

The Catholic Record.

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would advise our correspondent to consult her confessor.

NOT SO BAD AS PAINTED.

With all the talk we have been accustomed to read and hear concerning the tyranny exercised by the Spanish Government in its rule over Cuba, and the ignorance of the people, we would suppose that the Spaniards thought of nothing, while they governed the island, except to oppress the natives.

In regard to oppression, we not long since quoted from an article in a leading New York magazine which stated that three years and a half ago, or before the Cuban insurrection began, there was not a beggar, nor even a really poverty-stricken family on the island. This certainly does not betoken that the Spanish regime was exceedingly cruel or oppressive.

HOLY WEEK.

The present week, which is the last week of Lent, is called by the Church by the significant name Holy Week, because it is the one week in the year during which the Church celebrates and commemorates the most important mysteries of our Lord's life on earth.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

The Hon. G. W. Ross has introduced into the Legislature a bill to render the establishment of Separate schools possible in unorganized districts. At present Separate schools cannot be established until the district has been organized municipally, whereas Public schools may be started by ten heads of households.

AN OPPRESSIVE LAW.

The New York State Legislature has now under consideration an educational law which has stirred up great opposition owing to some of its provisions. It proposes to authorize the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish State schools for the deaf and dumb and blind, together with eight truant schools.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Constant Reader asks: "I have the intention of committing a mortal sin. I have the opportunity of doing so. For example, one Sunday I resolved not to hear Mass, and accordingly stayed away. A few days later I heard that there had been no Mass on that particular Sunday. Was I guilty of the sin of not hearing Mass on that Sunday?"

Sin is, according to St. Thomas, "a voluntary departure from the law of God," or according to the Catechism, "a willful thought, word, deed, or omission contrary to the law of God." The offence against God is primarily in the willfulness of the act, and therefore our Lord places the malice of sin in the will or desire to commit it.

"For all that is not of faith is sin." The Apostle is here speaking of what is done against conscience, and the meaning is, therefore, that whatever is done against conscience is sinful. In regard to the other question, we

Holy Eucharist, and offers Himself therein for the living and the dead.

CELESTINE—CONSECRATED ST. PATRICK.

and commissioned him to preach the Christian Faith in Ireland. (A. D. 432.) Canon Dann should have mentioned something more definite than "Eastern sources," while denying that St. Patrick had his mission from Rome.

On Holy Thursday, the sacred oils used in the administration of the sacraments during the year are solemnly blessed by the Bishop in his Cathedral church, attended by the priests of the diocese.

On Good Friday our redemption is accomplished by Christ's death upon the cross. Death is the wages of sin, and by sin we have brought death upon ourselves.

On Holy Saturday we commemorate the period while Christ was in the sepulchre. The Mass of Holy Saturday, however, is of a joyous character, because it anticipates the glory of Christ's resurrection.

REV. CANON DANN.

Among the local items of the Bradford Courier of the 16th ult. we notice a synopsis of Canon Dann's lecture on Ireland's patron saint. We should have no reason to draw special attention to the Rev. Canon's lecture on so appropriate an occasion and time as the eve of St. Patrick's day.

DIPLOMATS.

One of the most unique and at the same time exemplary celebrations which mark the annual recurrence of the feast of St. Joseph is the one which takes place at St. Joseph's Home for the Poor in Washington, D. C.

SERVE AS WAITERS AT THE ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH DAY CELEBRATION AT WASHINGTON.

It would be too liberal a concession to Catholic teaching and discipline were the canon to add that both Pottus, the grand-father, and Culphurnius, the deacon and father of St. Patrick, became ecclesiastics after the death of their respective wives.

The Rev. Canon explained to his audience what sources are available for information and how they are classified. They are, 1st, the early records in the book of Armagh, dating from about 800 A. D., the manuscripts of which contained a copy from St. Patrick's own handwriting, his Confessions, and other writings.

It is a most precious gift and banquet whereby every grace is given to the worthy communicant. In instituting this adorable sacrament, Christ also establishes the sacrifice of the New Law which is to take the place of all the sacrifices of the Mosaic dispensation.

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THE MOTHER AT THE RESURRECTION.

The Passion of Christ was ended. Upon the blood-stained cross hung the lifeless Body of Him Who was the fairest of all the sons of men, the beautiful One in His robe, Whom Isaiah had seen, in prophetic vision, travelling in the greatness of His strength.

She looked up into His pallid face, and the beloved and lovely eyes no longer met her own with answering love. She watched in breathless suspense, while Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea, with trembling reverence, detached that Holy Body from the cross, and lowered it most gently down.

She lifted up her mother arms, and rejoiced her Child once more, the Child Whom she had cradled upon her breast in Bethlehem's stable; the Child Whom she had nursed with her milk, had washed, and dressed, and had sung to sleep with the sweet lullabies of David's sacred psalms, while His baby breath was on her cheek, and the joy of heaven seemed to fill her soul.

