

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

An Armenian Hero of the Long Ago. BY FATHER CHERREHEART. Likely all our young folks have heard during the past few months frequent talks on the subject of Armenia and the Armenians; and while they may not have any very definite knowledge as to the geographical limits of the country or the history of its inhabitants, they do know that Armenia is in Asia, and that its people have recently been the victims of frightful massacres at the hands of the treacherous and blood-thirsty Turks.

The boys of our day are not likely to be called on for such manifestations of courage as was St. Pancratius. No persecuting proconsul will ever threaten them with death unless they deny their faith; but there are other and more insidious dangers to which they are exposed, and which it requires genuine courage to withstand.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Catholic Columbian. Now, in the holidays, when many temptations to drink will be spread before young men, they may remember from this story the price that was paid to redeem one drunkard from his sin: How Arthur Work. When Arthur Robertson grew up and looked out on life for a career to follow, he chose the path of sacrifice that is trodden by the priest.

half-maddened by anger and by drink, seemed scarcely to recognize him. "We've nothing to do with you, sir, and we don't want to harm you," said one of the more sober of the party which had drifted through the bar-room door.

For these; for such as these, Christ lived and Christ died! "In the name of God," he cried, "I entreat, I call upon you one and all to listen to what I have to say."

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quiet hour to kneel and pray beside a humble, grass grown grave—the grave of the priest whose death was his rescue from the power of sin.

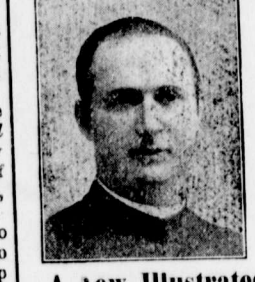
A DISPUTED TEXT.

When criticising the teachings and practices of the Church on the subject of the honor and veneration due the Mother of God non-Catholics frequently seek to justify their position by quoting the words addressed to Mary by Jesus at the marriage in Cana. Right Rev. Mr. de Harlez, of the University of Louvain, recently wrote an explanation of the text, Quid mihi et tibi, which was published in the Ave Maria. The distinguished Monsignor's article is strengthened by information recently received from the East, and upon which he writes as follows:

The once-a-week religion of the sects is thus happily hit off by the sketch: Pious lady, on prayer intent, addressing the old sexton of a lovely Gothic church: "Do people ever enter the church on weekdays to pray?" Sexton, interrupting his sweeping: "They do, mum. Only last week I ketcht two of 'em at it!"

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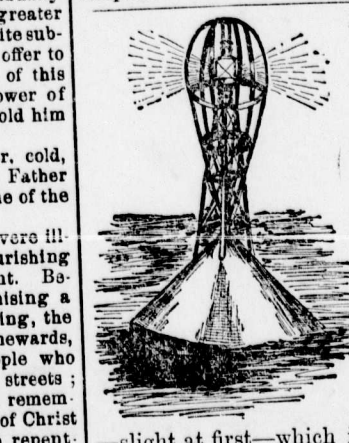
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS. SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Improvements at Port Colborne," will be received at this office until 10 o'clock on Friday, the 26th day of January, 1900, for the works of improvement at the upper entrance to the Welland Canal.

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A Danger Signal.

Just as the lighthouse is a signal of danger to sailors, and the red light to railway men, so has nature equipped individuals with danger signals of one kind or another when their physical condition is not quite right. It may simply be a tired feeling, a slight cold, weakness of the muscles, fickle appetite or some other sign—slight at first—which indicates that your condition is not a healthy one.

Mr. John Siddons, London, Ont., says: "I can speak most favorably of the virtue of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They prove invaluable in strengthening and toning up the system when debilitated. Having used them for some time past I can speak most favorably of their beneficial results. As an invigorator of the constitution they are all that they claim to be."

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Although only fourteen years of age, Pancratius displayed all the ardor and courage of a full-grown man. He became noted for the zeal he manifested for the true faith: a zeal that he did not or could not always suppress even in the presence of pagans. One day, when he was dilating upon the beauty of Christianity, he was arrested by some pagan bystanders and led before the Proconsul Turpilus.

Even then they were rather a rough lot whom he called his people; there was work to be done among them which appealed to Father Robertson's heart, yet he longed to do more for them. He began to have some conception of that "greater love," which can lay down life for friends; he often felt that if the choice were his to die for the saving of these sinful souls, he would accept it thankfully.

One winter evening, a clear, cold, starlit evening of December, Father Robertson had a sick call to one of the poorest streets of the town. It was not a case of very severe illness; rather the need of nourishing food than of medical treatment. Bestowing a little help and promising a visit early on the next morning, the young priest started homewards, thinking much of the people who lived in those close, crowded streets; thinking of their souls, and remembering how the great mission of Christ was the calling of sinners to repentance.

Suddenly the door of a small saloon he was passing, swung open, and two men evidently in fierce dispute—came out, bringing a penetrating smell of spirits into the cold air. Recognizing him in such a condition and in such company, a look of sorrow and pity flashed across the man's face, as he swept over the face of the priest, as he laid his hand on the man's arm as though to draw him away. A "row" were now crowding out, and a "row" seemed imminent, the majority taking sides against Johnson and muttering against the priest, who did not relax his grasp. "Come away from here, come home with me," he urged; but Johnson,

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