PIVE-MINUTE'S SERMON.

Sunday Within the Octave of Christ-

RETROSPECT.

Between remembering the old year and looking forward to the new year, this day should be a busy one for the Chritians. It ought to bea day of examination of conscience. Good Christians examine their consciences in some manner or other daily, and some are so vividly in God's presence that they scrutinize every act of their lives; and this is what it is to be thoroughly con Conscientiousness when scientious. Conscientiousness when cultivated is nothing less than habitual consciousness of the Divine presence. We know, to be sure, that some persons are over particular in examination of conscience, and these are called scru-pulous. But most of us are not scrupulous enough. The cultivation of the conscience tends to a constant realizing of the Divine presence, and when this becomes habitual the soul becomes per-

There are two kinds of examination of conscience, both of which are good. One is done at fixed times by some arrangement with one's self honestly adhered to. The other kind of exam ination is spontaneous. In this latter case the conscience won't let you pass an hour, or even a minute, without undergoing scrutiny. In the former case you examine your conscience, and in the latter your conscience examines you. I have met numbers of persons who need never examine their consciences when preparing for confes sion : they live habitually in the Divine presence and are ready at all moments to perform the highest spiritual duties I think it was one of the St. Catharines who was kneading dough to make bread for the community when the bel rang for Communion ; she went up and received our Lord with the dough sticking to her hands and then went back to her batch of bread : and she was excellently well disposed for Com-Francis of Sales, from the evenness of character which he at tained, must have had this gift of consciousness of the Divine presence in high degree.

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Brethren, I wish all of you had something of this high gift. But for most of us I may truly say that the examination of conscience which will benefit us will be that made at set times; of course, at confession. But no practice will produce better results for persons of good sense than having fixed times at which we shall go over the actions of the day. And on New Year's Day, of all days in the year, we should tak account of our conduct towards God and our neighbor and ourselves, and make good resolutions for the future. The fact is that on a day like this the old year rises up and demands examin. ation. Sometimes we say, "The past is gone." But in truth there is no such good luck as that. It would be a very good thing for some of us if the past could be politely bowed out with the old year. But there it is, fixed for ever. The past year is an account book turned over to God's court to witness for or against us ; let us try and get a favorable balance out of it. any rate, let us know the truth about

Let us face about, therefore, brethren, and look back over the past twelve months, and question the seasons of the old year. How did I begin the old year and how did I behave myself last winter? Did I my tongue for blaspheming, my body for lust, my soul for slavery to the evil one? Have I unjustly gotten any of my neighbor's property? Have I been brutal to my family? These sound like ugly questions. But there's no happy New Year for you or me till we have answered them and many others besides, repented of our sins and make good resolutions for confession and Communion, and for a good life for the future.

Henry Ward Beecher.

I met a Maryland man the other day who told me this story: "Years ago I happened to be in Kansas City, Mis souri, on Good Friday. While at the Catholic church, during devotions, I was surprised to observe reverently kneeling there no less a person than Henry Ward Beecher, the famous preacher. I was told that every year

cal speculation. He had not much orthodoxy when he died, and he appears

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Did you ever receive a present that was given in such a begrudging fash. ion or with so little grace that you would have liked to hand it back to the donor if your innate politeness had not held you in check? Gifts thus received have no value in them even though they be of surpassing worth in the eyes of the world. A single rose presented with a little graceful air of compliment and pleasure in the act is more appreciated than a string of priceless pearls that are doled out with scowls or in a manner that speaks more loudly than words of the ungracious sentiments of the giver.

The season is at hand when an inter change of offerings will be the order of the day and let us all, just for once, see if the true spirit of Christmas cannot enter into the giving of our gifts, whether they be great or small. love and good-will prompt whatever we may see fit to bestow, and let no thought of the return gauge the cost or the quality of our own offering. To be a cheerful giver is a quality that is most desirable. True generosity does not lie in the lavishness of the donation, but in the sweet spirit that dom inates and permeates, whether it be great or small.

