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BUSINESS

Rhyme of the Still Hunters.

(A Ballad of Iar-Connaughi). It was the Gauger Regan Buic That pensive came to bask, One sunny day by Galway Bay, And sat on an empty cask.

A Gauger old and stern was he, Grim foe to fresh poteen, Had sought to still o'er vale and hill; Full steady his scent I ween.

He lit his pipe and he puffed a puff, He spat in the salty tide. He gazed on the blue-black Connaught Hills Then drooped his head and sighed:

"Now, Regan Buie, what sight dost see On the lonesome Connaught Hills!" I see on Kvlimore's swelling slopes 'The smoke of whiskey stills.

1 feel the peat spring to my feet, I scent the gorse clad waste, I long again for crag and gien Where mountain rivers raced.

Full dim my sight that once was light, My bones are stiff and sore, But the Connaught Hills are calling now, And it's of I'd be once more.

Oh, off again with the mountain men;
I knew them one and all—
Jack Joyce that kept round Knockaniss,
And Teig at Bainagal; And Maelmorra Lynch, of Dalystown: But the keenest rogue drew breath Was Dhiarmid Roe, of Ballinasloe, Sly fox and game to death.

Twas many a day we went his way.
Full sure to find his lair
In the Boughta Hills where smoked his stills
On the bounds of County Clare.

And many a night, a woefulsight, My men and I siunk home. While down from the shadowy mountain cli His mocking voice would come:—

Ho. Regan Buie you're far to see

But haste you now from the mo tracks: Go home to Galway Town And say when there that I beat you fair For all your name's renown."

We wandered there when fields were fair And the furze a flame of gold : We sought again for the outlaw's den When winter winds blew cold.

One day at last we followed fast:
The trail was straight and true;
Close was the chase till a cliff's dark face
Concealed him from our view.

High and low for a hiding place We searched and searched again, Till we found a rift in the granite ciiff, The door of Dhiardmid's den.

Oh chill that cave as a churchyard vault;
Our hearts had need be bold;
Black was its mouth, but the womb within
Was blacker a hundredfold.

High and steep were the stony walls; The roof was lost to view; With shuffle and jar like thunder far Our footfalls echoed through.

Spoke Jack Ryan, of Bansha town.
Who feared not man or ghost:
"I hear a tread on the road shead;"
And he followed the footsteps fast.

On through the midnight mirk he went, With never a thought or care;
But I heard the sound of a torrent's rush,
And called to him, "Beware!"

'Ware a trap or an open cleft;"

My warning came too late;
a sumore, a cry toat chilled our hearts,
And quick we knew his fate.

Thud and thud on the rocky shelves
We heard his body go.
And plunge at last in the raving flood
A thousand feet below.

Then flashed a light, and the cave was bright. Wet gleamed each dripping ledge; A mighty chasm our pathway barred— Full closs we viewed its edge. Heavy and deep in sullen sweep We heard the flood below.

But over its din a voice broke in— The challenge of Dhiarmid Roe: "Ho, Regan Bule on your bended knee

Pray God to save your soul; Your grave is a thousand feet below, And never a bell to toll. "Your grave is a thousand feet below— Your children wait at home. And your wife shall cry as the days go by For a husband never to come,

But thiak on the home in Galway town And thiak of child and wife And make me a solemn promise here, Your word shall buy your life.

For never again the mountain men Your stealthy steps must fear. The crax and given for the mountain men; The slope for the mountain deer!

No more the still you'll hunt and spill, Or range the gorse lands high; Your word win noot, gaunts tigory and gold;— Who breaks our law must die!"

Then stout his challenge I answered back,

So work the worst you can. "Pil hunt ye again by crag and glen (God care for child and wife :) But, ere I give ye the pledging word
I'll part with them and life."

Then Dhiarmid Roe spoke grave and slow;
"Your death-knell's sounding now;
No hurrying ball your soul shall call,
Grim fear must make you bow.

"Your grave is deep and your grave is high, Its walls are soundless rock; And never a soul shall hear you call, Whilst I your suffrings mock."

He spoke and the blessed light was gone,
We groped in darkest gloom;
And we heard but the foaming flood below,
Sounding a knell of doom.

Blind on our track we floundered back, Our folly to bemoan; We felt our way where the passage lay, And struck but the solid stone.

