

MAGNETISM OF THE MASS

In the Literary Digest of January 19, we find reproduced an article from The Monitor of Newark, illustrative of religious conditions at Camp Dix, in New Jersey. We read: "Ten Masses are said every Sunday in the Y. M. C. A. and K. of C. buildings (the Y. M. C. A. permitting the use of their building). The buildings are overlooked at each Mass. The men kneel in the aisle; on the doorsteps, and even outside on the ground. Protestants marvel at this. They can't understand it. A lasting impression is being made upon them. One of the chaplains told us of a wealthy man who gave up his business in order to take up Y. M. C. A. work in the camp. For several Sundays he had watched these great gatherings of Catholics at the Mass. One Sunday he came to the priest and said: 'Father, every Sunday you have thousands at the Mass, while we get only a handful at our service. Every Sunday you have the same thing; you never change and the buildings won't hold the men. We change; we bring in new speakers; we do everything to attract the men, without avail, Father, how do you do it? Why do they come to the Mass?'

The explanation of this phenomenon, noticed also outside of military camps, is easy enough in the light of Catholic faith. The Mass is the living centre of all worship. It is the unbloody renewal of the world-redeeming sacrifice on Golgotha. Not as if the sacrifice on the Cross was not enough to redeem the world, but Christ has chosen this means to apply the fruits of His sacrifice to all the generations of men. The Mass is essentially what Christ did at the Last Supper, and what He did His apostles do in commemoration of Him. When, therefore, Catholics go to Mass, they go to reap the fruits of Christ's redemption; they go to where Christ Himself is really present to dispense these fruits to the humble worshipper.

Is it a wonder that the Living Christ with hands full of benedictions has more attraction than even the most famous orator? The latter can only speak of Christ crucified, what He has done for us, in order to quicken faith and hope in Him; at Mass we have the object of our faith present and are actually receiving from Christ Himself the graces of His redemption. It is therefore the very central function of Catholic worship that all human mediatorship is excluded. The Mass is a direct and immediate approach to Christ for salvation and this is the reason why it has such an appeal to the heart of man.

"Every Sunday you have the same thing," said the business man in the above quotation. In one sense it is even more emphatically the same thing than he could suspect. For all Masses that are said on any day, and have been said these nineteen centuries, are essentially the one identical thing that was done on Golgotha. As all the reflections in ocean and lakes and rivers and dew-drops are the same sun, so all the Masses are the embodiment of the same sacrifice. The Mass is a representation in an unbloody manner and under sacramental veils, of the one world-redeeming sacrifice.

In another sense, however, each Mass is distinct from every other not only for each congregation, but for each member of every congregation. A silent Mass, where all are hushed in soulless awe of worship, is the most diversified music conceivable of divine service. Each one who comes to Mass has had his own religious experience, and each one comes to a private audience with his Saviour; one to thank, one to ask pardon, one to present a petition, and again what varieties in all these several communications! The Saviour is there for all, and yet so for each as if he were alone. How much more freedom of worship is there in the Mass than when the worshippers are expected to follow the prayer of an individual, preacher or member of the congregation—a prayer arising from the individual experience of the one who utters it, and not possibly the spontaneous utterance of every soul present.

It is these two features of the Mass; viz., the bringing the faithful into direct communion with the Saviour and its allowing the largest possible spontaneity of devotion, that are the secret of the perennial charm of this simple and seemingly monotonous divine service.—The Guardian.

RUMORED WORLD-LOAN OF VATICAN UNFOUNDED

Rome, February 5, 1918.—An important convention of the representatives of the organization known as the "Catholic Action of Italy" was held last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Count Dalla Torre, president of the Popular Union of Italian Catholics, occupied the chair, supported by the presidents of the other four Catholic associations, nearly all the Catholic members of the chamber of deputies, and ninety-eight representatives of diocesan committees.

The principal subjects of discussion were plans to secure closer organization in the departments of Catholic action; and it was decided to form a committee in every parish to work up, through district and diocesan bodies, to the central authority, the Popular Union.

A message expressing homage and loyalty, and endorsing his peace proposals, was sent to the Pope.

A proof of the soundness, if not of the redundancy at the present time, of the Vatican finances is seen in the innumerable donations which the Pope is generously making to countries, cities, towns, and persons suffering from the effects of the War and also in the fact that, in order to avoid unemployment, he has continued to carry on the regular work in progress in the Vatican and in other possessions of the Holy See and has also started new undertakings, such as the new museum in St. Peter's. There is no foundation for the report that, owing to its impoverished treasury, the Holy See is about to raise a world loan. Its regular income from invested funds and from Peter's Pence is, it is true, much restricted owing to the War; but several generous offerings, especially from American Catholics, as well as economies effected by the Holy Father, have helped to supply the deficit.

The Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda has subscribed a million francs from its investible fund to the new Italian War Loan.

NON-CATHOLIC JOURNAL PAYS TRIBUTE TO CATHOLIC OFFICER

In a recent issue of The Congregationalist there is an interesting letter from Rev. Dr. Jefferson, pastor of Broadway Tabernacle, N. Y., in which he refers to interesting incidents of camp life at Sparta, N. Y., and speaks in high tribute of Gen. O'Ryan, of New York, as follows:—"The moral condition of the camp is excellent. It is not perfect. This is not a perfect world. A perfect camp in an imperfect world would be disconcerting. Not a little of the moral standing at Camp Wadsworth is due to the strength and convictions of Gen. O'Ryan. He is a Roman Catholic and I am a Protestant, and I want to put a laurel wreath upon his head.

He is the sworn enemy of drunkenness and lust and everybody knows it. If all the generals in our army and all the admirals in our navy were like Gen. O'Ryan in their conception of morality, we should make a shining record in this War. Drunkenness is practically unknown in Camp Wadsworth. I was in Sparta last week and kept my eyes open all the time. I saw thousands and thousands of soldiers in various parts of the city, but never did I see a soldier under the influence of drink. I asked those who had been there longer than I had, and they told me that they had never seen a soldier drunk. This is a record of which the Empire State has reason to be proud."

And Catholics may well feel proud of Gen. O'Ryan, as they are grateful to the broad minded Rev. Dr. Jefferson for his manly article in which he gives justice where justice is due.—Michigan Catholic.

A NEW BOOK BY JOHN AYSOUGH

Benziger Brothers, of New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago, announce the publication, of the end of February, of a new book by John Aysough, entitled, "The Tideway." John Aysough is one of the few story tellers who charm the literary critic and rejoice the popular audience alike. A master of style, he possesses the secret of how to embody in a brilliant literary setting the sympathy, humanity, and tenderness of a love story which go straight to the heart of the greater public. Countless thousands have been captivated in the past by his novels "San Calisto," "Faustula," etc., and in this new book, "The Tideway," we have in abundant measure the characteristic and stimulating pictures of life which give to this author his special niche in the temple of present day fiction. The book will contain about 450 pages and sell at \$1.65, postpaid. Can be obtained at CATHOLIC RECORD, London.

THE CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA The publishers of The Catholic Encyclopedia are the last to raise their prices. They were fortunate enough to contract for a large edition, 25,000 sets of this great work, just before war prices affected paper, printing and binding. Some estimate of this edition may be formed by considering that there are sixteen volumes to each set of the Encyclopedia. The edition, therefore, was 400,000 volumes. Each volume contains 800 pages, with 1,300 words to a page, so that there were in all 320,000,000 pages, containing 416,000,000 words. Then there were 360 full page illustrations in each set and these required 9,300,000 additional pages. The manufacturers could well afford to quote low figures on a job of this magnitude.

Now this low priced edition is well nigh exhausted. It sold for \$40.00 in cloth and \$60.00 in half leather, with 10% discount for cash with order. It is only a matter of days when the few sets remaining will be sold. Meanwhile to meet the demand for the work a new edition is in preparation which will cost \$48.00 in cloth and \$72.00 in half leather. As the work is a standard one, the only authoritative source of information on every subject of interest to Catholics, it is constantly in demand, and its use is slowly but surely creating, as the late Archbishop Quigley predicted, a new public opinion about the Catholic Church. It is preeminently the Catholic's library. Its

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MORE LIGHT IN SCOTCH PROTESTANTISM

Latterly we have helped our readers to appreciate some traits of Scotch Protestantism, which seemed to us as gentle as they were unhelped for. We can now add another word in the same direction. It is an extract from a letter of the Duke of Argyll, Scotland's premier nobleman, written to the Glasgow Herald. He is praising the action of the Scotch United Free Church Presbytery in refusing to celebrate the Luther centennial. He speaks for what is every way the best and most strenuous Protestantism of the British Isles. Needless to remind the reader that the great Saints he names are his country's foremost patrons, and that Sts. Columba and Kentigern were its apostles in the conversion to Catholicity:

"It is a strange mania that Scotsmen, who have a Columba, a Margaret and a Kentigern of their own, should wish to commemorate a couple of long dead aliens who worked nothing but evil destruction in their lives. For the fact, patent to all but the wilfully blind, is that the wheel of Lutheranism has turned its full cycle, crushing in its movement even non-Lutheran portions of the German race.

