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The Feast of the Holy Innocents.

And Herod sending killed all the men-children that were in Bethlehem and in all the confines thereof from two years old and younger.

Who is not shocked by the recital of Who is not snocked by the recital of Herod's cruelty? Carried away by pride and ambition, and the fear of losing what he had usurped, this tyrant tried to put to death the King of kings by the murder of the holy innocents. Who in our day are like Herod? Those who murder innocent children. Fiendish mothers, desiring, perhaps, to cover their shame or to escape the labor of bearing and bringing up children, take the lives of their unborn intants. unborn infants. Those, too, who knowingly sell or give or advise the use of drugs calculated to destroy the life of the unborn — all such commit Herod's crime. Yet how often this crime is now a days committed!

Woe to these wretches! Woe to the Herod-like physicians who, for any reason whatsoever, directly prescribe or use means to prevent child-birth! Herod met his punishment in a bad death, and his soul went into a hell of eternal torments. What must the murderers of little children expect?

But I have another cruelty to cry

But I have another cruelty to cry out against. It is that of those who destroy the "little ones of Christ" by neglecting to instruct their little chil-But I have another cruelty to cry out against. It is that of those who destroy the "little ones of Christ" by neglecting to instruct their little children in the way of salvation. The law of God requires that children as soon as they have the use of reason, which is about the age of seven years, should know the elements of the Christian doctrine, should know the necessity of avoiding sin, and should be taught the practice of virtue; also, that children, as soon as they are able to sufficiently profit by receiving holy Communion, should do so. No child should ever be allowed to go beyond the age of twelve years without having made First Comvenience.

"I tell you, ma'am," he said, "that boy is never tired of talking about you and your family. It's not everybody that would have been so kind. The poor boy needed it."

"And the poor boy needed it."

"Hitts' red nose and watery eyes, "You be kind to him yourself. Why don't you try to give him a good home?"

"I'm a poor, weak mortal," said Mr. Fitts, beginning to wipe his eyes much to work; but I have ideas. I'm full of ideas." know the elements of the Christian doctrine, should know the necessity of avoiding sin, and should be taught the practice of virtue; also, that children, as soon as they are able to sufficiently profit by receiving holy Communion, should do so. No child should ever be allowed to go beyond the age of twelve years without having made First Communion. Many can receive First Communion at nine or ten years of age. munion at nine or ten years of age, and perhaps younger. Confirmation should be received as soon as First Communion. Parents are guilty be-fore God if they do not require their children to keep the commandments of God and His Church from their earliest years until they leave the parent's charge. How many parents do their little ones a deadly injury by not sending them regularly to Sunday-school! What is it to bring up children to burn in the flames of hell for ever, as some Christian parents do? It is simply soul-murder. It deserves no better name. Have you been guilty of soulmurder? If so, hasten to repair the evil as much as you can. You can never do it wholly, but you must do what you can. There is yet another cruelty towards "the little ones" of Chair. Christ. It is to scandalize them by your bad example. Instead of learning by your example to adore our Blessed Lord, to love and reverence Blessed Lord, to love and reverence His Blessed Mether and the saints, they, perhaps, learn to take God's holy name in vain. Your falsehoods teach them to lie: your dishonesty teaches them to steal. Your anger and quarrelling teach them to be stubborn and displaciant. Ab ! Christian and disobedient. Ah! Christian parents, be careful how you hang this millstone of scandalizing the little ones of Christ about your necks.

of Christ about your necks.

Finally, you destroy your children by not correcting their faults. You wink at the evil which they do. You fail to punish them, regardless of God's honor and their good. If you do punish them, it is not "correction in the Lord," but you do it to gratify your satanic rage. Some fathers and mothers are not worthy of the mame. The dignity and responsibility of The dignity and responsibility of fathers and mothers are very great. See that you are faithful to the obliga-tions which belong to your high and

A Japanese Lily.

A lady who, in her girlhood, was discouraged by her lack of beauty, but lived to become a leader of society, with hosts of sincere and loving friends, says: "If I have been able to accomplish anything in life it is due to the words spoken to me in the right season, when I was a child, by an old

I was the only homely, awkward girl in a class of exceptionally pretty ones, and being also dull at my books, became the butt of the school. I fell into a morose, despairing state, gave up study, withdrew into myself, and grew daily more bitter and vindictive.

One day the French teacher, a grayhaired old woman, with keen eyes and a kind smile, found me crying.

What is the matter, my child?" asked. "O, madame, I am so she asked. "O, madame, I am so ugly!"I sobbed out. She soothed me, but did not contradict me. Presently she took me into he room, and after amusing me for some time, said. "I have a present for you," handing me a scaly, coarse lump covered with earth.