Searched we there in our heart's despair, But ever the same we found. Naught but the boiling depths below And the iron rock around

Oh, deep our grave by a hidden wave, And far from friends and home Where never a soul as long years soil Where never a soul as long years roll To breathe a pray'r would come.

Then cried Ned Power of Parsonstown,
My friend in raid and fray:
"We've held the front in many a brunt
But this is the 'nd to-day.

"On this is the end and worse to fear— My curse on Dhiarmid Roe! May all his flinty heart holds dear Rise up to work him woe."—

Heavy and slow the crawling hours,
And each one seemed a day,
In the deadity gloom of that diving tomb
Our life strength ebbed away.

And when sweet visions crossed the brain Of nomes we'd see no more. We heard the drop of the recking rock And the rumbling torrents roar. At last a light flashed full and bright; Twas sweet as breaking day; And full in the glow stood Dhiarmid Roe And mocked us where we lay;

• Ho, Regan Buie, are the hounds at bay, Brought up and trapped at last? You've had your fun of many a run, But your bunting days are past.

My curse on ye for stubborn fools!

Speak now the word I said:
The riftless pook is all around. The riftless rock is all around And the rock-roof overhead.

" I'll send ye back to Galway Town Where wife and children wait. The time goes by and the end is nigh-Speak now or speak too late."

p spoke Ned Power of Parsonstown: Your pardon, Regan Buie;

The word your pride forever would hide I'll speak for you and me.

Oh, never again by heath and gien (God pay thee, Dhiarmid Roe!) Were a whiskey still on every hill, On the outlaws' track we'll go.

"Were a whiskey still on every hill, And a scent to make one reel. Oh! never again on the mountain men Like blooded sleaths we'll steal. "Tho' many an outlaw roam unhanged, Of high and low degree. Of high and low degree.
To Dhiarmid Roe the palm must go.
The Chief of rascals he."

Then smiled that rascal, Dhiarmid Roe, A wicked smile to see, And said: "This day is a day, indeed, And worth a world to me."

The day that I baffled Regan Buic And brought his boasting low, A pint I'll brew of the mountain dew To treat ye ere ye go."

He bound our eyes and he led us on, And when we looked again, We saw the prize we had hunted long, The daring outlaws' den. Busy and neat, in all complete, Vat and worm and still, The mountaineers for many a year Had worked them all, at will.

Then Dhiarmid Roe: "Now ere ye go Ye'll test my mountain dew." And loud he laughed as the potent draught Our shaking frames thrilled through.

Oh, gay his laugh and merry his chaff, As he showed the homeward way, And "Began Buie in the years to be You'll never rue this day.

Oh. come again to the mountain men, A Government spy no more: Their friendship true I'll warrant you And welcoming hearts galore."

We said and we looked our last on him, Then turned our faces home: But every year to my cottage here A stealthy cask doth come.

And writ in the ancient Gaelic tongue
This legend you may see:
"See t mountain dese, from Dhiarmid Roe,
To the Gauger, Regan Buie."

Oh, mellow and true that mountain dew. Old heart and brain it thrills.

I see as I saw in dows of old, the wind swept Gomaught hills:

I feet the peat beneath my feet; I smell the heathery weaste;

I long again for the crag and glen where thunderiny torrents raved. -Rev. James B. Dollard (Sliav-na-mon). In Pilot Christmas Number.

The Temple of Trust.

(For the CATHOLIC RECORD.) The busy Ant. with painful labor, builds Her mansion of loose sand, which summe squalls.
Or Au'umn's blasts blows into ruined hills
So, Faith, from Friendship's boulders, rear her wall; But, ah, the rock wastes, and her tabric falls And splintered timbers, from the might Whirled flercely on the storm of Time, ap

palls e sorrowing wretch, who, lurid and alone weeps, a sand-beat Ant, about her van-ished home. Yes, weeps, and well she may-her grief All else; for deepest burns are from the flame Which Falsehood kindles in the things we

nest torture, when we know its name, Inflicts its stings with mitigated pain; But should it come in friendly gaise, all rife With hidden thorns, 'twill doubly hurt. The Laws, weaving vain illusions through our

Teach that fondest love oft brings the bitter-est strife. Then rear the mighty Temple of thy Trust From out the purest fabrics, which decay Can never crumble into mortal dust; Tho' weary of thy toil; each boulder lay Upon the word of God, thro' life's long day Then if, when twilight's past, the night in

storm
Weeps violent tears, along its starless way,
Its winds will not destroy thy Temple's form—
Twill triumph over Death, and grace eterna Timothy Bleakheart, M. D.

