DECEMBER 19, 1914

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

CHRERFULNESS

Men are often described as "chuck ling " to themselves. The operation is a healthy and holy one and should be transplanted from fiction to real life. A man makes a fool of himself so often that if he is not in the habit of chuckling to himself he is lost. Take yourself, too seriously, and what a score of tormente you are pre what a score of forments you are pre-paring for yourself! You might just as well take the eyelids from your eyes or cover your feet with sensitive excresences and walk into the car crush after work is over. Do you prefer to wince and weep, or emit a chuckle? Cultivate the latter and you will also, by being in a pleasant frame of mind e cultivating good health. There i one class of people who make a science of chuckling to themselves themselves. They are the saints. St. Francis de Sales said once that he felt like tak ing his heart in his hands and throw ing it at some one. He did not "Many bees in many days make a little honey. I won't throw away my hive of patience." There you have it. A chuckle is not a cackle or a sneer that runs through with icicles. A chuckle is a good-natured, unctuous thing, with all the oil and all the gold of a laugh, but with none a laugh's noise. It is humorou humility, patience put to music. I is honey hived by experience and sweetened by charity, and when you part your lips to chuckle to yourself, you show the world the golden honey in the white comb.-America.

LISTEN TO SERMONS

Sermons are good for the best of us-the right sort of discourses, listened to with the right sort of dispositions. There is a great deal to be hoped for from the young man who appreciates the value of sound, well meant counsel, and who will listen respectfully to the voice of friendly admonition. He realizes that the lessons which may be learned from the experiences of those who have preceded him along the thoroughfare that connects adoles. cence and maturity, are spt to be useful. He knows this, because he is intelligent and observant. He in stinctively turns to whatever prom ises to afford a landmark on this momentous journey, which is made only once in life.

The greatest mariner that sails the mighty deep, is the most diligent students of the charts that mark the currents and the shoals. The longer his service in traversing the mysterious highways of the sea, the keener grows his trust in what other men have taught concerning the exist-ence of hidden reefs and treacherous tides, that lie ever in wait to shipwreck the unwary and the fool-ish. This quality that seeks to know dangers and how to avoid them, is what constitutes a good navigator.

And so it is with the class of Cath olic young men who listen attentively to sermons for the assistance these may afford in steering a straight and safe course on that inevitable voyage which must land us eventually either triumphant at the last great hoped for port, or leave our poor aten moral castaways on the shores of eternity.

CONDENSED WISDOM

Get into a business you like; devote yourself to it. Be honest in everything. Employ caution; think out a thing well before you enter upon it. Sleep eight hours every night. Do everything that means keeping in good health. School yourself not to worry; worry kills,

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS ST. ANTHONY'S BREAD

An aged Sister sat at her office-table, a big book of accounts before her, and she was casting a sad look at her totals ; the expenditure was a bigger item than the income : how was she to meet the deficit ? "Mother," called out a Sister, coming in excitedly, "there is no bread for to.daw".

coming in excitedly, "there is no bread for to-day." The Superioress buried her face in her hands. The matter was very serious. There were ten nuns and forty children in the institution. How could she feed them that day? "God will movide for us re

God will provide for us, my aghter," she answered, calmly. daughter," "Yes, Mother, but in the m time whatever shall we do?"

"Pray, pray. When has Provi-dence deserted us ?"

in thy flight : Make me a child again, just for to dence deserted us ?" "If you depend on Providence alone, I am afraid, Mother, we shall have to do without bread to-day. I don't mind for myself; but the little night. In what has not at some time

choed the haunting refrain of that ones ?' sweet old song, bringing with it, may Poor Sister Renault ! It was inbe, the half forgotten accents of a voice long hushed and turning on deed a difficult task to be in charge of food in a bouse. She knew it and consequently she kept on grumblthe light again to the tear dimmed pictures that have hung so long on

the walls of the past. And as the wizard, Memory, renew the scenes of the long ago, how we long "for touch of a vanished hand and the honor of St. Authony and promise a Mass," said the Superioress; you will see we will have bread before ound of a voice that is still." reakfas

Though the frosts of many winters have fallen upon our heads and Time's relentless fingers have graven They had hardly finished their prayer when they heard a knock at the door. Imagine the astonishment of Sister Renault when she found Times releases ingers have graven their records upon our faces, the burden of the years falls away "as a glance is backward cast o'er the well-remembered forms that lie in the silence of the past." In the centwo cartloads of bread outside. Was it possible that St. Anthony could have sent the bread so soon ?

