LESSONS AND EXAMPLES OF CONVERSION.

Henry L. Richards, writing to one of our exchanges, under the caption "Fifty Years in the Church," dur- "Fifty Years in the Church," writes: When my mind was first directed to the claims of the Catholic Church I had occasion to visit New Orleans, and I naturally availed myself of every favorable opportunity to find out all I could about the Church. Among other places, I visted the Cathedral on a Sunday, and there I was surprised to see an immense crowd of a miscellaneous character of which a considerable portion was made up of creoles, colored people and various nationalities. The aisles were crowded, all were on their knees, venerable old negroes with white heads devoutly joining in the worship, and I noticed that the color d slaves sat in the same seats with their masters and even went to Holy Communion at the same sanctuary rail. The scene made a deep impression upon my mind. "This" I said, "is true Christianity. Here is a practical illustration of Catholic unity and the spirit of humility and divine charity inculcated by our Lord. Here rich and poor do really meet together for the Lord is maker of them all. Let my portion be with the true people of God."

Another incident occurred while I was officiating as rector of St. Paul's, which has also been heretofore published but which, perhaps, will bear repeating as an illustration of the absurdity of any Protestant denomination presuming to call itself Catholic. I was officiating one Sunday in Trinity Church, the rector being temporarily absent. At that time I was quite high church and accustomed to ring the changes on the claim that we were true Catholics— not Roman, you know. On retiring after the service, I had reached the vestibule when I was met there by three Irishmen who had apparently just arrived from a journey. They approached me respectfully, tipping their hats, when one asked "Your reverence, is this the Catholic Church?" Instinctively and without time for reflection I replied: "No, my good man, this is not the Catholic Church. You see that tower over there above the houses—that is the Catholic Church." Imagine my mortification when I had time to realize how completely and unconsciously I had simply given myself away. It was only another practical illustration of the truth of the saying of St. Augustine, that a stranger going into any town and enquiring for the Catholic Church would never be pointed to a schismatical conventicle, but to the place of worship of the real, old Catholic Church universally recognized as such.

Well, thank God, I had the grace at last to cast my lot with the favored children of Holy Mother Church and to enjoy its inestimable privileges for fifty years, and here, by the great mercy of God, I am today in my eighty-eighth year in good health and spirits. But I am fully conscious that I am rapidly approaching the end of my journey. If by this last appeal I should succeed in inducing even one enquiring soul to examine and embrace our holy Faith how happy I should be! I have vivid recollection, even to this late day, of dear old St. Paul's (where and what is it now?) its dear friends, its personal attachments, its intimate and pleasant social relations, all are enshrined in my heart. If I failed in my duty to any during the ten years of my service I earnestly beg of the good and merciful God to forgive me. I pray for the repose of the souls of those who have gone before and if any of those are still living who predicted that I would discover my mistake and return. I hope this letter will convince them that they probably never made a greater mistake in their lives.

AN EDITOR'S CONVERSION. — Irving J. Keyes, a writer well known in Connecticut literary circles, and a son of Rev. J. J. Keyes, formerly a prominent minister of Brooklyn and Buffalo, has become a Catholic. Writing from Milford, the scene of his present labors, to the "Catholic Transcript," of Hartford, Mr. Keyes says:

"I feel sure my many friends who have from time to time left the Episcopal faith, for the true Church of Christ will be pleased to know over my own signature that as a result of my studies, as well as of the increasing doubts of the validity of Anglican orders which had taken possession of me in late years, I have and do hereby formally renounce my belief in and membership with the sect known as the Protestant Episcopal Church, and have placed myself under the instruction of two learned and reverend priests of the Connecticut Apostolate, Fathers McClean and Hart, in orderly to properly fit myself for entrance into the one true fold of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, the Catholic Church. My father, the Rev. J. J. Keyes, formerly a well-known clergyman of Brooklyn and Buffalo, once told me years ago that he would rather see me a good Catholic than a lukewarm, indifferent Protestant, so that I feel that, after all, I am still in line with parental advice.

"Certain it is that after facing all the varied consequences of this action on my part, I have decided that henceforth and so long as life shall last, I will be found doing my duty in the ranks of Catholic laymen as God shows that duty to me; and I have felt a peace and an assurance of divine approbation of my course that I have never felt before. My gratitude is enhanced by the fact that my little daughter Mary will accompany me into the Church with the full consent of her Episcopalian mother."