Obedient and True.

Here is an old and a good story from the Orient, retold by Andrew Lang: A Persian mother gave her son forty pieces of silver and made him swear

never to tell a lie.
"Go, my son," she said; "I commit thee to God's care, and we shall not meet again."

The youth left the house, and the party with whom he traveled were assailed by robbers. One of them asked the boy what he had, and he said; "Forty florins are sewn in my

clothes. The robber laughed, feeling certain that the boy jested. Another asked him the same question and received the same answer. At last the chief called him and asked him what he had.

The boy replied: "I have told two of your men already that I have forty pieces of sil-

ver sewn in my clothes."

The chief ordered the garments to be ripped open, and the discovery of the money proved the boy to be more truthful than most men.

"How came you to tell this?" asked "Because," said the boy, "I would

not be false to my mother, whom I promised never to tell a lie." "Child," said the robber, "are you so mindful of your duty to your mother, and am I so forgetful at my age of the duty I owe to my God? Give me your hand that I may swear

repentance on it."

A Clever Dwarf. The king's "tool" of olden times was generally wiser and wittier than his royal master. Alboin, the Lombard usurper, held his court in Verons in the latter quarter of the sixth cen tury, and his jester was Bertholde, a dwarf, of whom Mary S. Roberts writes in St. Nicholas. When Bertholde made his first appearance at court King Albion asked him what he was, when he was born and of wha country.

"I am a man," replied the dwarf. whereupon the attendants went off into fits of laughter. "I was born when I came to the world and the world itself

imp before them, and they commenced to ply him with questions of all kinds. The asking of conundrums was a sort of trial of wit to which sovereigns were much given at this period of history.
"What thing is that which flies the

swiftest?" asked one.
"Thought," replied Bertholde promptly. "What is the gulf that is never

filled?" "The avarice of the miser," was the ready answer of the quick-witteddwarf. "What trait is the most hateful in young people?"
"Self conceit, because it makes them

unteachable." "How would you bring water in a

"I'd wait till it was frozen," an-

swered the dwarf, readily. The King was delighted.
"For so clever a rejoinder," he said

' you shall have from me anything you

a clever contrivance. He bought a live bird in the market to have left a skeptical legacy to his Brooklyn congregation. To the last, however, he paid homage to Good Fricasket. This casket, by Bertholde's day, and having no other church to go advice, the King delivered into the

the best interests of the kingdom re-

fuse your request.' The women were greatly impressed by these words, so greatly impressed that they at once began to wonder what the secret could be, and at last their curiosity became so great that the one who had the box in her keeping thought she would just look in for window.

The next day the fair petitioners did not come to court to press their claim. For they saw that the king had made them show themselves unable to keep a secret.

For this crafty ruse Alboin commanded his treasurer to give the dwarf

a thousand crowns. "I hope Your Majesty will not bedispleased if I refuse to accept your gifts,' replied Bertholde. "He who desires nothing and has nothing has nothing to fear. Nature made me free and I wish to remain so, but I cannot if I accept your ptesents, for the proverb says, He who takes sells himself. "How then," asked the King, "am

to show my gratitude?" "I have heard that it is more glorious to deserve the favors of a prince and to refuse them than it is to receive without deserving them," was the answer. "Your good will is more agreeable to me than all the gifts in

Little Boy Blue.

The little toy dog is covered with dust,
But sturdy and stanuch he stands;
And the little toy soldier is red with rust,
And his musket moulds in his hands.
Time was when the little toy dog was new,
And the soldier was passing fair,
And that was the time when our Little Boy
Blue

Kissed them and put them there.

Now don't you go 'till I come," he said, "And don't you make any noise. So toddling off to his trundle bed, He dreamt of the pretty toys.

And as he was dreaming, an angel song Awakened our Little Boy Blue. Oh! the years are many, the years are long But the little toy friends are true.