A gentleman came up to them. "Sisters," he began, "my men by great oversight have spoilt two ter of every picture, the light of every scene, there stands forth one face and one form, that of "Mother." ensful of bread this morning; they forgot to put salt in it. I should be

The source of every flood, the center of all the love and consolation and blessing of childhood, the inspiration glad if you will accept it in charity. But you must excuseof the vigorous years of hopeful youth and of manhood's time of "No excuses, monsieur," replied the Superioress. "It is St. Anthony chievement, the tender memory of that made you think of us. Then she related her plight, her confidence life's autumn years, the love of mother s born earliest, lives longest and dies

and prayer. Monsieur Latour, the richest baker It may be that we can thank God in the town, half smiling and half in that no word of ours ever added to real earnest. said :

her burdens caused her a heartacher if so, even God Himself could give no 'Rev. Mother, I know by experience St. athony's great power. When 'yr: are in want of bread let me know and I will be glad to help greater consolation to declining years. But if remorse brings back the record of cruel word or unloving act only you ; for if St. Anthony makes me spoil two ovensfull of bread each God's forgivenness can wipe it out. Though far may be separated the

urer living.

If her presence still adds its light

o our lives let us not keep back the

time I will be ruined." "Do not be afraid," the Superioress assured him. "St. Anthony be-fore everything else is a good father to all those who confide in him."-Sunday Companion.

CONFESSING FAULTS

It takes a brave person to confess himself in the wrong, but one who does make such a confession has taken the first step toward remeding the fault. An old proverb says, "Open confession is good for the soul." We have read of a girl who had the unfortunate habit of using flowers to place upon her tomb, but give thom into her living hands that sharp and cutting language. Her words often sounded much worse han she intended, and her unruly ongue was continually getting her nto trouble. At last she determined o confess to God in prayer every

to confess to God in prayer every night the unkind words she uttered during the day. Years afterward, when she had overcome the habit and her language had become kind and considerate, she told of the ex-periment and said: "I felt so THE BOY'S READING A little incident that serves to an investment that serves to point out a moral happened the other day in this city. Three young men who were arrested for burglary de-clared that the cause of their downperiment and said: "I felt so ashamed as I repeated such words before God that all day long I tried fall was the reading of dime novels to guard against having to confess the next night. I grew to hate the I learned." said one of them. to find the combinations of old fash sin, and then, of course, I stopped it.

HE CATHOLIC RECORD

an act of faith ? It is the best, the fairest of the gifts of Heaven. It is your entrance into the supernatural world, the link that lifts you into the things, that they will not see the harm that they themselves have noticed, that they are too innocent to be defiled by what they themselves bosom of Him Who is supremely the True, the Good and the Beautiful." Then he asks: "Tell me how you treat your act of faith, what do you cannot read without a blush. Too much confidence in children in the matter of their reading or any other matter is fatal. Parents should not matter is fatal. Parents should not let them have the sensational news-paper on the plea that they will look only at the funny pictures. Youth-ful curiosity is strong. The parents will never know, for the child will not tell the harm they have caused his treat your act of faith, what do you do to nurture it into brighter vigor, how you translate it into your daily living, how you defend it against peril, how you honor and glorify it before men and angels—and I will tell you to what degree you may claim as your well won down the

claim as your well won dowry the title of the typical Catholic, the valorous knight of God's Church." MOTHER

soul by exposing him to danger. But the harm is done, nevertheless, and they are to blame for it. How to avoid it ? By watch-fulness. Parents try to keep a fulness. Parents try to keep a boy from evil companions; they are horrified if he picks up with the boy that has the reputation of being a rowdy. They should be as careful in regard to the books that he makes his companions. They shou'd read his book and pass on it Backward, turn backward, O, Time

before it gets into his hands. In a word they should make sure that the book he is reading is all right. It is a care, trying though it should be at times, that will repay both the par-ents and the boy.—Boston Pilot.