MR. DAVITT AND FRENCH CATHOLICS

Mr. Michael Davitt, commenting on Mr. Davey's letter, makes an attack on the policy of the Catholics of France which we cannot say is undeserved. In effect he asks how it is that a vast majority of Christians are ruled and dominated by a minority of anti-Christians. It is an astounding state of affairs, and its existence argues something radically wrong with the majority. Here are the circumstances which demand explanation: There are upwards of 36,000,000 French people who are Catholics in practice or in name. The Catholic Church is the State Church. The majority of schools are in the hands of Catholic managers. The army and navy are Catholic. There are more Catholic papers in France than in any other land in the world. And there is manhood suffrage. Yet, in face of all these facts, the anti-Catholic Waldeck-Rousseau Ministry remains in power. In other words, half a million of non-Catholics are governing thirty-six millions of Catholics in the foremost Catholic country in Christendom, and are carrying anti-Catholic legislation, through both Chambers in Paris. Mr. Davitt assigns two causes for this anomaly — the dynastic yearlings of French Catholics and their failure to put in practice a thorough-going social programme. Mr. Davitt is in our opinion quite right. French Catholics have not learnt, as their Belgian co-religionists learned long since, that they who would be free themselves must strike the blow — that they who would shape and exercise political power must organize for victory.—Liverpool Catholic Times.

GLEANINGS.

LORD ACTON, regius professor of modern history at Cambridge University, is the first Catholic to hold office in either of the great English universities since the time of James II.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK has contributed about half of the $50,000 already subscribed for the monument to Cardinal Newman, which is to be erected in Birmingham.

REV. BERNARD CONATY, brother of Bishop Conaty, has been appointed pastor of the Sacred Heart Church, Worcester, Mass., the church over which his brother presided for seventeen years.

ABRAHAM SLIMMER, a philanthropic Jew of Dubuque, Ia., has deeded his handsome residence just outside the city, with the ten acres surrounding it, to the Sisters of Mercy, to be used for the establishment and maintenance of a hospital.

AN EDITOR'S LUCK. — Mr. Michael P. Curran, editor of one of the Irish American Catholic weekly newspapers—"The Republic" of Boston—has been appointed private secretary to Mayor-elect Collins. The salary in connection with the office is $4,000 per annum.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL.— The new Catholic cathedral at Westminster will be opened three days after the King's coronation. After careful consultation with Mr. Bentley, the architect, Cardinal Vaughan has decided that the opening ceremony will take place on Sunday, June 29, subject to the reservation that nothing unforeseen intervenes to make a postponement necessary. Active preparations will consequently be instituted to this end with the new year. The opening ceremony will be carried out on a scale of the greatest magnificence.

A PUPIL'S SUCCESS. — Alice Wall, daughter of Mr. W. J. E. Wall of this city, a pupil of the Convent of the Holy Angels, St. Laurent, has won the prize offered by the publishers of the "Sunday Companion," of New York city, for the best essay on any subject chosen by the competitor. The prize was an elegantly bound copy of the beautiful book "Immortelles." Alice is only 9 years of age, and the publishers specially complimented her on her treatment of the subject, "Indulgences," which speaks well for the institution where she is receiving her education.

NO NAVY CHAPLAINS. — The French Minister of Marine has just proposed to do away with all religious practice in the French navy. It was thought that he had done his worst in this direction by abolishing the time-honored ceremonial of Good Friday on board. M. de Lanessan's latest attempt aims at nothing less than destroying to the extent of the possible the deep-rooted religious faith of the majority of the French seamen. In his circular of January 11th of this year his aims remained covert. He has made these aims clearer in the report he has just drawn up and addressed to the President of the Republic. Henceforth no Mass on board for French seamen, and consequently no need of any navy chaplains.

PUBLIC SPIRIT. — Eight years ago Odd Fellows' hall in Covington, Ky., was the scene of a violent attack upon the Church by Kolb, an "ex-priest." Vicar-General Brossart advised Catholics not to use the hall thereafter for social functions. Early this month, Vicar-General Brossart received a letter of apology from the Odd Fellows. One of the resolutions in the letter is as follows: "Resolved, That we hereby desire to express to the Catholics of Covington our sincere regrets over the aforesaid occurrence, and we are ever determined that neither they nor any other honorable class of our citizens shall, with our knowledge or permission, ever be calumniated or maligned in the hall over which we have control."

A LESSON.—There is one public school in the country in which there is not one pupil, says an American Catholic exchange. It is in Reno County, Kansas. Every morning, the teacher, Miss Mary Scroggins, opens school and holds herself in readiness for any pupil who may come. None ever comes, not because there are not plenty of children in the neighborhood, but because they are all Catholic and go to the parochial school. It would be hard to find a better example of the injustice of the present school system. Here is a teacher who must be paid for doing nothing, and a school which must be kept up by a community not one member of which can in conscience use the thing he pays for. The condition all over the country is the same, but in this particular instance it is so obvious as to prove its own absurdity.

If thou truly lovest God? it is of thy heart, thy tongue, and thy works that thou must ask it. — St. Bonaventura.

