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REV. A. A. CHERRIER,

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POPE LEO XIII.



SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1903.

## CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

### JULY.

- 5—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost. Feast of the Most Precious Blood. Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul.
- 6—Monday—Octave of Saints Peter and Paul.
- 7—Tuesday—Saints Cyril and Methodius, Bishops.
- 8—Wednesday—St. Elizabeth, Widow.
- 9—Thursday—Votive office of the Blessed Sacrament.
- 10—Friday—The Seven Brothers Martyrs.
- 11—Saturday—Votive office of the Immaculate Conception.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

**THE LIFE OF POPE LEO XIII.** from his Personal Memoirs, by Monsignor Bernard O'Reilly. The John C. Winston Co., Philadelphia, Chicago and Toronto.—This magnificent work is fully deserving of the sumptuous setting in which it is published. The price of the various bindings ranges from \$2.50 for "extra cardinal cloth, gold and ink stamping, plain edges" to \$7.50 for the edition de luxe; but the beautifully clear type, wide margins and 64 full-page, half-tone illustrations are common to all the editions. The short and pithy preface, signed in fac-simile "Bernard O'Reilly, Prothonotary Apostolic, New York, March 28th, 1903," shows that the venerable and distinguished author, in spite of his 61 years of priesthood, still wields the pen, not only with literary power, but also with what the New York Herald lately called a "chirography which would put a college graduate to the blush." In that preface Mgr. O'Reilly modestly says: "To me came the singular honor of being summoned to Rome by his Eminence Cardinal Parocchi, then Vicar General to His Holiness, Leo XIII., to undertake the task of writing this biography and to have provided for my use abundant and authentic documents, as well as the personal memoirs of His Holiness." In accordance with this Pontifical command the future author of Pope Leo's life took up his residence in Rome and lived there for eight years, a good part of the time within the walls of the Vatican. He then had free access to the presence of the Holy Father and studied all the official documents and papers bearing upon the life and reign of the Pontiff. As each section of the subject was finished, the manuscripts were submitted to the Pope

for his perusal and correction, and not a sheet was sent to press until it had thus been authenticated and approved.

The last previous issue of this great work was published eleven years ago, but the publishers failed and went out of business soon after its publication. This is the reason why the work has been little advertised and has had only a limited sale in America. The present issue is entirely new in regard to the intervening years. The life has been written down to the Coronation Jubilee, March 3, 1903, and chronicles this memorable event. All the plates of the former issues have been withdrawn, and the matter set up anew. All the illustrations, too, are fresh and modern; they are exquisite in artistic treatment.

The work, "laid at the feet" of Leo XIII., and dedicated to Cardinal Gibbons, bears the "imprimatur" of the Archbishop of Philadelphia, the "nihil obstat" of the official censor of that archdiocese, and has the warm approbation of His Excellency Mgr. Falconio, Delegate Apostolic to the United States, the Archbishops of New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Montreal and St. Boniface, and a great number of Bishops.

There is, of course, another famous life of Leo XIII. by Mgr. T'Serclaes, prepared under the eye of the Pope himself; but, extremely valuable though it is, it stops at 1893, has not been translated from French into English, is written in labored clumsy French, and does not view questions as Mgr. O'Reilly does, from the standpoint of English-speaking readers. In this last respect Mgr. O'Reilly's "Life" is far superior to any other biography of the present Pope, for the genial Irish prelate has a flowing and eminently readable style, while his experience in book-making has accustomed him to a broad and comprehensive outlook when he has to handle great questions. A good example of the author's power of luminous condensation is his 29th chapter, in which he has compressed into the short compass of fourteen pages all the salient features of the fourteen years' struggle between Bismarck and the Church. Mgr. O'Reilly has been a very successful and prolific author. His more important works, such as the "Life of Archbishop John McHale," "Mirror of True Womanhood," "True Men as we need them," are in most Catholic libraries. His "Life of Pius IX." in particular has run through more than thirty editions. But we are greatly mistaken if this latest, and, in all human probability, this last book written by the almost nonagenarian prelate (he was born Sept. 29, 1816) does not eclipse all its predecessors.

We know of no other volume so worthy of being presented as a gift to a Catholic friend or even to any non-Catholic who seeks for information about the Catholic Church of our own day. No public library that cares for Catholic patronage or prides itself on its general usefulness can afford to be without O'Reilly's Leo XIII.

