

Strength for To-Day.

Strength for to-day is all that we need, As there never will be a to-morrow...

Then why forecast the trials of life, With much sad and grave perience, And wait and watch for a crowd of ill...

Strength for to-day; want a precious boon For earnest souls who labor! For the willing hands that minister...

Strength for to-day; in the weary hearts In the battle for right may equal not; And the eyes bedimmed by bitter tears...

Strength for to-day; on the down-hill track For the travellers near the valley; That up, far up on the other side...

Strength for to-day; that our precious youth May happily shun temptation; And build from the rise to the set of the sun...

Strength for to-day; in house and home To practice forbearance sweetly; To scatter kind words and loving deeds, Still trusting in God completely.

Strength for to-day is all that we need, And there never will be a to-morrow; To to-morrow will prove but another day...

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS FOR EARLY MASSSES By the Paulist Fathers.

Preached in their Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Fifty-ninth Street and Ninth Avenue, New York.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT. "The night is passed and the day is at hand. Let us, therefore, cast off the works of darkness..."

To-day, dear brethren, we enter upon the season of preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. For, "the night is past and the day is at hand."

The day spring, the Brightness of the everlasting Light, the Sun of righteousness, is come "to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."

To give light to them that have been unfaithful to God's grace, to call them back—to turn them to a new life—this is the mission of our Saviour; and this is the call He makes upon us to-day—

"Behold, the Ruler of the House of Israel, who didst appear to Moses in the burning bush, and gave him the law of Sinai."

You, dear brethren, were taught that law when the first rays of the light of reason lit up your soul. God wrote it on your hearts; you heard it from your parents' lips; your teachers bade you love it and keep it.

Have you not become like those whom of old God taught and who would not listen, but went after false gods, who bowed down before idols of gold and silver, of wood and clay?

Have you not bowed down like them when you preferred money-getting to serving God, when you were willing for the sake of gold and silver to risk the loss of your immortal souls?

Have you not bowed down when you chose to gratify your lower instincts at the cost of your spiritual ruin? Have you not bowed down to idols of clay when you have steeped yourselves in drunkenness, in impurities, in the many sins of the flesh?

Oh, surely you have need of the "wisdom that cometh out of the mouth of the Most High" to teach you "the way of prudence." Oh, surely you have need of "the Orient from on high" for you "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."

But, dear brethren, "the night is past," "Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness"; "let us walk honestly," "Oh, put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ," "Behold Emmanuel, our King and Law-giver," Him for whom the nations sighed and their salvation, has come to save us—to save man whom He has made from the dust of the earth.

Dear brethren, shall we be slow to go to Him who comes with healing for our immortal souls? Tell it out among the people and say, "Behold, God our Saviour cometh." "Emmanuel is His name, and His name is great. Behold He is my God and I will glorify Him; my father's God and I will exalt Him. The Lord our Law-giver, the Lord our King, cometh to save us."

Begin this day to prepare for the joyous feast of Christmas. Cleanse your hearts by prayer and fasting; come to the sacraments and be washed in the blood of your Redeemer; come to His Table and break the bread of true friendship; that the joy of your heart may be full when we shall celebrate that day of days when the Word which "was made flesh dwelt among us."

Truly "we have seen His glory," and "of His fulness we have all received." Let us never forget His mercy; let us remember "that it is now the hour for us to rise from sleep."

Horsford's Acid Phosphate TONIC FOR OVERWORKED MEN.

Dr. J. C. Wilson, Philadelphia, Pa., says: "I have used it as a general tonic, and in particular in the debility and dyspepsia of overworked men, with satisfactory results."

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There can be no mistake upon this point for it is proved by this tangible evidence. The large demand for this tobacco shows it to be true, and the character of the demand gives further proof. It has never been of the spasmodic kind up one month and down the next. It has been a sustained and constantly increasing demand. The unsurpassed quality of the tobacco accounts for this.

Worms derange the whole system. Mother Graves' Worm Extirpator deranges worms, and gives rest to the sufferer. It only costs twenty-five cents to try it and be convinced.

Kidney Complaint. Much is blamed upon the Kidneys when people are ill and suffer from weak and painful back, etc. If you regulate the Liver and Blood with Burdock Blood Bitters the Kidneys will soon resume a right action. Burdock Blood Bitters cleanses the whole system, Kidneys included.

THE MUTE WITNESS.

While travelling in 1787, through the beautiful city of Leipsic, I observed about half a league from the gate of the town, a few rods from the highway, a wheel, and the bones of a chained corpse exposed to the gaze of every passer.

The following is the history of that original, as I learned it from the lips of the judge who conducted the trial, and condemned him to be broken alive.

A German butcher, being benighted in the midst of a forest, lost his way, and while endeavoring to gain the road, was attacked by three highwaymen. He was on horse-back, and accompanied by a large dog. One of the robbers seized the horse by the bridle, while the two others dragged the butcher from the saddle and felled him. The dog immediately leaped upon one of them and strangled him; but the other wounded the animal so severely that he rushed into the thicket, uttering some fearful howls.

The butcher who by this time had disengaged himself from the grasp of the second robber, drew his knife and killed him. But at the same moment he received a shot from the third, he who had just wounded the dog, and falling, was despatched by the thief, who found upon him a large sum in gold, a silver watch, and a few other articles of value. He plundered the corpse, leaped upon the horse and fled.