"It is round and brown as you. Ugly, did you say? Very well. We will call it by your name then. It is you! Now, you shall plant it, and water it, and give it sun for a week or two." I planted it, and watched it carefully; the green leaves came first and at last the golden Japanese lily, the first I had ever seen. Madame came to share my delight. It was the first time that it ever occurred to me that in spite of my ugly face, I too, might be able to win friends and make myself beloved in the world. a scaly, coarse lump covered with earth.

the world.

"A snake in the grass" is all the more dangerous from being unsus-pected. So are many of the blood medicines offered the public. To avoid all risk, ask your druggist for ers Sarsaparilla, and also for Ayer's

lmanac, which is just out for the

How They Worked Their Way.

BY MAURICE FRANCIS EGAN, LL. D.

IV. -CONTINUED

Mrs. Thorne was not afraid to "run

Mrs. Thorne was not afraid to "run over," with a particular nice dish of pudding, or something of that kind, and very often, other housewives in the vicinity came. Opinion had changed.

Even Dermot began to see that the policy of forgiveness was better than that of defiance. Rails were not so often taken out of the fences, and the cows let into other fields, where they cows let into other fields, where they ought not to have gone. The boys were treated civily at the village

store.

The neighbors, having once become acquainted with Mrs. Beresford, acquired a habit of "dropping in" to see her. The women regretted that "poor Mrs. Beresford," could not take part in their "church sociables." Job's father paid the Beresfords a visit one day. He had not been drinking too much for some time. He nodded to Mrs. Beresford, and said he had come to see "what sort of people Job's admirations were."

"I tell you, ma'am," he said, "that

"I tell you, ma'am," he said, "that

"You ought to cultivate good ideas and put them in practice."
"I was never much to work," repeated Mr. Fitts, disconsolately.
"Job's mother, she was the worker.
But she died."

A scornful reply was on Mrs. Beres-ford's lips, but she suppressed it. She remembered the doctrine she had been preaching to Dermot.

Brian and Dick came in, and were

introduced to Mr. Fitts.
"Good boys, I suppose," he said.
"Are they both yours?"

"One is mine, the other has been adopted," said Mrs. Beresford, with a genial smile at Dick.

glad to see Dick and Brian so much

interested in the farm work. The boys went up stairs to consult with Mr. Beresford. Job Fitts' father

asked if he might go, too. Mrs. Beresford politely assented. Mr. Beresford said, after listening Mr. Beresford said, after listening to the boys, that they had better plant the cauliflower in February. He gathered from Mr. Devlin's letter—Mr. Devlin was Dick's uncle, who had come back from Ireland, after a short stay there—that the cauliflower was most in demand.

most in demand.
"One thing at a time," Mr. Beresford said, smiling. "You will need to sow them at once, and keep them through the winter."
"No, that will not do," interrupted

Job Fitts' father. Brian shrugged his shoulders, and Dick laughed, with some contempt in his voice.

his voice.

"Let him go on," said Mr. Beresford. "Why not, Mr. Fitts?"

"I'm chock full of ideas," said Mr. Fitts, "but I'm not much on work. I'll tell you, Mr. Beresford, that if you plant cauliflower now, the plants will not live even under glass. You'd have to keep 'em covered with straw, and even then they would not live."

"When would you plant them?"

"In February — that's your time. You'd better put 'em down in the hollow, near the spring. I'tsalways cool

low, near the spring. I'ts always cool there, and cauliflower lives best in coolness. It is not like cabbage."

"Thank you, Mr. Fitts; we'll need some help. It's too late to begin with the celery."
"You're right," said Mr. Fitts.

Dick and Brian were surprised at Mr. Fitts' knowledge of farming. Afterwards, Mr. Beresford told them that they ought not to despise a man, because he seemed incapable. "We got a valuable hint from Mr.

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Fitts, although he seemed very stupid.
It's just as foolish to judge a book by
its cover, as a man by his coat."

first, although he shrank from him at head; as if he were a wild animal.

wrought by the policy of conciliation, he had begun to feel that he must have

been wrong.
Chairs and benches were collected and placed in the sitting room, which was festooned with evergreens and the paper flowers which Anna Doran had taught Kathleen to make. Mrs. Beresford resolved to serve coffee, cakes, apples and cider during a pause in the concert.

Father Hogan entered into the spirit of the festivity. In spite of his cassock, he cut down more evergreens than either Dermot or Dick. Mr. Beresford, listening to the reports of the workers, almost seemed to be well again.

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE GRIPPE EPIDEMIC.

Scourge More to be Dreaded Than Cholcra-Medical Science Powerless to Prevent its Spread-It is Again Sweeping Over Canada With Great Severity-How its Evil Effects Can Best be Counteracted — Only Prompt Measures Can Ensure Safety.

Can Best be Counteracted — Only Prompt Measures Can Ensure Safety.

