#### FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

Second Sunday of Advent.

"Now, the God of patience and of comfort gran you to be of one mind, one towards another, according to Jesus Christ; that with one mind and with one mouth you may glorify God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Epistle of the day, Rom. xv. 5, 6.)

The unity of mind which St. Paul would have us individually cultivate and practise as the effect of God's patience, is, without doubt, charity towards one another. For charity induces us to love even our enemies, to show our love for all men by wishing and doing them good, to foster feelings of truly Christian friendship for our neighbor, and by them effecting a lasting bond of charitable union between relations, friends and strangers, to glorify God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as the early Christians glorified Him, with one mind and with one mouth.

But, alas! how often is the harmony inculcated by St. Paul disturbed! How often is the agreement of friend with friend destroyed by petty quarrels and childish disputes! How often, in fine, is the precept of charity violated on account of extreme sensitiveness in taking offence at trifles! If a person, perhaps unconsciously, does us an injury, we are at once enraged, instead of imitating our Lord's patience under harsh treat-ment. Or if something is said in dis-praise of us, or at least not altogether in accordance with our wishes, we forth-with take unthrage cherish feelings of with take umbrage, cherish feelings of anger and hatred for the delinquent, vow our resolution never to forgive, and thus live in a state of constant and sin-ful enmity. Some one says or does something by way of inaocent pleasure, and we immediately feel ourselves ill-treated. We are careful to observe the conduct of others, and if, perchance, we notice anything that does not accord with our view of things, we but too readily condemn it. We are not scrupulous in making rash judgments by attributing to our neighbor bad motives. We accidentally hear of the sins and misfortunes of those about us, and, instead of compassionating them in their misery and of being silent about their faults, we are uneasy until we have made known what we were bound in charity to keep secret. We are ever straining our attention with the curiosity of seeing what others do, while we are blind to what we do ourselves. We are, in fact, very forgetful of the record of God's precept, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

We do not wish others to injure us why, then, are we guilty of injuring them? We do not like others to speak ill of us; why, then, are we not more cautious never to speak ill of them?

We are offended at hearing ourselves judged falsely, on finding t at our sins have been revealed and made public, on account of the peevishness and bad tem-per of our neighbor, by the refusal of friends to speak to us; and yet, with the most utter unconcern for the feelings of those we should love, we ourselves entertain unjust judgments, we ourselves sin by detraction, we ourselves are cross and impatient, we ourselves pass by others in the street or in social gatherings without offering them a sign of

recognition. Brethren, do to others what you would wish others to do to you. Be charitable after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. Remove from your minds all thoughts of hatred and ill-will. Uproot from your hearts feelings of revenge. Judge not your neighbor, that you your-selves may not be judged. Be quiet about his failings and shortcomings. Do not be so unkind as to refuse him the enjoyment of your friendship. Promote enjoyment of your friendship. Promote charity, peace and benevolence as far as lies in your power. And in this way you will practise one of the most profitable lessons of Advent, and be suitably prepared for the feast of Christmas, "To glority God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, with one mind and with

AN INTERESTING CHAPTER IN THE HIS-

In 1807, the Rev. Daniel Barber, Conyoung lady was then twenty one years of age. Soon after she proceeded to Montreal, where, entering the academy of the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, she became a Catholic, and devoting herself to God, joined the community of hospital news at the Hotel Dieu, where she died piously in 1819, having induced the Protestant physishe attended her to embrace Cath olicity by the mere spectacle of her last

conversion of Sister Allen produced other fruits of grace on her coreligionists, and her former pastor, Rev. Mr. Barber, after becoming a member of the Protestant Episcopal sect, halted not in the way of truth, but in 1816 entered the Church. The son of this clergyman, the Rev. Virgil Barber, born on May 9, 1782 was also a minister. He, too, had been convinced of the necessity of joining the Church and entered it with his father. Mrs. Virgil Barber followed the example, and she and her husband resolved to abandon all and separate from each other for God's

Virgil Barber, in consequence went to Rome in 1817, and obtained of the to Rome in 1817, and obtained of the Sovereign Pontiff the authority necessary for the step. He entered the ecclesiastical state, was ordained in that city, and after spending two years there, returned from Europe, bringing his wife's authorization to embrace the religious state. She had entered the Visitation Nuns at Georgetown, and had for two years followed the noviti-ate. Mr. and Mrs. Barber had five children, four daughters and one son. The last was placed in the Jesuit College at Georgetown, while the daughters were at the Academy of the Visitation, yet without knowing that their mother was a novice in the house. The time of her probation having expired, the five children were brought to the chapel to witness their mother's street, Toronto, Canada.

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profession, and at the same time, on the steps of the altar, their father devoted himself to God as a member of the Society of Jesus.

At the touching and unexpected sight, the poor children burst into sobs, believing themselves forsaken on earth. But their Father Who is in heaven watched over them; He inspired the four daughters with the desire of embracing the religious state, and three of them entered the Ursulines; one at Quebec, one at Boston, and one at Three Rivers. The fourth made her profession among the Visitandines of George-town; their brother Samuel was re-

ceived into the Society of Jesus.