"It might have been thought, even from the point of view of Professor Caird and Dr. Salmond, that too great attention had better not be drawn to what most people have long been aware of, viz., that certain elements in Scottish religion may not be native but made in Germany. This gapping back at the sinister figures of Dr. and Mrs. Martin Luther, the apostates who tore the unity of the West in twain, is the attitude of a type of professor who feels a whole world slipping away from him."

The Duke is of course not a Catholic, and yet he concludes his letter by frankly recommending Luther's Scotch friends to read the great life of the Arch Apostle, written by the Jesuit Father Hartmann Grisare. May we not hopefully pray for the conversion of such honest Presbyterians? We feel sure that there are many thousands of them in Scotland.—The Missionary.

DIED

BRADLEY.—At Dundas, Ont., on February 12, 1918, Mr. Michael Bradley, formerly of Brockville, in his eighty-seventh year. May his soul rest in peace.

THE TABLET FUND

Toronto, Feb. 22, 1918.

Editor CATHOLIC RECORD: I thank you for giving space to the Appeal for the Tablet Fund for the Relief of the Belgians. So far I have received because of this appeal:

- Previously acknowledged... 1,496 40
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If you would be good enough to acknowledge publicly these amounts in the columns of the RECORD I would be very grateful.

Respectfully yours, W. E. BLAKE, 93 Pembroke St. Toronto.

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Between Friends, by Richard Aumerle. Joe Garvin is a leader among the boys of St. Nicholas school and the hero of the story. He is an orphan and, thinking of the past, becomes so unhappy that he runs away. He has many experiences in the city, is arrested as a thief, sent to a reformatory, from which he escapes, and finally gets back to St. Nicholas.

Captain Ted, by Mary T. Waggoner. Captain Ted is a Catholic college boy forced by circumstances to leave beloved St. Elmer and plunge into the battle of life. His youth is against him, but his honesty and perseverance win him a place at the top.

Children of the Log Cabin, by Henriette Eugenie Delamare. The story of a struggling home, bright, thoughtful children, and all the trials and hardships of misfortune. The trials of various places of interest will be found instructive.

Clare Lorraine, by "Lee." Clare's cutting up at home determines her doing parents to send her among the gentle ones, there to have her harmonious propensities soothed, if possible. Clare is not a content twenty-four hours before things begin to happen.

Freddy Carr's Adventures, by Rev. R. P. Carroll, S. J. This is a fine college story, full of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the boys who are over the adventures of a college life.

Freddy Carr and His Friends, by Rev. R. P. Carroll, S. J. Freddy the most mischievous, reckless, lovable boy, together with his companions, to whom these epistles are equally applicable, are students of a Jesuit day college. The consequences of their pranks, they frequently find themselves in "strait," the clearing up of which teaches them many a useful lesson.

Harmony's First, The Gifts of a Testament Home Fairy by S. S. Whitmore. The author's sympathetic insight into the lives and characters of little, neglected children, and by relentless circumstances into the poverty and the gloom of a New York tenement house, is wonderfully true.

Heroes of the House, The, by Mrs. Emma Hahn. An exquisite story of life and love told in touchingly simple words.

Honor of the House, The, by Mrs. Hugh Fraser. (Mrs. Fraser is a sister of Marion Crawford.) How They Worked Their Way and other stories, by M. F. Egan. Short stories, all so entertaining and, as with their audience, not too imaginative, not too remote from the ordinary surroundings of child life in the city and country to fail to hit their intended mark.

Idols, or The Secret of the Rue Chausse d'Antin, by Raulo de Naxery. The story is a remarkably clever one; it is well constructed, and evinces a master hand.

In Quest of The Golden Chest, by George Barton. An absorbing tale of real adventure—youth, fresh, fiery, to the boy who lives the peace of his broods over ocean pathways as well as the mysterious loss of tropical forest, a journey "in Quest of the Golden Chest" will fire the imagination of many a reader.

In God's Good Time, by H. M. Ross. This is a story that grasps the heart, stirring in it the liveliest sympathy for what is human and good.

Jack Hildreth, On The Nile, by Harold Anne Taggart. Jack Hildreth, the hero of the story, has been received as a chief among the Apaches and is the kind of hero that is dear to the boyish heart, young and powerful, bold, fearless and daring in disposition, and at the same time thoroughly upright and honest.