It is stated on high medical authority that an epidemic of la grippe is more to be feared than an outbreak of cholera. The latter disease can be controlled, and where sanitary precautions are observed the danger of the cause of the controlled, and where sanitary precautions are observed the danger of the disease can be controlled, and where sanitary precautions are observed the danger of the grippe. Medical science has not yet fathomalits mysteries, and is powerless to prevent us spread. Three years ago an epidemic of la grippe swept over this country, leaving death and shattered constitutions in its wake, and now once more it has appeared in epidemic form; not so severe, perhaps, as on the former occasion, but with sufficient violence to cause grave alarm, and to warn the prudent to take prompt measures to resist its inroads.

When, a few months ago, it was announced that cholera had broken out in Grimsby, one of the fine of the discourage was checked and exterminated with a loss of not more than half a dozen lives. That la grippe is more to be dreaded than cholera is shown by the fact that in London last week upwards of an hundred deaths were due to this trouble, and medical science is powerless to prevent its spread, and can do nothing more than relieve those stricken with the disease. At the present moment thousands of Canadians are suffering from la grippe and the disease. At the present moment thousands of Canadians are suffering from la grippe and can death of the disease. At the green moment thousands of Canadians are suffering from la grippe and the disease. At the present moment thousands of Canadians are suffering from la grippe and the disease disappear it too frequently leaves even the sease disappear it too frequently leaves even the sease disappear in the back, loss of appetite, depression of spirits, shortness of

Mr. Beresford asked Job's father to stay to dinner.

Mr. Fitts appeared to improve vise ibly, under the influence of kindness. It was evident, from his talk that he knew a good deal about falk, that he knew a good deal about falk, that he knew a good deal about falk, that he word was good deal about falk that he word for you? I'm not much on work, but Job is. He'd for you.

"I'll think about it." Dick answered, "and dask Mr. Beresford had become ill. Brian felt his superiority in every-day work and gladly took his advice. Mr. Beresford had become ill. Brian felt his superiority in every-day work and gladly took his advice. Mr. Beresford, on hearing Mr. Fits proposition, laughed. "We'll see what we can do, later." The wint and cocupation, lo work, so wer done at night. "Sometimes, Mr. Beresford was well be the place—found plenty of anusement and occupation, lo work as were done at night. There was an extra concert on these gala nights were sent to Mr. Beresford, and occasionally, an old farmer or his wife would drop in to set the "images," and talk of their enormity. They were astonished to flied that, even the young Beresfords had read the Bible, and that they could quote Scripture in defense of their faith. There was an extra concert on these bad are normal, and all the family received the Blessed Eucharist.

It happened that Job Pitts had been sent over to bring some seed, sent by Mr. Thorne. Ho stood, staring and popen-mouthed, while the Mass proceeded. When Brian rang the little bell at the consecration, and they all knet decounty Job prostrated himself, too.

"I can't tell why I did it," he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I had to." "I can't tell why I did it," he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I had to." "I can't tell why I did it," he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I had to." "I can't tell why I did it," he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I had to." "I can't tell why I did it," he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I had to." "I can't tell why I did it, "he said, afterward. "It seemed as if I ha

"Are they both yours?"

"Are they both yours?"

"Are they both yours?"

"One is mine, the other has been adopted," said Mrs. Beresford, with a genial smile, at Dick.

"I wish my boy was as healthy looking, and as well dressed," said Mr. Fitts, with a sigh.

"Why don't you look after him?" said Mrs. Beresford, so with the back of his hand.

"Why don't you look after him?" said Mrs. Beresford, so with the back of his hand.

"I was never much of a hand to work." Then he added, after a pause, made to give his hearers an opportunity it to express sympathy. "I haven't drank anything nigh into a month. Jim Windsor," said being head if he caught me drinking."

"I'm full of ideas, but I was never a great hand to work," murmured Mr. Fitts.

"Dick wants to plant celery and asparagus." it was never much of a hand to work," murmured Mr. Fitts.

"Dick wants to plant celery and asparagus," said Brian, enthusiastic ally. "His uncle has got back from a may read the mount of the prejudice of the people around. Preaching and arguments are in vain, if means the market, at Philadelphia, and he wrote to him, and has taken a stand in a market, at Philadelphia, and he wrote to lim, and may approach to Dick, and Dick wrote to him, and Mary drove out in the wagon, to look and be such as proposed and all about celery growing."

"Are great hand to work," murmured Mr. Fetts.

"Dick wants to plant celery and approach and the wasted of the people around. Preaching and arguments are in vain, if means the market, at Philadelphia, and he wrote to lim, and may drove out in the wagon, to look asked him to buy things from us. Dick's uncle said he wanted to Dick, and Dick wrote to him, and Mary drove out in the wagon, to layer the present of the preparation of the prep

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