Aye! faithful to Little Boy Blue they stand Each in the same old place, Awaiting the touch of a little hand, The smile of a little face. And they wonder, as waiting these long years

In the dust of that little chair, What has become of our Little Boy Blue, Since he kissed them and put them the -Eugene Field.

Things I Have Seen In Church.

At the Church of the Franciscans there was a mere scattering of people in the pews. Every one seemed to be going to confession. Far up in the church a grotesque little figure stood before the first station. As he approached the third station two women started to make the way of the cross. At the seventh station they were beside him: he was slighter, shorter than either of them. Now the women were ahead of him; they passed the box near which I stood, glancing calmly at the people in the line on each side. Three more confessions had heard when the boy stood within a few feet of me. Without a look at the waiting penitents, he passed to the twelfth station. "Jesus Dies Upon the Cross." How thin and white the lad's hands were, too fragile almost for the weight of the heavy black prayer book ne was trying to read in the dimness. There was something noble in the poise and shape of his small head with its clustering black curls. He finished the prayer and stood looking up at the I attend Mass regularly and worship God through the summer, or did I make the Lord's Day one of carousing and picnicking and drinking? Have I used the morning? Have I used the morning is the page that they had a shrewd little they had a shrewd li unspeakable compassion. Gradually his delicate Italian face grew more agitated—the sensuous lips trembled and the beautiful eyes filled. Without completing the stations he knelt down in the nearest pew, his weeping face on his slender hands. I thought I was the only one watching his devotion, when the woman back of me mur-mured, with a foreign accent, "Poor nothing else. When they tell him he will die of grief."

Why can't he be a priest?" I Catholic Columbian.

asked her.
"Didn't you notice? It is so dark here perhaps you couldn't see his crooked shoulders A hunchback may not take holy orders."—Written for the Chicago New World.

It is in the Nature of Things

Herry Ward Beecher. the famous preacher. I was told that every year on this occasion, he attended Catholic service. The Bishop of Kansas City at that time, happened to know Mr. Beecher personally and, having been made aware of his presence in the city, invited him to dinner, stating incidentally that he must, on that day, expect very lean fare. Mr. Beecher accepted the invitation gladly and gratefully. It touched his heart, for, at that period, he was under a cloud.

He found charity where he did not look for it. He enjoyed the very plann meal and thanked the Bishop cordially for his hospitality and Christian spirit. What a pity that the brilliant and marvellously gifted preacher did not pursue what seemed to be a preliminary grace for conversion. He clung measurably to his idols but went on more and more into abysses of theological speculation. He had not much

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

WONDERFELL are the cures by Hooke.

means be let out, you would see that CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Amidst the vastness of eternity is allotted a little space for each individual. That is, the little space called It is daytime for that individual; all the rest of the endless ages are night. It is, therefore, his chance, his opportunity, his acceptable time. It s filled with potentalities, possibilities a minute—when, whir! out came the bird and away he flaw through the the imagination of the most optimistic. -The New World.

An Unexpected Response.

It was growing late. The tide of humanity that earlier in the evening had ebbed and flowed through the streets of the great city had swept on ward, leaving the strange and almost appalling sense of desolation that omes when the noises of the town are hushed. The electric lights flared un noticed on the corners ; the street car passed at further intervals : now and then a night worker hurried by, his footsteps ringing out loud and clear in the stillness. In front of a salocn whose lights shone out bright and ruddy across the pavement stood a tramp, unshorn, ragged, dirty, disgusting. He watched with envious eyes the men who passed in and out through the swinging doors, and then he turned his eyes toward two young fellows in evening dress who were coming down the street toward him They had been drinking deeply, and they stopped before the saloon door and looked curiously at him.
"By Jove," said one, "think

having a thirst like that and not the price of an extinguisher in your Beats old Tantalus all to pieces, eh? Liquor, liquor, every-where and not a drop to drink." He ran his hand in his pocket and proffered the tramp a dime, but before

t could be accepted the other young fellow interposed. "Say," he said, "let's do the good

Samaritan and set Hobe up to a good

The other hilariously consented, and the tramp slouched into the saloon at the heels of the two gilded youths The barkeeper set before them glasses and liquors, and with a hand that shook the tramp poured out a brimming glass and raised it to his lips. "Stop," cried one of the young

men, drunkenly, "make us a speech It is poor liquor that doesn't unlooser a man's tongue."