Juniors of St. Peter's, The, by Rev. Theos. H. Byson. An excellent story in which the rough, poorly bred, but kind hearted boy puts himself against the boy of sterling character, to his own discredit. This is really a new style of Catholic tale.

Klondike Prairie, The, by Elmer C. Donnelly. Here we find a camp fitted up with a stove, and all the conveniences for fishing, bathing, or otherwise idling away a holiday. These sports are varied by the reading of letters from real gold seekers on the trail to Dawson City.

Lady Of The Tower, The, and Other Stories, by George Barton and others. This is a collection of short stories which will please most fastidious taste. The volume comprises fifteen stories which are worthy to live in short-story collections. They are all delicate little love tales; the others stories of adventure or mystery.

Little Marshalls At The Lake, The, by Mary F. Nixon-Roulet. The seven Marshall children spend a week at a lake side. They have an interrupted series of adventures and fun. Plenty of motor trips and picnics make the story very interesting. Fishing and swimming help to make a success of their holiday.

Milly Avington, by Sara Vainor Smith. The story of a helpless young girl, bearing her cross with patient courage. By so doing she becomes a source of edification and an inspiration to her living to those around her. The story ought to be read by all young ladies and boys.

Mystery of Hornby Hall, The, by Anna T. Sadler. Mystery of Hornby Hall, the story of a mystery which is unraveled only by the hero of the story. The people who are destined to solve the mystery are those who have such a blighting effect on the owner.

Mystery of Claverly, The, by George Barton. Tells of a career of a youth who is thrown upon his own resources by the sudden death of his father under a cloud of suspicion as a thief. He rises up and down and some remarkable adventures, he eventually triumphs over all his enemies.

Ned Riever, by Rev. John Wells. Around Ned Riever Father's vein has built a beautiful story of a school, a school and family life. The boy is a splendid set, interested in his tasks and games and not above an occasional bit of mischief. A New Scholar At St. Anne's, The, by Marion J. Brunson. A jolly story. There is a convent school, a school about the narrative that is appealing to any one who has spent even a short time at such a home of kindly interest in the world.

Pennells, and Other Stories, by Eleanor C. Donnelly. There are eight stories, and nearly every one of them has a very interesting plot worked out with dramatic skill.

Playwater Plot, The, by Mary T. Waggoner. There is a plot on foot to abduct Lester Leonard, a boy who, who is a millionaire's son, who is a source of education and an inspiration to his living to those around her. The story ought to be read by all young ladies and boys.

Polina, The, by Evelyn Buckenham. This is an optimistic, entertaining story that will appeal to all ages. In the beginning of the tale everything is at odds and even, but the boy, who is through a very dark night, a bright day dawns for Polina and her friends.

Queen's Promise, The, by Mary T. Waggoner. The little heroine in this story, after being taken from her convent home which a little girl, who is a fanatical bigot against everything Catholic, succeeds in finding an approach to his iron-bound heart. She is finally reunited to her father, who is a victim of a storm at sea, and her way is opened to life, love and happiness.

Shipmates, by Mary T. Waggoner. Pip a boy of fifteen is lying at death's door, without hope of relief, in close, unwholesome city. His father, a shuck on the coast is rescued, and there the family take up their quarters. How the circumstances in his little boat, which brings back the roses to Pip's cheeks, got them acquainted with loving Pip, and the results, make very fascinating reading.

Talman, The, by Mary T. Waggoner. The young hero of this story is mixed up with the saving of the famous Connecticut charter; preserves the town of Hartford from an Indian massacre, and is taken prisoner.

Told In The Twilight, by Mother M. Salome. Mother Salome has gone to the Lives of the Saints and the volumes of early Church history and has gathered a great variety of episodes and adventures. Temptingly they are laid out before us.

Trail of The Dragon, The, and Other Stories, by Marion F. Nixon-Roulet and other leading Catholic authors. A volume of stories which make very interesting and profitable reading for young and old.

Transplanting of Tessa, The, by Mary T. Waggoner. The influence which a little girl, who is so truly in religious principles, may exercise in a circle where such influences have not previously been at work, is the ground idea of the story. It is most interestingly worked out through a succession of dramatic incidents.

Treasure of Nugget Mountain, The, by Marion A. Tague. The ride for life from the lake of petroleum with horse and rider, chased by the fierce onrushing of the boy Harry, is a piece of wood-chasing which has few counterparts in the language.

Unbroken Heart, The, by Frances Cook. A tale of hearts that love, suffer, and win. It is a uniquely conceived tale, full of unexpected complications, and with a heroine who is so truly Catholic as to be an inspiration.

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