

CARDINAL NEWMAN'S DAILY LIFE

Cardinal Newman rises at half past four every morning. He spends till seven in his devotion. As seven he says Mass in his private chapel, nobody being allowed to be present except intimate friends or occasionally a few specially honored guests. At eight he break-fasts, usually off a plate of cold meat with a cup of coffee. During breakfast he reads a considerable portion of his correspondence. This correspondence comes from all parts of the world, is of a very heterogeneous character, is filled with inquiries of all kinds of imaginable subjects, and is addressed with all forms of superscription, from Mr. "Newman" to "His Highness the Cardinal." The Cardinal complains very naturally that he has to waste nearly four hours every day in answering letters the huge majority of them from persons he does not know, and on subjects about which he does not care. After breakfast he returns to his room, and there, in accordance with the rule of the order of Oratorians, he makes his own bed and arranges his room. At one o'clock he takes a light lunch, usually a bowl of soup, with a little bread, and a single glass of some light wine. At half past two or three he goes out for exercise, sometimes taking the way to the school-ground where he watches with interest a game of cricket or football. At other times he goes into Birmingham, and there may be seen poring over an old bookstall and securing perhaps some valuable edition. He usually walks, but occasionally drives in the neat little brougham that was presented to him by friends when he was raised to the dignity of cardinal. At half-past five o'clock there are prayers and meditations, then dinner. After this short recreation, the rest of the evening is spent in study or work until about nine o'clock, when he retires. It is a life led with mathematical regularity every day for years. That accounts for his robust health at 86. The cardinal retains many of the tastes as well as the exquisite simplicity of youth. He is very fond of sweets.

THE OLD BRIDGE OF AYR.

An act of unpardonable vandalism is going to be committed, if, as report says, the old bridge of Ayr, is to be demolished. If when Burns wrote on the bridge of Ayr, he could talk of the "poor narrow footpath of a street, where two wheelbarrows tremble when they meet," it is not surprising that stones are now dropping from their places and that the old bridge, considered unsafe for traffic. But for close on 650 years it has done its work and that surely is long enough to have earned the repose not of annihilation but of an honored national monument. That "conceited gowk," the new bridge is still capable of carrying all who wish to cross the Ayr, and it is difficult to understand what imperative reason there can be for destroying the "brig of ancient Pictish race, the vera wrinkles Gothic in his face." And besides its commemoration by the Ayrshire poet the bridge has a romantic interest of its own having, like the pyramid of Rhodopis been built at the sole expense of a single lady though tradition variously describes her motives.

A POSTAL CURIOSITY.

The postal museum in Berlin was recently enriched by a letter cover, sent as a curiosity by Herr von Dargum, who had found it among the papers left by his great-grandfather, Lieutenant Colonel von Pressentien, deceased in 1789 at Sappernberg, Mecklenburg. The letter it had contained was dated from Philadelphia, and bore the postmark of that city, together with those of London, Calais, Brussels, the Hague, Amsterdam and Hamburg, the respective post dues being marked in each instance, thereby furnishing a chance of comparing the then rates of postage with those of the present day.

Its weight, judging from the size of the cover, cannot have exceeded that of a modern, "single" letter, for which the recipient paid the modest sum of five thalers 12schillinge, equal to 18 marks 60 pfennige German money present value, or \$4.65 United States currency.—American Register.

LAVAL UNIVERSITY MONTREAL

The authorities of Laval University at Montreal, are about asking for plans for their new building which they are to erect on the corner of Sherbrooke and St. Denis streets. The building when finished is expected to cost \$500,000, and consequently application will be made to foreign as well as Canadian architects, who will be invited to enter into the competition, for which handsome first and second prizes will be given. Six months' time are to be given to prepare these plans, which will be submitted to a jury of ecclesiastics and laymen. Plans and descriptions of the ground on which

the building is to be erected are being prepared for circulation among the architects, the authorities of Laval have been busy during the last two months preparing a programme which will meet every requirement.

HOW TO HERMETICALLY SEAL BOTTLES.

A German writer recommends the use of paraffine in place of corks or other stoppages for hermetically sealing bottles containing liquids which have a tendency to ferment or otherwise deteriorate by coming in contact with the air. This, he says is particularly applicable to saccharine juices of all kinds. These are poured while hot into perfectly dry bottles, which are filled nearly to the lip and then allowed to stand until cold during which time all air bubbles will rise to the surface, finally a small quantity of paraffine is poured over the top which forms a firm solid coat about the tenth of an inch thick. Such a paraffine stopper has the advantage of being easily removed when the contents of the bottle are required for use; and the paraffine can be used again.

HIS DADDY BUILT TOO WISELY.

It seems strange, but it is true, that a Peer is a bankrupt to-day because there is no possible way of making it absolutely certain that he will not some day become a Catholic. Lord Headley explained to the official receiver that the chief cause of his insolvency was the existence of a provision in his father's will that if he became a Roman Catholic his interest in the properties should determine. But for this clause he would have been able to raise sufficient money to pay every creditor, and place himself in a comfortable position. He has not the slightest intention of becoming a Roman Catholic. He first became aware of the existence of the clause in 1882 or 1883. But for that careful provision of the Protestant parent, Lord Headley would have been able to have tided over his difficulties. But with it the Jews were a vain resource. What security could they have that the borrower would not some day fall a victim to the Jesuits, and so forfeit his estates? It seems that there is no sort of Protestant vaccination warranted to guard against the infection of Catholicity—and so Lord Headley is a bankrupt.

