

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

FAMILY FINANCIERING

"They tell me you work for a dollar a day; How is it you clothe your six boys on such pay?" "I know you will think it conceited and queer. But I do it because I'm a good financier."

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

The Catholic Church is well aware that marriage is the state of life for the great majority of her children. She knows also how much of their well-being in this life and in the next depends on what sort of marriage they contract.

aware of the danger of company-keeping, and it may be said that, where the custom prevails, she tolerates rather than approves it. Under her guidance theologians lay down the rule that only those persons may begin to keep company with each other who are at liberty to marry and who intend to marry within a reasonable time.

Marriage is a parochial sacrament, and it should ordinarily take place in the parish church before the parish priest of the district in which one of the parties has a domicile or quasi-domicile, or at least has dwelt for a month.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

Ah, what would the world be to us if the children were no more? We should dread the desert behind us Worse than the dark before. What the leaves are to the forest, With light and air for food, Ere their sweet and tender juices Have been hardened into wood.

TWO HONEST BOYS

An example of honesty is always instructive, whether it be given by a child or by one of maturer years. A skilful teacher, who takes great interest in the moral growth of her pupils, writes as follows: "In a country school a large class were standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the word to the scholar at the head, and he missed it. I passed it to the next, and the next, till it came to the last scholar, the smallest in the class, and he spelled it right—at least I understood him so—and he went to the seat, above seventeen boys and girls, all older than himself. I then turned round and wrote the word on the blackboard so that they might all see how it was spelled, and learn it better. But no sooner had I written it than the little boy at the head cried out, 'Oh, I didn't say it so; I said 'e' instead of 'i'; and he went back to the foot, of his own accord, quicker than he had gone to the head. Here was an honest boy, I should always have thought that he spelled the word right if he had not told me; but he was too honest to take any credit."

take more than the quantity I have agreed upon?" The boy looked up and smiled. "I am not afraid," said he, "for you would get the worst of it, madam." "Get the worst of it? What do you mean?" "Why, madam, I should only lose my berries, but you would be stealing. Don't you think you would get the worst of it?" "No man is bound to be rich or great, but every man is bound to be honest."

LETTER WRITING

Letter writing is a sadly neglected art. The ability to write a good, interesting letter is a real accomplishment, and one which may be acquired even by those who have no particular talent.

Even in this time of plentiful amusement, letter-writing may be made a source of very great pleasure, as well as a means of discovering and cultivating in children tastes for literary work, which may be tokens of a rare talent.

VOCATIONS

It is the glory of Catholic families in some countries of Europe, especially in Ireland, that each household is eager to see at least one of its members ascend the altar of God or become consecrated to His service in the religious life.

TAKE CARE OF BABY

The life of a baby depends more or less on the sanitary care taken by the mother. Many an infant has had an asthmatic result from using a poor and unsanitary rubber nipple.

A NON-CATHOLIC TRIBUTE

Mr. William F. Ellis (Protestant), contributes the following beautiful tribute to the Blessed Virgin in the International Sunday School Bulletin for July: "Amid the ruins of the Smyrna fire I noticed a curious phenomenon: in the courtyard of the French hospital, the buildings of which had been completely burned, stood a white marble statue of the Madonna and Child, completely untouched by fire or smoke or falling embers. Amidst all the blackness or ruin about it, the figure of the Mother with the Babe was as white and unscathed as when it left the sculptor's hand. Not a flake of marble had been chipped off by the intense heat, although marble walls all about the city had crum-

bled to dust, and iron girders had become bent and gnarled. In like manner, Mary is the spotless personality of the ages, a spotless, beautiful figure, revered and beloved by countless myriads. Diana of Ephesus has gone the way of Venus and the more primitive goddesses; but the pure and lovely human personality of Mary remains as the most highly favored among women. Motherhood everywhere turns toward her with a sense of kinship and devotion. She is the ages' perfect embodiment of womanhood. Piety, obedience, service and unspokeable reward are her spiritual characteristics. In a day when so many young women have lost their moorings and their bearings, it is restful to turn to the personality of the woman whom God found worthy to be the Mother of His Son, the world's Saviour."

STORE COMPLEXION NOT INJURIOUS, IF?

Those who can remember fifty years back will recall that Canadian women of then had the clearest and sunniest complexions that real beauty could tolerate. Today how rare it is to see a clear and rosy skin. The cause is improper food. Then women ate no "denatured" white flour, prepared or refined cereals or white sugar sweets for they were not known. All these foods are "Excess Acid," because their alkaline salts are largely removed in milling the grains.

Roman Meal is 400 parts in each 1,000 parts "Excess Alkali," the only alkaline cereal sold today. It clarifies and softens the skin because it keeps the blood normally alkaline, free from irritating acids which must find a way out of the blood by the pores of the skin or kill the body that retains them.

Correct misspelled words but do not criticize composition or expression, as this tends to weaken his self confidence and check the growth of his ability.

Heaven but tries our virtue by affliction.—Wm. Browne.

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