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THE MARKS of the CHURCH

A Telling Sermon by Father Barrett on the Immortality, the Unity and the Universality of the Church.

The immortality, the unity and the universality of the Catholic Church were points discussed by Rev. Father Barrett during the sermon delivered at High Mass on Sunday at St. Patrick's. The reverend Dominican delivered his discourse with clarity and a spirit of conviction that rendered it strikingly impressive to his hearers. The great truths were proven with a wealth of fact, and in language that conveyed to every person in the sacred edifice positive evidence of the assertions made.

THE MORNING SERMON.

On Sunday morning Father Barrett preached from the text, "Every kingdom divided against itself shall be brought to desolation," and said: There is one institution on earth that contrasts in a striking manner with all others. They are subject to certain laws—they grow and culminate, then decay and die. Man, together with the ideas which he originates and the institutions which he founds, is ever hastening to dissolution. "If this work is of man, it will come to naught," said the Jewish Sage. So it is. Mortal is labelled on all thy works, O child of man, even as on thyselves. From this law thou canst not purchase exemption. There is just one beautiful institution which that law affects not. Time signs the death warrant of all things else but can write no wrinkle on her queenly brow. She bears the mind back to the days when the Roman Empire achieved its greatest expansion and after having traversed that enormous cycle of years, who can say that her vitality is impaired? She has seen Empires crumble, thrones fall, dynasties die, while marching along with queenly gait, superior to the law of death. O Venerable Mother Church of all ages ever ancient and ever young, we thy Catholic children hail thee today.

ENEMIES OF THE CHURCH.

Nor is time the only enemy which the Church has to combat. Every passion in the human heart is hostile to her and would compass her destruction. She is as a city beleaguered by a strong army. Some strive to spring a mine, or sap her foundations, others direct a fierce artillery fire against the walls; while there is a third party within the City—most formidable of all—who embarrass the action of the defenders. And this assault has lasted 19 centuries, so long have Infidels, heretics, and unworthy Catholics waged war on the impregnable City of God. Or again, she is a barque on the treacherous ocean of human passion and pride. Ever and anon the tempest roars and the billows rise in fury, and her enemies shout in joy: "Lo, she has foundered at last." But look again—there she is still proudly riding on the crest of the billows, and the captain still on the bridge. And, brave barque, who can say why thou hast not foundered save that the Lord is in thee?

But perhaps the Church is a national institution and appendage of some powerful State, and shielded from destruction by Establishment? Quite otherwise. She is emphatically not national, she is found in every land, speaks every tongue and claims children of every hue. She ignores all national boundaries and arrests her step at no frontier line. No power on earth can say to her: thus far shalt thou advance, but here shalt thou halt. Establishment she will accept; but that she can dispense with it, her history abundantly proves. Does Caesar smile on her? She is grateful. Does he frown? She fears him not. Does he build a scaffold and spill her blood? She will but expand all the more rapidly, for every drop of blood thus shed is the germ of a new life. Stone Stephen, she will win Paul... Execute Oliver Plunkett, she will avenge herself by

I am with you and will enable you to fulfil it. The Omnipotent guarantees your success. But why, O Lord, dost Thou say, "I am with you all days, even to the consummation or end of the world? These apostles will all be dead within a century; how, then, canst Thou be with them to the consummation? He spoke to them, brethren, not in their individual but in their representative capacity. As individuals they would all be extinct before the end of that Century; but they are the teaching Church, and as such they will live on in their successors even to the trumpet of Doom, and until that trumpet Christ is with his Church. Magnificent promise! How can the Church fail? How can death have dominion over her? How can she be subject to corruption or decay or error—she with whom Christ has promised to abide even till the trumpet of doom? "Go and teach all nations, and I am with you till the consummation." Christ's Church must be Catholic and she must abide for ever in perennial youth.

Again the last discourse of Christ, as recorded by St. John, proves that He wished Unity to be the dominant note of His Church. It was to be the badge of His disciples. Did He adopt any measure to secure this unity, or did He abandon it to hazard? When Peter had made the celebrated profession of faith (Matt. XVI), the Saviour addressed him in this wise: "And I say to thee that thou art Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against her; and I will give to thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven." That is: Thou art a rock, and on this rock I will build my Church. These she will derive—unity and stability (Matt. vii-24-25) so that the gates of Hell, Satan or death or corruption, shall not prevail against her. And to thee, Peter, I will give the Keys—supreme authority to rule my Church on earth.

THE PROMISE FULFILLED.

This promise Christ fulfilled after His Resurrection, when He said to Peter: "Feed my lambs. Feed my sheep." Here is a Church against which Hell cannot prevail, built on Peter, because of his faith and love. He has the keys, he is supreme ruler. He must feed both lambs and sheep—must teach and govern both Pastors and people. Thus is unity secured. The plenitude of authority is committed to one, and all are linked to him by the double bond of faith and obedience.

THE CHURCH IS CATHOLIC.

Who but God can be the author of such an Institution? She is immortal—Death has no dominion over her. Time cannot subdue her. She is Catholic, the barriers by which Space opposes the expansion of all other institutions, she ignores. Finally she order and unity which characterize the works of the All-wise are her emphatic characteristics also. She bears impressed on her brow the seal of her divine origin—manifestly and indelibly.

A GREAT COMMISSION.

This a phrase found more than once in the Old Testament, and means: "Fear not, the commission transcends your natural powers: but

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St. Joseph's Home Fund

The actual date of Father Holland's birthday has passed and we had hoped that a goodly sum would have been realized to present to him on Sept. 19th; but so many have been out of the city during the summer that our appeal failed to reach them and consequently nothing like the necessary amount came in. However, every day is a birthday—somebody's—so if each one contributed, his number of years either in dollars or cents, quite a comfortable sum in a little while would be realized.

FILL OUT THIS COUPON. FOR ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FUND. Name Address Amount

tain gentleman, first of all insisted on having a forty-guinea fee. It seemed a lot, but the physician confided to a friend that he knew the patient, and that every guinea he added on to his fee meant that the patient would all the more readily adopt his advice. Forty guinea advice would have doubled the weight of advice given for twenty. He impressed upon the patient, if he wanted to live, to take horse exercise.

SLEEPLESS LITTLE BABIES AND SICKLY BABIES

When babies are restless, sleepless and cross it is the surest possible sign that they are not well. Well babies sleep soundly and wake up brightly. Sleeplessness is generally due to some ailment of the stomach or bowels, or cutting teeth. A few doses of Baby's Own Tablets will put the little one right, and give it sound, natural sleep.

Fitness in the Business Race.

(By Sir Fortune Free.) Reproduced from Cassell's Journal. "It was fitness did it." Those are the words of the critics regarding Dorando's failure to beat Longboat in the Marathon race at New York. Hayes beat Dorando, Dorando in the same race beat Long-

Only a Tea Kettle of Hot Water is needed with Surprise Soap. Don't boil or scald the clothes. It isn't necessary. The clothes come out of the wash clear white, perfectly washed. The dirt drops out, is not rubbed in. Child's Play of Wash Day. Use Surprise the ordinary way if you wish but we recommend a trial the Surprise way. Read the directions on the wrapper. Surprise is a pure hard Soap.