

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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CORRESPONDENCE and items of local Catholic interest solicited.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1906.

CURIOUS TESTIMONY OF METHODIST MINISTER.

In an article in the New York Christian Advocate (Methodist), written by the Rev. A. H. Tuttle, we find a strange current running throughout. Strange, because it is not usual for those outside of the Faith to acknowledge the helpfulness of the sacred rites, devotional pictures and other objects of our holy religion, yet Mr. Tuttle speaks of the sacrifice of the Mass as "helping the devotion of feeble hearts just as a mother helps its child to say its prayers." A fine tribute to the great St. Peter's Cathedral reads as follows:

"One day our little company went by themselves over the Aelian Bridge to that most majestic building in the world, St. Peter's Cathedral. Every time I enter it its power grows upon me. It is the house of God, not alone in the sense that it was erected for His worship; that is true of every church. But this one impels to worship, in my mind imperatively commands it. Here is the most perfect symbolic expression of the soul's deepest want that human genius has ever devised. Some may sneer at the idea of any vital union between symbolism and devotion, calling it aestheticism or, what is worse, idolatry. But architecture, pictures, music and ritual, which have their origin in the soul's aspiration for the divine, cannot be of the devil, as the iconoclasts believed. It is certain that here this morning they forced me to my knees.

"We walked together under those lofty arches in vast spaces, where human beings seemed to shrivel to the stature of a hand's breadth. The great central dome swells out like the vault of the sky, and is so perfectly illuminated that the prophets and the apostles painted there seem to be living realities hovering over us in the air. All around us are the monuments of the heroes and saints of the Church. Incense is continually ascending. The Mass is forever being performed, helping the devotion of feeble hearts, just as a mother helps its child to say its prayers. Music from some unseen organ floats through the spaces like an invisible host singing glories. Everywhere and in everything are proclaimed the majesty and holiness of God. How insignificant I felt and how sinful before His glory and His power. I was troubled and alarmed. Who can stand before God?

"With such feelings I came to an altar over which hung a picture of the Crucified One. His bleeding hands seemed to be extended to me, and His eyes of love penetrated my heart. His lips seemed to say, 'I have redeemed thee with My blood.' My spirit bowed in adoration and was filled with an indescribable peace."

SOCIALISTS ACTIVE.

The quiet of the political vacation in Italy is being broken by the disputes between the various sections of the Socialist party. The weakness of the Italian Socialists has long been due to the fact that in Parliament they are an army of epaulets—all leaders and no rank and file. The Socialist press, intended as a weapon for use against the bourgeoisie, has also proved a very double-edged arm, being used by one section of the party for the vilification

tion of another. Moreover, the influence of general ideas and vague theories has led to the deliberate raising of questions of principle which had no practical or immediate importance, but which have served still more to divide the party, already much injured by the results of the alliance between the Catholics and the Conservative Monarchists against Socialism at the elections. Each section of the Socialists now considers itself alone orthodox, and demands the expulsion from the party of those who do not subscribe to all the tenets of its economic faith. The Italian language has been tortured to furnish names for the warring factions, and "Sindacalists," "Integralists," and "Reformists," have now been added to the political dictionary. Some Socialists are for absolute abstention from the polls, and call upon a Socialist Pope to issue a Socialistic non expedit just at the moment when the Vatican has temporarily abandoned that policy.

Others proclaim aloud that no "intellectuals" can any longer be members of a party which they desire to see exclusively composed of horny-handed bread-winners, instead of barristers, professors and journalists, who form the staple of the twenty-seven Socialist deputies now in Parliament.

TEMPERANCE MEN IN BRITAIN'S PARLIAMENT.

The Weekly Freeman of Dublin says that a temperance pamphlet edited by Sir Andrew Reed, K.C. V.O., has just been issued, and will be read with interest by all temperance reformers. It deals chiefly with the proceedings of the deputation to the Lord Lieutenant from the Irish Licensing and Temperance Reform Conference, supplemented by many interesting facts indicating the growth of the temperance movement. The pamphlet claims a triumph for temperance at the last general election.

"In the last Parliament there were eighty-eight abstainers, while in the present House of Commons no fewer than 156 of the members are teetotalers; 114 of these represent English constituencies, twenty-five Irish, and seventeen Scotch; 221 of the members representing England and Wales are favorable to the policy of the United Kingdom Alliance (the great English Temperance Society); sixty of the Scotch members are in favor of local veto. But the fact that there are such an unprecedented number of members in the House of Commons in sympathy with the cause of temperance reform, computed at over 400 out of 670 in the House, gives us the hope to expect and the right to demand effective temperance legislation."

A CHAMPION OF THE CHURCH.