The tramp hastily swallowed down the drink, and as the rich liquor coursed through his blood he straight ened himself and stood before them with a grace and dignity that all his rags and dirt could not obscure.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I look to night at you and at myself, and it seems to me I look upon the picture of my lost manhood. This bloated face was once as young and handsome as yours. This shambling figure once valked as proudly as yours, a man in a world of men. I, too, once had home and friends and position. I had a wife as beautiful as an artist's dream, and I dropped the priceless pearl of her honor and respect in the wine cup, is concerned, a distressing conviction and Cleopatra like, saw it dissolve, and quaffed it down in the brimming draught. I had children as sweet and lovely as the flowers of spring, and I churches." Just so, and why? Unsaw them fade and die under the blighting curse of a drunken father. I had a home where love lit the flame upon the altar and ministered before it, and I put out the holy fire, and dark. ness and desolation reigned in its stead. I had aspirations and amlast, strangled them that I might be children with the requisite precept and tortured with their cries no more. To example. In a word, the old dictum day I am a husband without a wife, a that religion should be taught in the father without a child, a tramp with no church, the Sunday school, and the home to call his own, a man in whom every good impulse is dead. All, all swallowed up in the maelstrom of drink."

The tramp ceased speaking. The glass fell from his nerveless fingers and shivered into a thousand frag-ments on the floor. The swinging little Antonio; isn't it sad he can ments on the floor. The swinging never be a priest!" He thinks of doors pushed open and swung to again, and when the little group about the bar looked up the tramp was gone.—

On Doing One's Best.

Young men frequently run away with the idea that if they can get over a given task, in a certain time, that is all that is required of them. They do not care how slovenly and unfinished the work may be, if they succeed in covering up the defects so that they may not be readily discovered by supervising eyes. Their object is to get through the period of labor with as little output of intellectual and manual strength as possible. They dawdle away the time, looking continually at the clock until the dinner hour arrives, and gazing at it quite as anxiously, when they return to labor in the afternoon, until the hour of closing approaches.

At least half an hour before this you will find them preparing to leave their desks on their work benches, by doing a thousand and one things not directly connected with their employment so that they may waste minutes that rightfully belong to their employer. This may seem over critical, but it is not. These young people really do more harm to themselves than they do to anyone else. They get into a shiftless, aimless way of doing things, that will have a direct influence in retarding their success in life, if it does not prevent their progress altogether. Whatever is worth doing at all is worth Catarrh, like scrofula, is a disease of the blood and may be cured by purifying the blood with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Was not to be opened until the next day.

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Wonderful are the cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla out for our benefit, and it can not be laid too closely to heart by the young fellow just starting out in life.

I have seen so many fine fellows g

to the dogs, as the saying goes, simply because they would not make an effort that I cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of doing one's best. Many a boy of good natural parts, who has shone at school because readily acquire his lessons, has never fulfilled the promises of his youth simply because he did not recognize the fact that in a world of fierce petition more exertion was needed to ucceed than was required in the school. It is constant, persistent apdication that commands success, a the slow tortoise often outruns the

leeping hare. One may pity the person who throws away his opportunities, but no one can respect the man who belies his possibil ties. The latter wastes the talents that God has given him, and for a ittle fleeting pleasure, often of a dis reputable kind, or from a love of ease, makes himself a nobody or a shining example of a man who might have done nobier things. The young fellow who has no aspiration to be something better than this has but a pitiful am bition, and one that I should dislike to have any of my readers nourish. want them all to be respected citizen with a purpose to do right from which they cannot be