> CATHOLICISM NOT A SUPERSTITION

The late Stanley Matthews jurist of much power-Senator from Ohio and an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, in 1869, while one of the counsel for de endants in the case of John D. Minor against the Board of Educa-tion of Cincinnati, Ohio,-case about the Bible in the Public schools made use of these words in his ad-

dress to the court: "I will say that from the study which I have made, as time and op-portunity have been given me, of the doctrinal basis of the Catholic faith, I am proud to say that it is not an ignorant superstition, but a scheme of well constructed logic, which he is a bold man who says he can easily

answer. Give them one proposition de to them one single premise and the whole of their faith follows most legitimately and logically, and that is the fundamental doctrine, the loctrine of what the Church is, what it was intended to be, by Whom it was founded, by Whom it has been perpetuated, being the casket which contains, to-day, shining as brightly as before the ages, the ever living actually present body of God teach scenes of early years, though our eyes may first have opened upon the ing and training men for life here and life hereafter." sun of the south or the snows of the

orth, we have in common the love of home and mother. If she has gone before, and is watching and waiting our coming, let us place tenderly where her dear dust lies the gar-It is interesting to note that the Rev. Paul Matthews of Faribault who has been named Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New Jersey is a son of the Stanley Matthews referred lands of our loving memories, dedi-cating to her the white flower of to in the foregoing .- St. Paul Bulle-

THE MASS BY A "COMMON SOLDIER

he tender grace of loving deeds may brighten life's afterglow as the shadows of evening fall.—The Cas-Of the stories coming to us from the battle fields of Belgium few are more interesting than that which a doctor tells of the whole of a certain ambulance corps attending a Mass said by-whom, do you suppose? Why, by one of the hospital bearers, a common soldier assigned to do the rough work of a hospital orderly, but a priest, nevertheless — since this is the use France finds for her priests. The doctor who tells the story says : The officiating soldier priest en-tered, and what struck me at first how were the red trousers below the chasioned safes by reading a novel about a detective, and after I prac-tised a while I found it easy." uble and the alb. But we were in the presence of the enemy, and it was not the time for taking off your uni-



THE ROSARY WILL BRING PEACE

"The Rosary has been called the unlettered man's prayer.book: But it is more than that," says the Pilot.

"It is a prayer book for all from Pope to peasant. Even the greatest intellects in the Church have told their beads with all the loving simplicity of the child who knows no other books but this one of Our Lady herself. Even the most eloquent book of prayers is gladly laid aside to take up the old Rosary that seems like part of one's soul."

Does not the Rosary bring home to each and every one of us the les-sons of Jesus' life, says the Irish Messenger. In it, as we repeat with quiet persistence the angel's salutation to Our Mother, our minds are brought through all the scenes of His

From the Crib His infant voice gently tells us that to be poor and lespised of men is not the misfortune that the world would fain proclaim it to be. While our minds are fixed upon these joyful mysteries we hear Him saying, "Learn of Me because I am meek and humble of heart." From Nazareth He teaches us His boyhood's lesson of gentle and unquestioning obedience to the guid-ance of those whom God has placed over us-the truest source of peace in a world that chafes at every res traint. In the sorrowful mysteries He teaches us that midst pain of body and desolation of spirit peace can still hold sway in the soul, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Then, as the beads of the glorious mysteries slip between our fingers, we realize that, in the words of St. Paul, "The sufferings of this time are not worthy to be com pared with the glory to come, that shall be revealed in us." (Rom. viii,

Church had nothing to do. No wonder, then, that the Rosary,

ly did not come from the organ. It the wine of His consolations. This ly did not come from the organ. It was cannon on all sides of us. We ran to the doors, and the last thing I saw was our soldier-priest giving us a hasty blessing, and then running to the sacristy to put off his sacer-dotal vestments and become a soldier once more. Shall we doubt that out of the soldiers in the French army some great good may come? He would be the bitterest pessimist who would fail to see in such incidents as that

soldiers in the the sevent the solution of the sevent to the solution of the solution of the sevent to the solution of the sol thee, and when thou wakest talk with them." (Prov. vi, 21).

