

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

WASTE NOT

If you've any task to do, Let me whisper, friend, to you, Do it!

TIME

In the philosophic reckoning of time there is no time like the present. Time makes life, and life itself passes before our eyes like a vast panorama in ages that are reckoned by years, and years that are divided into months, weeks, days, hours, minutes, and last but not least, seconds.

tions. He forgets today's seed will be tomorrow's ashes.

In the natural course of events, the present acts are a sequence of the past. Accordingly, as we lived yesterday we will live today, and we may rest assured that in all probability the future will conform to what has passed.

With the thought in mind that we are building an immortal home, let the good deeds build a firm foundation, and a life well spent will adorn it with a beauty everlasting.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

"JOE"

There were plans of mischief brewing. I saw, but gave no sign. For I wanted to test the mettle Of this little knight of mine.

He stood and thought for a moment. I read his heart like a book. For the battle that he was fighting Was told in his earnest look.

IF I WERE YOU

I wouldn't be ashamed to do right anywhere. I would not do anything that I would not be willing for everybody to know.

LYING

Lying is a sin against society and an offence against God. It attacks the very foundations of society. Men can live together and make progress only so long as they can trust one another.

Civilization is based on mutual dependence and mutual confidence is unthinkable. The most flagrant violators of this trust—the criminal class—society puts behind bars.

YOUTH AND THE AGED

Youth—be tender with age. Life disappoints all of us. The old have known, probably, loss and worse than loss, bitter disillusionment. Today their sight is dim, their hearing dull, their movements are slow and feeble.

Last of the Barons, by Bulwer Lytton. A lad, tender, gentle, full of pity for an old man has given him help, help sorely needed.

PRAYER

Prayer can obtain everything; it can open the windows of Heaven, and shut the gates of hell; it can put a holy constraint upon God, and detain an angel till he leave a blessing; it can open the treasurers of rain, and soften the iron ribs of rocks till they melt into tears and a flowing river; prayer can unclasp the girdles of the North, saying to a mountain of ice, "Be thou removed hence and cast into the bottom of the sea;" it can arrest the sun in the midst of his course, and send the swift-winged winds upon our errand; and all these strange things and secret decrees and unrevealed transactions, which are above the clouds, and far beyond the regions of the stars, shall combine in ministry and advantages for the praying man.

It is better to say one's morning prayers today than to resolve to become a saint next week. Today is here, and next week is nowhere, this day is mine; I know not if I shall have so much as one other.

CHEER UP

Cheer up! This world is not treated you so badly, asking it all in all, and your prospects are pretty good for the next one! Cheer up! Don't darken the sunshine with your woe begone countenance.

God still loves you, otherwise He would not be so good to you. You must admit it: He really has been good to you.

Now all these are special graces of God. How often you were prevented from committing some great sin by something, you know not what! This is a clear proof that a loving Father is watching over you.

THE GERMAN ELECTION

PROTESTANTS USE FAMILIAR TACTICS AGAINST CATHOLIC CANDIDATES

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine (Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C.) Conjecture of every sort, accompanied by astonishment in some quarters, has followed the election of Marshal Hindenburg as President of Germany.

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There is a particular significance in the raising of the religious issue because there was no such issue in the case of the first German President, Ebert. That leader's relation to the Catholic Church is generally not understood.

Ebert, however, was a Socialist, and since most of the German Socialists are little more than atheists, Catholicism and Protestantism made little political difference in his election.

But when Hindenburg was opposed by the Catholic Marx for the succession to the Presidency, the old religious issue was immediately dragged forth. It certainly had considerable share in deciding the election. Some idea of the vigor with which this issue was fought may be gained from the expressions of the leaders and the press.

honor of all the Protestants demands unconditional combat against an Ultramontane (Catholic) President."

Falsification and misuse of Papal letters, even, were not too much for the foes of the Church. In spots Marx was labelled a "servant of the priests" and it was declared that it was the intention of Rome and the Pope to make Germany a vassal State.

Dr. Adolf von Harnack, the Berlin University professor who is the best writer in Germany on dogmatic history, also wrote a compelling "Appeal to the Protestant Germans" in which he concluded that Dr. Marx should be chosen to head the nation.

Whoever has these qualities," he continued, "must be elected. Marx exemplifies them; Hindenburg, whom we all view with reverence, does not have them.

It is not too much to say that these religious agitations brought about the election of the aged Hindenburg, who, in truth, is beloved of Catholics and Protestants alike but who because of his age and military career seemed not the equal of Marx for the office.

As a matter of fact, the Protestant sections gave Hindenburg his winning votes. Saxony, Wurttemberg, Baden and the Protestant districts of East Prussia, Liegnitz, Thuringia, Pommern, gave him the majority of their ballots.

Out of it all came another affirmation of the strength of the Center party, the huge popularity of the Catholic Marx, and the fine public spirit of the Catholics, who willingly acknowledge Hindenburg as President. This spirit is exemplified in Dr. Marx's warm letter of felicitation to Hindenburg, in which he declared his intention to work with the new President for the peace of the world and the welfare of the German nation.

A PROTESTANT POET HONORS OUR LADY

Cologne.—A Protestant German baron, Ernst von der Planitz, who incidentally was born in America, has recently made himself famous in the annals of Catholic literature by writing a volume of poems entitled "The Life of Mary: The Book of Our Lady, the Mother of God."

Not content with writing the book, Baron von der Planitz has printed and bound it himself, as an additional act of piety. There is no similar record in German literature. A touching little story attaches to this remarkable feat.

One day the little boy, who could speak no German, went into the Cologne cathedral while a solemn Catholic service was in progress. It made such an impression on him that he never forgot it. The piety of the nuns at Wurttemberg increased his respect for the Catholic religion. His imagination was particularly caught by the veneration of the Blessed Virgin, the beauty of the Mary altar and the special services in May, when innumerable candles, flowers and incense added to the loveliness of the altar.

Later the youth was sent to Paris to study philosophy at the Sorbonne, in the College de France. Here he increased his knowledge and admiration of Catholic life and culture.

Years passed, and the young baron became famed as a writer. Among his works were some which had the piety of Catholics and the charity of nuns in peace and war as their theme.

Then, a grown man with the flush of success upon him, he recalled the pious work he had made in the shadow of Notre Dame. He took up the task of love, and finally completed the book of poems to Our Lady. That the full promise might be fulfilled he printed and bound it with his own hands.

Many German poets have written in honor of the Blessed Virgin. But none, say many of the critics, has given to German Catholics a volume so exquisite as Ernst von der Planitz's "Life of Mary."

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