The Cave of Bethlehem. Holy is the little cave
At midnight's solemn hour,
Tho' wintry winds about it rave,
Messengers of the demon's power
Who strive to blight the little BabeThe Eternal king—who is come to
His own from Satan's slavery!

loys within the dreary cave, oys within the areary east. The Virgin's heart is glad, Fno' never since the days of Eve seem'd Mother more bereft and sad, And naked of human sympathy: Yet heavenly, sweet-voiced ange Make grand celestial harmony

Peace fills the wayside cave,

Restful, gentle, calm.
Patient as God, the winds to brave,
And kindly, like a healing baim,
Soothes that Child Divine—that woman fair
Whose love is like an ocean wave
Merging their hearts in unity!

Merging their hoad so among those storied hills of Juda, land of God! Where nestles holy Bethlehem, Earth was blessed; and angels trod That holy soil, long, long ago; And peace, and joy, and holiness With folded wings, enraptured there Hallowed that cave with praise and prayer While grief, and care, and all unrest Glut zilded halls of pride and power With sin, remorse and shame o'erpressed, Of God unknown; with peace unblet!

—T. K.

A Christmas Gloria.

CAROLINE D. SWAN,

Lo! a wonder shines upon us, Heavenly Alieluias rise! Christ, the meek, is born of Mary! Mortals, hail in glad surprise The whiteness of humility, Uplifted to the skies.

Come, behold the Blessed Mother, Pure as scraph's snowy wing! Come, adore the lowly Jesus, Bring your whitest offering! Oh! come in grand humility And own your gracious King!

Benediction, softly shining, On the Virgin Motherlies; Soft she sheds it white as roses Till the wakened spirit cries On sweetness of humility, Exalted to the skies!

Silver rills of gracious blessing, From the hely heights untrod, Make the lowest valleys greenes Star with hily-bloom their sod, And earth-contemned humility Is close in touch with God.

Learn the lesson taught divinely
By the sweet Incarnate One:
Love will make thy lowly duties
Fragrant with His great "well d
Thy shadows warm with rosy light
The glory of His sun.

High, the golden Alleluias!
Quick the universe replies:
"Hail, all-gracious Mary Mother!
Hail, tradiant mysteries!
All hail to day our royal Babe,
The wonder of the skies!"
--The New World, Chicago.

THE FIRST REDEMPTORISTS MISSIONS IN MANITOBA.

The Redemptorist Fathers of Canada have lately opened a home in Brandon, Man. Although only two of them are as yet stationed there, they have already began their work proper to their Order, preaching missions, etc. The parish of St. Alphonsus. Mariapólis, was the first to have a mission given by one of the Redemptorist Fathers of Brandon. They had a mission given in their own parish by Rev. Father Geo. Hild, of Seattle. After giving

several missions with the Fathers of St. Louis, he came to Brandon, and opened the mission on Sunday, Dec. 3. The sermons in English during the whole week were well attended. It was something new, though for the small Catholic population, and the weather was a little severe. Everything turned out favorably. Some improvements of the church here just been completed, and on Sunday, Elberth, a large mission cross was erected. For three days Rev. Father Hild will preach to the German part offithe parish and thence proceed to the missions of Gretna, libatgonic and St. Peter. We wish the Rev. Fathers every success in their new field of labor.

Saint Mary Magdalen.

Oh sinner, brother, would'st thou know the way That leads from hopeless night of dark des come enter Simon's house. Who is that fair And prostrate one, whose lears fast falling say The words she may not utter; the broad day Knows her, 'tis Magdalen the sinner. Care There's none for Pharisee or Scribe. The snare

Is vain, sinless the heart where love has sway

On heart repentant, let thy love abound,
Thy tears of penance will accepted be;
Thy suns forgiven for thy love hath found
The saving mercy promised unto thee.
Then all thy troubles will forever cease,
For Jesus' love will fill thy soul with peace.
Brother Remigues, C. S. C.

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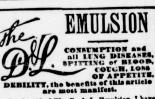
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