All the commandments of the law are reduced to loving God and our neighbor. . . What moral could be more pure, what doctrine more sublime, more worthy of a God, more expedient to nature and to mankind, than that which reduces all to love of God and of our neighbor; which defines this love; the faithful practice of the commandments, or the conformity, the identity of our will with that of God, and which, in order to excite us to this love, shows us that God, that Jesus Christ, has loved us first.—D'Aguesseau.

A Scotch lawyer was well reproved when, seated by a lady fully aware of her own plain looks, having bowed to his hostess in giving the toast, "Honest men and bonnie lasses," she rejoined, raising her own glass, "We may both drink that toast, since it refers to neither of us."

A Kansas City man's full dress suit was stolen one night recently and the detective who was sent to investigate the case asked, "What color was it?"—Kansas City Star.

Cloth Boots,

Shoes and Slippers,

Rubbers, Overshoes, Moccasins.

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(CHABOILLEZ SQUARE.)

Too Late for Summer Shoes.

Someone, long ago, said: "Let firm, well-hammered soles protect your feet." Good advice — and especially so in the fall of the year.

We've a line of shoes that will protect your feet.

That line of shoes is

The Mansfield.

The "Mansfield" comes in patent leather, enamel, russet or calfskin. Soles are double, with extension edges. It comes in both men's and women's styles, in the newest shoe shapes.

The Mansfield is noted for its durability. It's positively the best shoe you can buy in Montreal for $3.

Also Rubber Soles and Heels for $3.00. Others at $4.00 and $5.00.

MANSFIELD, The Shoeist,

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

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HOLIDAY EXCURSION RATES.

Single First-Class Fare.

Going Dec. 31, 1901, and Jan. 1, 1902. Return limit Jan. 2, 1902.

First Class Fare and One-Third.

Going Dec. 28, 29, 30 and 31, 1901, and Jan. 1, 1902. Return limit Jan. 3, 1902.

SCHOOL VACATIONS.

Single First Class Fare and One-Third for Round Trip. Going Dec. 7 to 31, inclusive. Return limit, Jan. 20, 1902.

Special Rates for Commercial Travelers.

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A Pretty Table Lamp.

Gas, electric or oil, is a useful as well as an ornamental present. A visit to our store will satisfy you that we have a fine selection at extremely low prices.

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Ladies' Neckwear

LACE FICHUS, COLLARS, HANDKERCHIEFS, etc.

Tan Fichus, White and Cream, $1.00, $1.75, $2.00, $2.60, $3 and	$ 5 00
Black Chiffon Fichus, $2.10, $2.50 and	3 00
Imitation Flemish Lace Collars, Paris Shade and White	1 60
Guipure Lace Collars, Paris Shade and Cream, $1.00, $1.65, $2.75	4 25
Real Bruges Lace Collars, Beige, $6.00, $9.00	10 00
Guipure Lace Boleros, Butter and Paris, $2.75, $3.00	6 00
Battenburg Lace Boleros, $5.00 and	6 50
Real Flemish Lace Boleros, $5.00, $20.00 and	24 00
Black Appliqué Lace Boleros, $8.00 and	8 50
Real Duches Collars and Berthas, $6.50, $7.00, $16.00, $28.00.	32 00
Nice Assortment of Real Duchess Laces, from 2 to 10 inches, from $3 to	11 50
Bruges Lace Insertions, Vandyked, Cream and White, $4.50, $5.	7 00
Large Assortment of Valenciennes Edging and Lace, suitable for making Fancy Articles, from ½ to 5 inches.	
Duchess Satin Ribbons for Neck Wear, in Leading Shades, per yard, 30c, 40c. and	50
Colored Taffeta Ribbons for Neck Wear, ¾ inches wide, per yard	33
Good Assortment Fancy Ribbons for Neck Wear, from 1½ to 4 inches, from 20c. to	75
Real Duchess Lace Handkerchiefs, $1.85, $3.00, $3.50, $3.85, $4.00, $4.85, $5.00, $6.00, $6.50, $7.00, $7.50, $8.00, $9.00 $9.50	13 50
Renaissance Handkerchiefs, $1.00 and	3 60
Real Point de Gene Handkerchiefs, $2.25	2 50
Real Val. Edged Handkerchiefs, $1.80, $2.00, $2.10	2 25
Silk Maltese Lace Handkerchiefs, $1.10, $1.25, $1.50, $1.65, $1.75, $1.80	2 00
Embroidered Handkerchiefs, Imitation Val. Edge, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 90c	1 00
Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs, 20c, 25c, 30c, 33c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 60c, 65c, 70c	90
Hem-Stitched Linen Handkerchiefs, with initials, in ½ dozen boxes, per box, $1.38	2 00

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SATURDAY, December 28, 1901.

For New Year's and Return Presents.

All this week, thousands of toys and fancy goods will be wanted for New Year's presents!

1st, by the many thousands of citizens who have been remembered at Xmas by their friends and who desire to acknowledge their thoughtful kindness by a return gift.