HOMELY PRINCIPLES.

Foolish tongues talk by the dozen. He who will stop every man's mouth must have a deal of meal.

He who throws away his estate with his hands, goes afterwards to pick it up again on his feet.

Suppers kill more than the greatest doctors ever cured.

A little kitchen makes a large house. If you could make a pudding by thinking of the batter, it would be easy getting dinner.

There are folks who would hold a sieve under a pump and expect to carry away the water.

Scarceness of victual will keep. There's no need to be hasty with the cooking.

A cheerful wife is the best sauce for chops, and the very potatoes take a pleasure in sending up their grateful steam before her.

Vinegar is a good thing in its way, but a man does not care about it with every meal.

Fine feathers make fine birds, but often very hungry ones.

It is a very good thing for a woman to love reading, but a husband likes more than a three volume novel for his dinner.

A woman's best fortes are those that make home tidy and happy, all this is often done without pianofortes at all.

A satirical man is like a file; he rubs the roughness off other people, but gets no smoother himself.

THE PARENT'S EXAMPLE

No matter what parents may say to their children it does not effect them like example. The home of a family is without a head, if the father does not like the walls of his house. There should be more to entertain a father at home than abroad, among associates who only darken the doorway of their houses at meal and bed time. Such homes only require a bundle of tooth-picks to change them into boarding-houses. Parents must lead in the way, then their children will follow them. Young people learn practically or not at all. There is scarcely one pursuit in life, but what is explained over and over again, in books, and even in our daily papers, yet who can pick up any one of them without practical knowledge, acquired only at the hands of an instructor. What do children know of the world? They know no more than the babe that puts the gilded toy in its mouth, and then cries because it does not taste like it looks. Parents need recreation. Indeed they do, we say, and ought to have it. It is necessary to take this relaxation

outside of the family! We say no. There may, indeed, be times when the father is forced by business to absent himself for days at a stretch, from home, but this does not continue always. There is one evil which is, at times a necessity, gives birth to, namely, the habit of going and remaining from home when possible. This evil on the part of father or mother can never be estimated. Such parents are strangers in their own homes. Their children are worse off than orphans. Orphans have the sympathy of the world but the children of gad-about parents are always under the ban of aspersions. Nobody likes them, and it is not the fault of the children, but that of the parents. They will be like to their parents, when they arrive at an age to take part in the world about them. What will be the training of the grand-children of such parents? They will follow in the same rut, and those after them, and those after them—?

We are sure of one thing, and it is this: No Catholic parents want such a progeny to represent them. There is just one way to prevent this calamity. Children must be taught practically the value of home and its influence. This can be only done by parents nourishing with themselves a love for home and the company of their children. Parents need recreation, recreation more pleasant than that which is spent with the family? If the parents desire a walk, what will not their children give in love and affection for permission to accompany them! At least, parents take them out with you sometimes. A recreation with your children will richly repay both parents and children.

Parents consider the subject of conversation before children. 'It is never noticed, no matter what is said.' This is what parents say. They know better, too. Children can over every word. Backbiting, tale bearing, calumny, slander and all sins of the tongue are learned at home, and parents are the instructors. Do parents prevent children from telling at home what they hear on the street or at school? The dinner and supper are generally made entertaining for comments on the real or supposed scandals of the neighborhood. The father and mother kindly seek the very latest from their own children; and, then, why of course follows an infallible judgement. The children have pleased their parents, and they will do it again. As such a family handles the fault of others, so it in turn is handled unmercifully by others. The world says families of this kind reap the tares sown by them.

How is it to be avoided? Parents do not talk about your neighbors then, you can prevent your children. This is the only way to crush this vice. Now about church going. Parents may talk themselves hoarse, but it will avail nothing unless the example be set. The parents who are in their places, in the Church, during Holy Mass on Sundays and holy day of obligation do not have much trouble in bringing their children with them. There are other devotions which are not of obligation, and these, too, parents should attend when possible. Such are the devotions during Lent, month of May Octave of Corpus Christi and others. It is not a sin to remain away from them and this satisfies some parents. These treat God like they would a task master, hence do not want to give Him too much. They are always bordering on sin and death of their souls. They think even a low Mass too long, for their own benefit, as well as that of the congregation. These are the people also, who find fault with every act of their priest. Nothing can satisfy them and the cause of dissatisfaction is within themselves. They make their children liberal Catholics. We knew a father who thought it impossible to make a living and serve God. He died as he lived. This is the end of such parents, and the children of them follow in their tracks.

Parents who do not attend the services of the Church, may force the attendance of their children while they are young, but it will end with their authority which does not last long, unless children are taught obedience with the fear and love of God. Example, dear parents of the little ones whom God has given to you, alone tells and exerts an influence. It may be true yet it is true, 'Example thunders, while words only whisper.' When parents have time and Holy Mass is offered during week days where they live, they should make it a point to assist at it. Parents, always be present with your families at Holy Mass and at other public exercises of the Church when possible. Seek first the Kingdom of God and all things else shall be added thereunto. S. S. M.

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