swerved-in short, happy men who take an interest in their work and in their play. The idler is never happy. The time hangs heavy on his hands. The busy man never notices gold the most gold precious gems, its flight. Indeed it seems all too short Dodd's Kidney Pills are imitated befor the accomplishment of his worthy ends. He is, too, less liable to temptation than the one who finds both occu pation and recreation a bore, and who is constantly saying, ing in it," like Sir Charles Coldstream. who had exhausted all the pleasures of

life. "There is nothing in it" be cause there is nothing in him. He is a vapid pretender who floats on Lumbago, Dropsy, Female Weakness, the surface of life and who and other kidney diseases as Dodd's never looks below it to discover its Kidney Pills have. It is universally hidden meaning. Do your level best, my young friends, at all times and in all places. You owe this much to your friends, yourself and to the Higher Power that created you. Then, whether your earthly existence be long or short, you will achieve as much hap piness as the world can offer, and will be well prepared for the bliss that has no ending. Follow the poet Longfellow's advice and be up and doing, with a heart for anything .- Benedict Bell, in the Sacred Heart Review.

Where love takes, let love give : and so doubt not; Love counts but the will. And the heart has its flower of devotion No winter can chill. They who cared for "good will" the first Christ-

Will care for it still. -Adelaide A. Proctor.

Family Worship. In an article on "Family Worship," the Central Presbyterian has this to say: "So far as regular, systematic training of children in devout habits, by the precept and example of parents, is impressed upon us that this fountain of Christian influence is rapidly failing in our own as well doubtedly because the Christian educa tion of the parents of this generation was neglected in the least; the godless training of the Public schools is altogether impotent as a means of Christian education; because home, not in the daily school, is being demonstrated as mockery and an illusion. If God and morality have no place in the Public schools, they can not long retain any footing of practical importance in the family. Non sectar-ian schools are a menace to the Chris-

This tells Where Health May be Found And that is more important than making money. If your blood is impure, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine for you. It cures scrotula, salt rheum, rheumatism, catarrh and all other diseases originating in or promoted by impure blood and low state of he system.

tianity of the nation, and the years are

proving it superabundantly. - Ave

Maria.

Merit

of the people in Hood's Sarsaparilla. If a medicine cures you when sick; if it makes wonderful cures everywhere, then beyond all question that medicine possesses merit.

saparilla. We know it possesses merit because it cures, not once or twice or a because it cures, not thousands and thousands of cases. We know it cures, absolutely, permanently, when all others fail to do any good whatever. We repeat For Fair Minds

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the best—In fact the One True Blood Purifier.

D-0-D-D-S

THE PECULIARITIES OF THIS WORD.

No Name on Earth so Famous - No Name More Widely Imitated.

No name on earth, perhaps is so well known, more peculiarity constructed or more widely initated than the word Dodd. It possesses a peculiarity that makes it stand out prominently and fastens it in the memory. It contains our letters, but only two letters of the alphabet. Everyone knows that the first kidney remedy ever patented or sold in pill form was named Dodd's. Their discovery startled the medical profession the world over, and reveiutionized the treatment of kidney dis-

No imitator has ever succeeded in constructing a name possessing a the peculiarity of DODD, though they nearly all adopt names as similar as possible in sound and construction to this. Their foolishness prevents them realizing that attempts to imitate in-

crease the fame of Dodd's Kidney Pills.
Why is the name "Dodd's Kidney
Pills "imitated? As well ask why are diamonds and gold imitated. Because cause they are the most valuable medicine the world has ever known.

No medicine was ever named kidney pills till years of medical research gave Dodd's Kidney Pills to the world. medicine ever cured Bright's disease except Dodd's Kidney Pills. No other medicine has cured as many cases of Rheumatism, Diabetes, Heart Disease, cure these diseases, hence they are so widely and shamelessly imitated.

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