> MSGR. BENSON'S LAST SERMON

In a sermon preached a few days before his death, Right Rev. Msgr. Benson took for his text the parable of the leaven which a woman placed in three measures of meal. Enlarging somewhat on the subject he declared that Catholics have to answer two charges! First, that the Church is too worldly and that our

divine Lord has failed; second, that the Catholic Church is at least as guilty of the crimes that stain the pages of history as any other religion could ossibly be.

Megr. Benson went into deep deail in his elucidation of the charges and proved conclusively to his great

congregation that they are utterly groundless. And is it not so? Read the history of the Church from the time of its foundation by our divine Lord. Where has it failed to do what our Redeemer ordered it to do? The Church has carried on an educational system, entirely without outside support, which is the admiration of the entire would; she has cared for the sick, the destitute, the orphan she has preached the gospel and gone into the highways and byways baptising and bringing into the fold of Christ those who were without knowledge of the true God. The Church is not too worldly. The Church is truly divine. The disciples were not instructed to take themselves entirely away from the

world. The apostles, in order to carry on the work given into their had to mix with all kinds of care people, just as do we to day. History is blackened with a good many charges against the Church

Catholic parents who patronize non Catholic halls of learning, will receive a cruel jolt once they read the above indictment of their pet inwhich are not true. The Inquisition is a specimen, and with that the stitutions. For, in all non-Catholic colleges are slang-experts to be found; young boys and girls, in

our daily bread." The natural father loves to have his children express their wants because He knows they will then, better appreciate His grant-ing their wishes. It is even so with our Heavenly Father. He knows our wants, but also knows we will better value His graces if we have petitioned for them. There is a wide meric for them. There is a wide margin between that confidence in God which is the virtue of the Christian and the atalism that is the cult of the orienal pagan.

SEVEN

n we petition God it may de-When we petition God it may de-mand a miracle, but what of it? If necessary. God will perform the miracle; it will not be hard for Him to do so. This preacher imagines it is an attempt to change the inexor-able laws of nature or the immuta-ble designs of God. We know this is not so. The preacher evidently does not know that with God all things, past, present and future for us are but God's eternal present. But, even granting that it would mean a change in the inexorable laws of nature or the immutable designs of God, we may ask again, what of it? If it demanded all that God would do it is necessary to answer an honest prayer. He has times innumerable, in answer to prayer, suspended what the preacher calls the "inexorable laws of nature." And often one would think that He had even changed His eternal decrees to satisfy the longing at some poor human heart.

Prayer of petition is our greatest comfort, and our surest hope. It would be a cold and dreary old existence, life would scarcely be worth while, if we did not know that we can go to our Heavenly Father with all our troubles and feel quite sure that He will hear and heed. believe that Christ meant every word of that unqualified statement. Whatever you ask the Father in My Name, believing in Me. He will give it to you."-Intermountain Catholic

SCHOOLS FOR SLANG

Dr. E. J. Macewan, Professor of English in Kalamazoo College, is disturbed over the abuse of the English lauguage by students under his supervision. He savs :

"The language used by the average college student of to day cannot be understood by a thoroughly English speaking person. "In the halls of this institution

the students use language that is absolutely abominable and which suggests that the user never in his life heard a word of English, but was a barbarian.

"Some of the local college professors have advertised a course in slang to be given during the freshman year. Personally, I think this about the only remedy which would at all decrease the amount of slang used by college students. At present a course in English is given for freshman and there is no real English spoken after the freshman year. Therefore, if a course in slang were required, there would be none used after the first year.

"It would seem that persons far enough advanced to attend college should have learned enough concerning the English language to speak it intelligently, without back-sliding into the lazy language of slang. I will personally see to it that there is no slang used in any of my classes."

kinds. If you must smoke, smoke moderately. Shun discussion on two points-religion and politics. And last, but not least, marry a true wo-man and have your own home.— Catholic Columbian.

QUESTIONS

If life is full of trials, why can't we render our own verdicts? If love is blind, what can

people see in each other? Why can't a thirst for knowledge be as easily quenched as some other thirsts ?

Why should a man want the reputation of, being a bad man unless he can make good ?