A dramatic incident recently occurred on the streets of Salt Lake City, according to the story printed in the Herald of that city. A street preacher, after the method of the ignorant type of his kind, was entertaining a crowd of the curious with a denunciation of the Catholic Church and her clergy, when from the midst stepped a man of unkempt appearance, who demanded a hearing. It was grudgingly granted him, but when his first words were spoken, says the Herald, the listening group forgot that the speaker was roughly dressed; they forgot that he appeared to be an outcast, but they could not break the spell of admiration that he aroused.

With well-rounded sentences, perfect in construction and grammatical in every word, with all the rules of rhetoric observed, the unknown speaker reviewed the profane history of the world, from the first century to show that the Catholic Church has placed its imprint on world history and to demonstrate its divine authenticity.

The preacher, finding he was getting the worst end of the argument, stole away from the scene of his defeat, and the stranger, who had appeared so opportunely to defend the Church, continued his oration. For an hour he held the crowd, few being able to break from the spell and

charm of his speech. When found afterward by a reporter of the Herald, he refused to tell his name, but from fragmentary remarks concerning himself, it was gleaned that he had attended a parochial school, where he had learned to read and write. The love of knowledge was strong in him, and he continued his education himself. He enjoyed history and philosophy, and said that he had made a deep study of Catholic writings. He fell sick at one time, and in his wanderings beheld himself on the brink of perdition. The memory of it caused him on his recovery to make a vow to go through the world hungry, barefooted, an outcast, to preach the truth, as occasions arose, concerning the Church.

MONSTER PROTEST AGAINST BLASPHEMY.

The annual public demonstration of the Catholic men of Brooklyn and Queens to show their protest against the use of blasphemy and indecent language, took place recently. The weather was ideal, and more than 20,000 men took part in the rally.

The two boroughs had been divided into sixteen rallying districts with a designated church in each district, in which the men congregated for exercises, consisting of congregational singing, sermon and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, after which the men departed for their homes.

In every section of the city could be seen bodies of these men, respectful and solemn, marching in bodies to the rallying church. Each parochial society, headed by its spiritual director, marched from the parish church to some meeting point where it met the societies from the other parishes in the same district and repaired to the rallying church. Every man taking part wore the badge of the Holy Name Society, and every society carried its individual banner in addition to the Papal colors and the Stars and Stripes.

While the estimate of those taking part is given at 20,000, it is probable that there were more. The above number is the membership of the Diocesan Union of the Holy Name Society in the two boroughs, and while all these took part, each society was accompanied by men of the parish in sympathy with the cause, who have not entered into membership. Also, for many parishes where the society is not yet formed, delegations of men took part in the demonstration.

IS GOD'S EARTH GROWING LESS BEAUTIFUL?

An English Royal Academician, Sir William Blake Richmond, complains that the world is growing less beautiful. He says that the standard of taste is lower than it was a century ago, that commerce is flooding the markets with unbeautiful objects, that dress becomes more and more hideous, that among all men the sense of beauty is diminishing. If the distinguished artist should heed the advice sometimes given to defeated politicians, to "get back to the woods," it is possible that his pessimism might be less profound. Whatever man may do to disfigure the earth, the seeker for beauty has only to go a little beyond the dust of the workshop to find a loveliness almost undisturbed since God first made it. He has only to look above the factory smoke to see the daily miracles of sunrise and sunset and the night's mystery of stars. God's world can never grow less beautiful while mountains and seas remain to praise His power and little rivers and flowering fields to bless His love. The utmost that man can do cannot permanently mar the work of God. The human structures rise and crumble to decay, the human fashions have their day and die, but the beauty so divinely wrought into this earth shall not perish until man has no more need for shadows and symbols of the celestial vision.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Franciscan Fathers of the Cincinnati province are establishing a new mission station at Chen Lee, in the Indian reservation of Navajo; also among the Moqui Indians.

For the first time in the history of Kansas, a Catholic priest has been nominated for office. The priest is Rev. J. W. Gormley, and he was nominated by the Democrats of Anderson County for the State legislature.

Caldy, a small island in the Bristol Channel that belonged to the English Benedictine monks from the fifth century until taken from them by Henry VIII., has been repurchased by the Order and a new monastery will soon be built there.

A tremendous scandal is brewing in France over the sales of the property of the expelled monks and nuns. The Action (Socialist organ) declares that the Humbert case is a mild affair as compared with the matter in question. The officers who had the matter in hand fail to account for nearly \$8,000,000 worth of property. Some leading politicians are involved, and the names of men high in office are freely bandied about, one gentleman being accused of appropriating \$125,000.

In addressing a number of English pilgrims to Ireland, Cardinal Logue, after expressing his sympathy with the fight going on in England in the cause of education, in comparison with which "no other cause was so sacred and so important," said: "Our Irish members have fought this battle, I think, with greater persistency, with greater energy, and greater skill, in the House of Commons than ever I knew them to fight any battle, even for temporal interests of Ireland."

