishop Johnson was considered so eloquent and remarkable that it is herewith reproduced for the benefit of our readers. He spoke of his indebtedness to Belgium for their three experiences, the first that she had taught him art; the second, the glory of the past civilization which she revealed to him, and the third—but we will give his own words:

I did say two experiences. But if I did, frankly I did so that I might with greater emphasis say that I owed to Belgium a third experience, and that before the third, the other two. I was, as some of you are aware, in Marienbad at the outset of the War, and through all those weeks Europe was seething with excitement. The ultimatum had been given to Serbia which was not, as you and I speak of distance, very far away. The parry and thrust of Germany and Russia was being made almost within our sight. And when we reached Rome I did so that I might with greater emphasis say that I owed to Belgium a third experience, and that before the third, the other two. I was, as some of you are aware, in Marienbad at the outset of the War, and through all those weeks Europe was seething with excitement. The ultimatum had been given to Serbia which was not, as you and I speak of distance, very far away. The parry and thrust of Germany and Russia was being made almost within our sight. 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