If matrimony is a fight to a finish, what is the necessity of the divorce courts ?

courts? If a man has money to burn, why should he so hate to spend it for coal? If talk is cheap, why is it so ex-pensive in the end?

Is a wife ever as pretty as a type-

writer ? Are the troubles of the Anti-Vice

Society due to morality or biliousness

Isn't " the high moral ground," so nentioned by the members of the Anti-Vice Society, often a bluff ? If a man never makes a mistake, does he ever do anything?

ANOTHER NEW RELIGION

Another new religion is about to be launched in Boston by an English man. It is to be called the "Church of the Republic," and its basis is that "America herself as a standard-bearer of the Ideal is the true Church of every American." It has eighteen principles and six objects. The prin-ciples are about as clear and intelligible as its fundamental tenet. They make of God a merely subjective en-tity, which depends on the mind for its existence. It is a regrettable fact that new churches seem to find a fertile soil in this city, and the sillier they are the greater number of adherents they gather.—The Pilot.

The trouble before had been that I really didn't hate it, though I thought really didn't hate it, though I thought I did." This is an excellent plan to follow in overcoming any bad habit, and we commend it to the boys and girls who read these lines. But would it not help a great deal, if in addition to confessing the wrong to God, we would also confess our sin to the one who has been injured by

it and ask his or her forgiveness? This may sometimes be very humili-ating, but it is nothing more than our simple duty.—True Voice.

POLITENESS

Never try to look in the open door of a private room. It is unpardonable to try to peep

through the crack of a door to see who is passing, or to listen to what may be going on in another room. Leave your wraps and oversho n the hall. Take your hats to the visiting room, unless you are old riends

Do not knock, or ring the bell too Never try to open an outside door ntil you are told to "come in." Remain standing until you are inited to be seated Sit erect with both feet resting on

the floor. Do not lean your head against the back of a chair, or against the wall. Never tilt your chair. Do not drum with your fingers

apon furniture. It is impolite to scrutinize everything in the room, especially brica-a-

Do not fail to rise when a hostess enters a room and stand until she is

leated. Never be a thief by stealing your friends' time with useless visits.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND ON FAITH

into some houses, and thrown about carelessly, when anyone may pick them up and read them, are maga-zines that reek with sensuality, What a beautiful definition of an act of faith was that given by Arch bishop Ireland in an address to the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus in his Cathedral of St. novels whose one aim seems to be to condone impurity. And if a boy or girl gets the opportunity those books and magazines will be devoured. It Paul recently. It is worth repeating: "An act of faith ! What, you will, say is nonsense for parents to pretend so simple, so easy for the Catholic as that their children are above such

Now it would be a gross exaggera-

tion to say that because a boy reads dime novels, or because he sees in I had not been to a Mass that I now of since my first Communion, the moving pictures the reproduction a truly French touch, here] except of clever acts of burglary, he is asionally at marriages and funerals, but these did not count. And at the commencement I was very unnecessarily fated to become a house-breaker and a murderer. But it is certain that a book is bound to have easy, for I could not remember when an influence upon a boy, and that influence will be either good or bad. to rise, when to sit down, when to bow. But our soldier priest made a sign to me with his hands, what to The boy is impressionable. He is imitative. Cleverness, smartness, appeal to him. He wants action in do, and the others all followed my example.

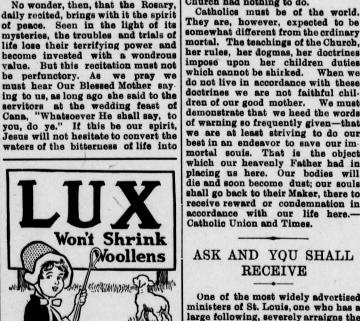
his literature. And there is the great danger of many of the books Then suddenly our soldier-priest began to speak to us. He told us began to speak to us. He told us that there were only soldiers in the Church; that many might have stayed comfortably at home, consider-ing their age. And then he sugthat are produced to please the young. There is action, action always ; there is the smart hero, who is strong and manly, who overcome all opposition, who becomes rich and famous even by methods that are often openly criminal. And these methods, glorified by the author, are bound to have their impression on gested that there were many among us who neglected 'a little the good God and His Church, but who were at the same time serving Him by our work.

the youthful admirer of heroism. True, the lad may not be tempted by After that he started talking about our families about our womenfolk at admiration for his hero to try, as the youths above mentioned, to break open a safe, but there is no question that, by being led to have home consumed with anxiety about us, and about our little ones whom us, and about our little ones whom, perhaps, we should never see again, about the example which those of our corps had left us who had died in doing their duty. Then I began to feel something damp running down to the end of my uch ideals of manliness and success he is getting false notions of life.