A list of the Catholic undergraduates who recently took high honors at Oxford University shows more than half with unmistakably Irish names. Two are Jesuit scholastics. Nearly all on the list made their classical course at Catholic colleges. Of the eighteen Catholic candidates who have successfully passed the intermediate examination in arts and sciences recently held by the University of London, nearly all are Irish, and all are from Catholic schools. Nine of the eighteen are converts.

The death of James Johnston, of Belfast, an Ulster Protestant, who never wavered in his belief that the only solution of the ills of Ireland was the re-opening of the Irish Parliament, says the Dublin Freeman's Journal, will be learned with regret. The deceased was a tea merchant, and was a Justice of the Peace for Belfast. In the latter capacity he attended the police courts once a week, frequently, in the absence of the resident magistrate, presiding in the Summons Court. He never obstructed his politics on anybody; but, whether the National cause was in smooth water or rough, he remained consistently true to his principles as an Irishman. He was just the kind of man, indeed, that we need so much in the North—a man who can see the Irish difficulty steadily and who can see it whole, and who has the courage to live up to his convictions. The name of James Johnston, of Belfast, should be remembered with respect by all Irish Nationalists.

A group of distinguished Catholics belonging to various nationalities, who joined the Peace Congress at Milan, having addressed a respectful message to His Holiness, the Pontiff replied through the medium of the Secretary of State to Cardinal Ferrari, the local Archbishop, thanking the signatories of the telegram, and saying that he well knew "that the efforts to avoid the horrors of war were conformed to the spirit and to the precepts of the Gospel." The action of these members of the Peace Congress may be singled out for imitation. Catholics, finding themselves



St. Louis, Mo., U. S., June 30, 1906.
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After an attack of Typhoid Fever my progress towards health was hardly noticeable. When I heard some people praising your famous tonic, The Trappists' Phosphated Wine of Cinchona Bark, very highly, I commenced to use it and I began to mend quickly. I recommend it to everyone as a most efficacious tonic for all run down and weak conditions. Thanks to you,
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a minority at meetings of the sort, or realizing that the Holy See will not be addressed by the Congress as a whole, may well act on their own initiative in behalf of the cause they have at heart. Rumor says that the efforts to obtain a standing for the Holy See at the Hague Conference are likely to have a successful issue. In this case, Mgr. Giovanni, the Chargé d'Affaires in Holland, would be named Internuncio. There has been no Internuncio since the last Conference.

HINT FOR BACHELOR MERCHANTS.

An original form of advertising comes from Russia, where a shopkeeper posted up the following announcement: "The reason why I have hitherto been able to sell my goods so much cheaper than anybody else is that I am a bachelor and do not need to make a profit for the maintenance of a wife and children."



CHALK dust is fine and white, but it won't make good bread. Fine, white flour is all right as far as it goes, but if it lacks nutrition its other qualities amount to nothing as far as baking is concerned.

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T. H. ESTE

ITEMS OF IN

OPENING OF RE

The members of the men's section, are at present, the exercises of commenced on last Sunday the preacher being the Wulstan.

FATHER WERNITZ TO

It is reported that the of the Jesuit Order Wernitz, will pay a per to all the houses of the will be the first time the General will set foot in States. The journey of F will begin early next m he will visit the houses

If attacked with cholera mer complaint of any kind once for a bottle of Dr. logg's Dysentery Cordial according to directions with wonderful rapidity that dreadful disease the strongest man and the young and delicate, have tried this cholera it acts promptly and ne effect a thorough cure.

ONE OF THE FOUNDERS DERN IMPRESSIONS BLIND.

Degas, the great painter was one of the founders impressionism, is said to almost totally blind. He been failing for some time has ceased to hold a model spends his days modelling figures in clay, which are by those who have seen strangely fascinating.

ANCIENT ABBEY DES

The famous old Abbey known as Selby Abbey, in ruin, the result of a fire out in the organ chamber day. Only the bare wall standing. Selby Abbey was considered one of the finest monasteries in England. It was fourteenth century by the B and part of the original transepts survived until The Abbey possessed some sculptures and tombs of the monks who presided over it during the rule of the Nor

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS LENGTHENED IN SCHOOL UNDER R. C. BOARD.

In former years classes school under the control of the Catholic School Commission pending their session at last until January 2. sioned much irregularity, as many pupils did not turn until after January 6 was decided to extend the until January 6 and do a such days as Ash Wednesday Holy Thursday, which had been observed as holidays, prepared to give general

MOUNT ST. LOUIS CA The annual autumn route of the Mount St. Louis College take place on Saturday October 27, at 2.30. The college, the Cadets will parade the Champs de Mars by Sherbrooke, St. Hubert, Denis and Craig, where the contest for the Wilson Smith will take place. Nov. 1, and IV companies of the