Father Virgil Barber, after filling several posts in Pennsylvania and Maryland, became professor of Hebrew in Georgetown College, and died there March 27, 1847, at the age of sixty-five. Sister Barber long resided at Kaskaskia, Illinois, where she founded a monastery of the Visitation.

monastery of the Visitation.

The grace of conversion extended also to other members of the family, and a nephew and pupil of Father Virgil Barber, William Tyler, born at Derby, Vc., in 1804, became in 1844 first Catholic Bishop of Hartford, and died in his diocese in 1849.

This is not the only example which

This is not the only example which the United States presents of married persons, who, on embracing Catholicity, have carried the sacrifice to its utmost limits, and asked as a signal favor to devote themselves to the religious state. Father John Austin Hall, a Dominicar and apostle of Ohio from 1822 to 1828 was an English officer of many years standing, who, touched by the spe offered by religion in Italy and France. adjured heresy and converted his family and his sister. The latter and his wife entered a community of English Augustinian Nuns in Belgium, while Father Hall assumed the habit of St. Dominic; and this zealous missionary, dying at Canton, Ohio, in 1828, left to the United States the reputation of the most eminent virtues,-The Pilot.

#### THE HUMANITARIANISM OF CHRISTIANITY.

port the notion of Dr. Eliot's "New Religion," one notes with recurring frequency the suggestion that all religions come from a common stock and that the best known have borrowed each other what most answered the

desired purpose.
One supporter alleges that Christianity borrowed many of its institutions from Buddhism, such as conventual establishments and many minor rites. Hereanent it is interesting to turn to the article contributed by Dr. Charles F. Aiken, of the Catholic University of America, to the pages of the Catholic

Encyclopedia. The doctor points out that there are certain resemblances which at first sight appear striking, and that the Buddhistic orders of monks and nuns offer a certain similarity. There is, however, he de-clares, no ground for supposing that such institutions were the models for those of the early Christian inasmuch as REMARKABLE FAMILY OF CONVERTS all nations in all ages possessed institutions in which the ascetical virtues were practised.

There is nothing, he adds, in Budd-hist records that would show that the influence of the Buddhist tradition gregationalist minister in New England, had baptized in his sect Miss Allen daughter of the celebrated American Christian faith. Even Egypt and Greece general, Ethan Allen, says a writer in the Catholic Sun of Syracuse. The architecture of having ever neard of or

practised Buddhism.

The fundamental tenets of Buddhism, says the doctor, are marked by grave defects that not only betray inadequacy to become a religion of enlightened humanity, but also bring into bold relief its inferiority to the religion of Jesus Christ.

It postulates transmigration of the soul, for example, and it fails to recognize man's dependence on a supreme

By ignoring God, and by making salvation rest solely on personal effort—the key to the "New Religion"—Buddha instituted for the Brahmin religion a cold and colorless system of philosophy.
It practically lacks conscience and

is devoid of the motive of love that springs from the sense of dependence on a personal all-loving God. It is in reality, when considered in the last analysis, a philosophy of selfish utili-tarianism. There is no sense of duty,

as in the religion of Christ.

A fatal defect of Buddhism is likewise its false pessimism. According to its teachings, life must be reduced to one of dull indifference in all that tends to uplift mankind, the fundamental theory really seeming to this: life is the worst of all evils, let us sleep through it, so as to see as little of its worthlessness as possible. It had forms of charity, but unlike the Chris-

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tian form, its charity do not extend to the prolonged nursing of unfortunates stricken with contagion and incurable diseases, to the protection of foundlings, to the bringing up of orphans, to the rescue of fallen women, to the care of the aged and insane. Asylums and hospitals in this sense are unknown to Buddhism. The conservation of religious men and women to the lifelong ser-vice of afflicted humanity is foreign to dreamy Buddhist monasticism.

Again the wonderful efficacy displayed by the religion of Christ in purifying the morals of pagan Europe has no parallel in Buddhist annals. Wherever he religion of Buddha has prevailed, it has proved singularly inefficient to lift society to a high state of morality. It has not weaned the people of Tibet from the custom of abandoning the aged, not the Chinese from the practice of infanti-

raise woman from her state of degradation in Oriental lands.

ity in holding out to struggling humanity an end utterly unselfish. Far, how-ever, from being au unselfish end, the olic religion. When the priests are bad, Buddhist Nirvana is based wholly on the motive of self-love. It thus stands on a act without its authority and usurp a Buddhist Nirvana is based wholly on the motive of self-love. It thus stands on a much lower level than the Christian ideal, which being primarily and essentially a union of friendship with God in heaven, appeals to motives of disinterested as well as interested love.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

In revolt against the Church, when they are its authority and usurp a great its enemies and it is not responsible for their misdeeds. One might as well say that the Reformation was the work of the Church and had the Church's approval, because its author was a Cath-

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TORONTO revolt against it;

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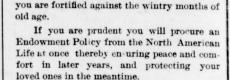
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