2nd, By a goodly number of people who reserve their present-giving entirely to the New Year.

For all classes The Big Store offers an excellent assortment of the following:

Gent's Furnishing	Sterling Silverware
Ladies' Gloves	China and Glassware
Boys' Clothing	Handkerchiefs
Ladies' Jackets	Fine Fur Goods
Silverplated Ware	Lace Novelties
Oriental Rugs	Ladies' Dress Lengths
New Year's Cards	Books and Calendars

Prices from now until New Year's Day are 15 to 20 per cent. lower than ordinary stores' prices.

BIG SALE OF TOYS!

Extraordinary sale of toys for New Year's Gifts at The Big Store will rival any previous sale. The marvellously low prices will bring big crowds from the north, south, east and west, to buy New Gifts.

Wool Dolls	6c	Wash Sets	23c
Dressed Dolls	10c	Dominos	5c
Jointed Dolls	12c	Card Games	4c
Kid Dolls	14c	Tiddledy Winks	5c
Lead Soldiers	8c	Iron Toys	5c
Tin Stoves	5c	Girls' Sleighs	32c
Tea Sets	9½c	Toy Bugles	3½c
Dolls' Trunks	35c	Toy Whips	4½c
Pillow Dex	25c	Tin Tops	5c
Nested Blocks	8½c	Drawing Slates	5c

2,000 Hockey Sticks, 9c, 300 Boys' Sleighs, 12½c, 500 pairs Steel Skates, 15c.

NEW YEAR'S SUGGESTIONS.

	Worth	Monday		Worth	Monday
Sterling Top Salt Cellars	20c	12½c	Men's Silk Initial Hdfs	35c	22c
Sterling Button Hooks	20c	15c	Men's Wool Gloves	20c	16c
Sterling Silver Thimbles	30c	19c	Men's Bull Dog Pipes	20c	15c
Plated Child's Mugs	35c	22c	Men's Lined Gloves	75c	55c
Pocket Knives, 2 blades	18c	10c	Men's Congo Sticks	60c	49c
Table Knives	12c	8c	Men's Mufflers	25c	15c
Decorated Cup and Saucer	10c	5c	Boys' Tuques, all wool	60c	39c
Crystal Tumblers	5c	2½c	Strong Steel Skates	30c	15c
Handsome Cobbler Rockers	$2.10	$1.60	Good Hockey Sticks	15c	9c
			Warm Blankets	$1.15	90c

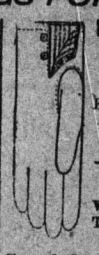
MEN'S FURNISHINGS FOR NEW YEAR.

MEN'S Mufflers.

The New McGill Muffler in Fancy Silk and Satin effects are in great demand.

SPECIAL PRICES:

45 cents, 67 cents and 80 cents.



MEN'S GLOVES.

Men's good reliable Lined Kid Gloves, specially priced at

50 cents pair.

Special Line of Colored Cape Wool Lined Gloves with Fur Tops,

Special.....97c pair.

NEW YEAR LINEN SALE.

Monday morning there will be a special showing and sale of Fine Table Linens for New Year's Gifts. Housekeepers know what a saving of money a sale like this means to them. Then half the charm of the dinner is the snowy linen and the linen and the dainty appointments.

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PARISHES IN TEXAS.— Out in Texas Catholic priests do not appear to have a very easy time. The Southern "Messenger" says that the largest parish in the United States is in Texas, in the diocese of Dallas. It contains 118,000 suuare miles. In the district formerly known as "No Man's Land," the missionary priest has to travel 1,392 miles by railroad and 444 miles by stage, in one parish.

Twenty-five Catholic freshmen have entered the University of Cambridge this term, making a total of over 60 Catholic students at that university.

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All Our Toys

AT 33 1-3 PER CENT DISCOUNT.

Without exception, until New Year, all our magnificent stock of Toys, the finest in the city, will be offered to the public at 33 1-3 per cent. discount!

Also Cards and Calendars at 33 1-3 per cent. off.

Remember this marvellous reduction applies to a stock unrivalled for freshness, as well as extent and variety!

Our Store will remain open late for the Holiday Trade on Monday and Tuesday.

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NOTICE.

Dame Henriette Garault, of the City and District of Montreal, wife of George Pineault, Printer, of the same place, has instituted an action for separation as to property, before the Superior Court, at Montreal, on the seventeenth of December, 1901. (No. 1418, S.C.H.)

TAILLON, BONIN ET MORIN,
Attorneys for plaintiff.

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
District of Montreal.

Notice is hereby given that the Estate Laon Benoit Alfred Charlebois, of Laprairie, will make application to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at the next session, to be authorized to sell its immoveable properties and to make a division of the assets of the said Estate.

Montreal, November 21, 1901.

LOUIS MASSON,
Testamentary Executor.