She had to give Him up at last. The Mother and Son who for three and twenty years had been united by a bond of love that the love of all other sons and mothers only faintly shadowed forth, still were bound together, soul to soul, in tenderest love; but the Body was buried, cold and lifeless, out of sight, in that new sepulchre, hewed in stone, wherein never yet any man had been laid.

What heart but comprehends that Delaroché's touching picture is strictly true, and that the whole night through, the great and immaculate "mother of all the living" stood in that upper room, as she had stood beside the cross; and looked with fixed gaze, that saw naught else, upon the blood-encrusted nails, the blood-stained crown, lying before her in the dim light of the night lamp;—most precious relics of Him Who was gone whither she could not follow into the invisible world of invisible souls beyond the tomb!

But not without hope she stood there, although, in her, the Lamentations of the Prophet were being plucked open. "To what shall I compare thee, or to what shall I liken thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? to what shall I equal thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion?"

Those very Lamentations brought to her the thought of hope. "The Lord is my portion, said my soul; therefore will I wait for Him. It is good to wait in silence for the salvation of God."

The old prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures rang through all her desolation. Her faith never once wavered, no matter how thickly were plucked open. "To what shall I compare thee, or to what shall I liken thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? to what shall I equal thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion?"

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WHAT PROTESTANTS BELIEVE.

Our good friend, the Rev. Silliman Blagden, has issued an open letter in which he exhorts his ministerial brethren to read "Catholic books, histories, and sermons;" he also requests Catholic priests to read Protestant books, hoping thereby to hasten the much desired Christian unity.

The funeral took place from her late home on Monday morning at 10 o'clock, and was very largely attended. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Rogers at 11 o'clock, and Rev. Father Purcell, suo decano, officiated at the altar.

DEATH OF MR. PATRICK HUGHES.

In last week's issue of the CATHOLIC RECORD we remarked upon the number of prominent Catholics who have recently died in Toronto, and among the names mentioned was the late Mr. B. Hughes, whose death occurred on the 13th Feb. last.

Mr. Hughes was in his time one of the most extensive and successful wholesale drug establishments in the Queen City. When referring to the death of this good man we had little thought that this would be called upon to announce the death of the remaining member of the firm, Mr. Patrick Hughes, who was in the habit of his apartments in the Arlington Hotel early on the morning of the 24th.

Mr. Hughes is survived by a widow and the following sons and daughters: Mr. B. Hughes of Toronto; Capt. Patrick B. Hughes, attorney, Seattle, Washington; Miss Anna Hughes; Mrs. Charles S. Gwynne, Ottawa; Miss Ida Hughes, Ottawa; Mr. Frank Smith Hughes, Imperial Bank, St. Thomas; Miss E. Hughes and Miss Lois Hughes.

THE CORONATION OATH.

To the Editor of "The Globe": It is evident from the address recently delivered at Part Hope A. B. by the Rev. Father of the Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario East, a notice of which appeared in "The Globe" of the 19th inst., that a fundamental and very serious question exists in the minds of the proposed action of the Catholic Truth Society of Ottawa looking toward a repeal of the laws of the British Empire.

Each successive British monarch at his coronation has sworn to maintain the laws of the land, and the coronation oath is a solemn and binding obligation upon the monarch, which he is required by law to take, and which he is bound to observe.

It is not too much to say that the above declaration is offensive, insulting and unjust: it is unbecomingly impolitic and unbecomingly un-Christian. It is a declaration which should be made by the monarch, and not by the people, and it is a declaration which should be made by the monarch, and not by the people.

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ATTEND REGIO-OLIS COLLEGE.

Forty-eight gentlemen and fourteen ladies have taken advantage of the instruction given in the business course of the Regio-olis College, Kingston, by A. Blanchard, Chartered Accountant of Ontario, since the opening in September. If you are thinking of attending, write us for particulars.

SPRING TERM.

The Northern Business College, Owen Sound, opens for the Spring Term on April 1st. Circular will be sent to any person requesting it. Young people cannot do better than spend a few months at this practical institution.

TEACHERS WANTED.

TEACHER WANTED, MALE OR FEMALE, for balance of year. One holding first or second class certificate. For further particulars apply to Rev. P. J. McGinnis, chairman, 106-2 St. Peter's.

OBITUARY.

MRS. E. HARRINGTON, CHATHAM, N. B. The death took place at Chatham, N. B., on Friday, 10th ult., of Mrs. Elizabeth Harrington, widow of the late Richard T. Harrington, aged eighty-three years. She leaves four children: Miss Annie, wife of Patrick Mann, of Boston; Timothy, the well known master dealer of Chatham; John J. Harrington, Esq., of Boston; and her son and Clerk of the Peace for the county of Gloucester.

The funeral took place from her late home on Monday morning at 10 o'clock, and was very largely attended. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Rogers at 11 o'clock, and Rev. Father Purcell, suo decano, officiated at the altar.

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