**AMONG THE PEOPLE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.** Red, White, Yellow and Brown, by Frances E. Herring, author "Canadian Camp Life," "A Pioneer Marriage in Alabama," "Round Puget Sound," etc., etc. London: T. Fisher Unwin, Paternoster Square, 1903.—A green binding with the four corners of the cover in four colors, one red with the face of a redskin, another white with a white man's phiz., a third yellow to frame a Chinaman, and the fourth brown, around a Japanese "mug"; twenty illustrations from good photographs; plenty of dialogue and dialect; a slender thread of romance running through 300 pages; these are the outward trappings of what is practically an attractive and informing guide through British Columbia. Mrs. Herring relates as one who observes well what she sees, and, whether she is inviting us to witness the high-class Chinese funeral, of which she gives so graphic a description, or the Passion Play enacted by the Catholic Indians of British Columbia, she succeeds in bringing effectively before us the scenes and persons she desires to present. It is pleasant to note, in contrast to the vulgar familiarity of some globe-trotting writers, the tone of mingled deference and admiration which she uses in regard to the work, methods and cere-

monial of the Catholic Church. In a letter of approval His Lordship Bishop Duntzenwill, O.M.I., says: "The chapters on the Indians, the Missionaries and the Passion Play form very profitable reading." In fact, were it not for a chance slip, like the one in which the biretta is supposed to be the distinctive headgear of a Catholic Bishop (p. 34), the ordinary reader might mistake Mrs. Herring for a Catholic. After describing a procession of Catholic Indians, she pays this glowing tribute to the devoted Oblate missionaries: "To see them there, two thousand of them, marching in peaceful procession, in charge of six or eight Fathers, their wild passions subdued to calm, their vengeance at rest, their friendships fanned to flame, their bodies clean and well clothed, their intellects raised by education, their talents, which had lain dormant for the want of a culturing hand, brought into play—when we see all this, what can we say of the Fathers whose lives have been spent among them, and who have brought the tribes to this stage of civilization?"

**IMITATION AND ANALYSIS.** English Exercises based on Irving's Sketch Book, by Francis P. Donnelly, S.J. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.—Of all the manuals hitherto published with a view to initiating the beginner into the secrets of a good English style we know of none that is so practical as this. Others give too much to the dry bones of precept and too little to the living, breathing model. Mr. Donnelly's little volume is devoted exclusively to the study of the best model for beginners, the immortal Sketch Book of Washington Irving. Everything centres on the model; even the short and necessary generalizations are immediately exemplified in the model. "The methods employed in this manual," writes the author in his preface, "are old and well tried; their systematic application to English composition can alone claim to be new. Analysis and imitation, as literary exercises, have been practised in the schools since the beginning. The process of developing a thought from a germ is based on modes formulated as early as Aristotle, if not earlier. All these methods, then, have been long in use, but this is the first time, it is believed, that the system of imitation and analysis, as embodied in the following exercises, has been applied so fully and so consistently to the composition of English."

This book shows the teacher how to treat the sentence, the paragraph, narration, description, and, finally, the essay, not merely by giving examples, but by analyzing, paraphrasing, imitating them and adding numerous suggestions as to further imitations. Take one instance of narration at page 120. The model is taken from "The Voyage" and tells the story of a sea captain, who, through no fault of his, during a heavy fog on the banks of Newfoundland, sinks a small schooner and hears the cry of the drowning men which he shall never forget. A few remarks are added, in smaller type, on the absence of connectives which gives rapidity to the narrative. Then the following subjects are suggested for imitation: a railroad collision, an accident on a trolley car, a cavalry charge, a fall from a bicycle. This exercise supposes that the student has already had considerable practice in imitation, for he has by this time reached Exercise 47. Let us now go back and see how he was helped when he was yet a beginner, as at Exercise 27. Here the model is the following paragraph from Irving's chapter on "Rural Life in England": "The stranger who would form a correct opinion of the English character, must not confine his observations to the metropolis. He must go forth into the country; he must sojourn in villages and hamlets; he must visit castles, villas, farmhouses, cottages; he must wander through parks and gardens, along hedges and green lanes; he must loiter about country churches; attend wakes and fairs and other rural festivals; and cope with the people in all their conditions and all their habits and humors." Now for Mr. Donnelly's imitation. The topic he chooses is this: "The student who would write a good imitation of Irving must not merely know the rules of composition." This topic, he tells us, should be developed, as Irving's is,

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by obverse iteration at the beginning of the second sentence and afterwards by enumeration of parts. This is how he does it: "The student who would write a good imitation of Irving must not merely know the rules of composition. He must study his model; he must read it all slowly and carefully; he must weigh words, phrases, clauses, sentences; he must take note of emphasis and rhythm, of turns of expression and beauties of language; he must fathom the meaning of the author; follow out the development of the thought; and make himself master of the writer's style in all its perfection and in all its minute details." No intelligent reader who carefully compares Irving with Donnelly can fail to note how closely, and at the same time without any servility, the latter imitates the former not only in the grouping of words, but even in the cadence of the paragraph, and how at the same time he deftly links precept to example. Yet the topics are completely different. Then follow, for imitation by the student, six subjects from which we take these two: "He who is desirous of becoming a soldier must not be con-

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