The danger is not confined to the dime novel, to the literature where nose. I looked to my right and there I saw our dispenser—you know, the old pill roller, who believes in nothmurder and robbery are the sum and substance of life. There is a greater danger still from the books that are written for grownups. Boys have been morally wrecked by reading a book they found about the house. They ing, not even medicine-making the most horrible grimaces in order to hide his emotion ; while on my left argued that as long as it was in the house, as long as father and mother could read it, it must be all right. Nowadays it is hard for a cleanthe other Medicin en Chef was busy scrubbing his moustache with his handkerchief as hard as he could.

I drew out my handkerchief, and this seemed to act as a signal. Soon other handkerchiefs were fluttering minded grown person to avoid the filth of much current fiction. Yet go all over the little church. Then some one sobbed noisily ; it was Sidi, an old soldier from Africa, who in civil life is the keeper of a stall in some part of Montmartre.

And then just at that moment as if to enable us to hide our snuffling, the whole build-ing began to vibrate, and we heard music of a kind which certain



her rules, her dogmas, her doctrines impose upon her children duties which cannot be shirked. When we

do not live in accordance with these doctrines we are not faithful children of our good mother. We must demonstrate that we heed the words of warning so frequently given-that we are at least striving to do our best in an endeavor to save our immortal souis. That is the object which our heavenly Father had in

placing us here. Our bodies will die and soon become dust; our souls shall go back to their Maker, there to receive reward or condemnation in accordance with our life here.-Catholic Union and Times.

ASK AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE

One of the most widely advertised ministers of St. Louis, one who has a ministers of St. Louis, one who has a large following, severely arraigns the Christian practice of praying for things. He says it is dictating to the Almighty, trying to run the universe and "too often embroidered with your personal desires." To us the most beautiful thing about prayer is that it is bringing.

our personal desires to the attention of our Heavenly Father. We cannot get away from the antiquated notion that Christ was serious and in earness

when He 'said, " Ask, and you shall receive," and, " Whatever you ask the Father in My Name, believing in

most instances the off spring of wealthy parents, whose conversation would bring tears to the eyes of a. half educated Fiji.

Go to any of the fashionable sum. ner resorts ; attend any public function, where wealth predominates and the general conversation of those present may be classed as senseless and slangy. Boys and girls who attend Public and High schools are noted for their slang, and we rejoice to learn of one teacher being brave and bold enough to denounce this foolish custom .- Michigan Catholic.

TWO PETITIONS IN FRANCE

Mgr. Sevin, the Archbishop of Lyons, has caused to be printed and distributed to the priests throughout his great diocese two petitions for which he asks the signatures of all the people. The first is a demand to the President for national prayer and declares among other things :

"The families of those fighting, united in faith and patriotism, re-spectfully insist that the head of the State and the ministers ask the pro-tection of God on the arms of France by demanding from the Church in the name of the State national prayers for the success of our arms and for France." The second petition is for the return of the Sisters. It is also addressed to the President and runs

as follows: "The families of those fighting, in presence of the want of nurses al-ready felt and growing more acute, respectfully but energetically insist that the exiled religious should be the Father in any value, bench, " Of that the exiled religious should be course, God knows our wants; He is recalled to attend the wounded in more than anxious to supply them; ambulances, and that the Sisters who where than anxious to supply them ; ambulances, and that the Sisters who yet He put the condition that we ask Him. And we modestly believe He should be asked to return." The Him. And we modestly believe He had a right to do it. The good preacher reminds that Christ would have us say, "Thy will be done," and therefore, we must rest content to wait on God. Yet the same Christ and in the same prayer, taught us to say," Give us this day