The next morning two wood-cutters happening in that path, were surprised to find three dead bodies and a large dog, who seemed to be guarding them. They examined them and endeavored to restore life, but in vain.

One of them dressed the wounds of the dog, gave him some food, and sought some water for him, while the other hastened to the nearest village to inform the magistrate of the discovery. The officer, accompanied by several attendants, was soon on the spot; a surgeon examined the wounds on the three bodies; they drew up a verbal process and interred them.

The dog had dragged himself, in the course of the night, where he was found the next morning. He allowed his new friends to dress his wounds, and as if foreseeing that he must consent to live, that he might one day avenge the murder, he eat and drank but would not leave the spot.

He looked on quietly as they dug the grave; as soon as the turf was replaced, he stretched himself upon it, howled mournfully, and resisted all the efforts of the by-standers to induce him to move. He snapped at all who came near him, except the woodman who had tended to him. He bore his caresses, but no sooner did the man attempt to remove him from the grave than he gnashed his teeth, and would have wounded him severely if he had not quickly fled. Every one admired the fidelity of the dog, and when the woodman offered to carry him food and drink every day, that he might not perish, the magistrate proposed to take up a collection to remunerate the man, who was poor and the father of a large family.

With difficulty he was induced to accept the money, but finally did, and from that moment burdened himself with the care of his new pensioner.

The details of this horrible event were published in the principal journals of the country. J. Meyer, a brother of the butcher, reading soon afterwards the advertisement of the magistrate, hastened instantly to his presence, saying he had fears which he believed now only too well founded, that his brother had fallen into the hands of the robbers, as he had left home with a large sum in gold for the purchase of beaves, and not been heard from. His suspicions were only too sadly confirmed when the magistrate related to him the singular conduct of a dog which he described. M. Meyer, accompanied by the officer and several others, repaired to the grave. As soon as the dog perceived his brother, he howled, licked his hands, and evinced other numerous demonstrations of joy. By different parts of his dress, M. Meyer recognised the body of his brother when they disinterred it. The absence of the gutter and the watch, the wounds of the butcher and his dog, those of the other two bodies, together with the appearance of the horse, convinced the magistrate and the witnesses that the deceased had not been assailed by the two only, but also by one or several others, who had fled with the horse and plunder.

Having obtained permission, M. Meyer removed his brother's corpse to his native village, and interred it in an adjoining cemetery. The faithful dog followed the body, but by degrees became attached to his new master.

Every effort was made, by the most diligent search and the offer of immense rewards, to discover the assassin. But in vain; the horrible tragedy remained an enigma.

Two years had passed away, and all hopes of solving the mystery vanished, when M. Meyer received a letter urging him to repair without delay to Leipsic to close the eyes of his maternal uncle, who desired to see him before he died. He immediately hastened thither, accompanied by his brother's dog, who was his companion at all times. He arrived too late. His relative had deceased the previous evening, bequeathing him a large fortune. He found the city crowded, it being the season of the great fair held regularly there twice a year.

While walking one morning on the public square, attended as usual by his dog, he was astonished to behold the banner suddenly rush forward like a flash. He dashed through the crowd and leaped furiously upon an elegantly dressed young man, who was seated in the centre of the square, upon an elevated platform, erected for the use of those spectators who desired more conveniently to witness the show. He held him by the throat with so firm a grasp that he would soon have strangled him had not assistance been speedily rendered. They immediately chained the dog, thinking of course he must be mad, and strove to kill him. M. Meyer rushed through the crowd, and in time to rescue his faithful friend, calling eagerly in the meantime upon the by-standers to arrest the man, for he believed his dog had recognized in him the murderer of his brother.

Before he had time to explain himself, the young man, profiting by the tumult, escaped, and some moments they thought Meyer himself was mad, and he had great difficulty in persuading those who had bound the dog, that the faithful creature was not in the least dangerous and begged earnestly of them to release him that he could pursue the assassin. He spoke in so convincing a manner that his hearers finally felt persuaded of the truth of his assertions, and joyously bounded to his master, leaped about him a few times, and then hastened away.

He divided the crowd and was soon upon his enemy's track. The police, who upon similar occasions are very active and prompt, were immediately informed of this extraordinary event, and a number of officers were soon in pursuit. The dog became in a few moments the object of public curiosity, and everywhere all drew back to give him room. He was suspended, and the crowd collected in groups, conversing of nought but the dog, and the murder which had been committed two years before.

After a half hour's expectation, a general rush indicated that the search was over. The man had stretched himself upon the ground, under the heavy loads of a double tent, and believed himself secure. But in spite of his fancied security the avenger had tracked him, and leaping upon him he bit him, tore his garments, and would have killed him upon the spot, had not assistance rushed to his rescue.

He was immediately arrested, and led with M. Meyer and the dog, then carefully bound, before the judge, who hardly knew what to think of so extraordinary an affair. Meyer related all that had happened two years before, and insisted upon the imprisonment of the man, declaring that he was the murderer of his brother, for his dog could not be deceived.

During all this time it was almost impossible to hold the animal, who seemed determined to attack the prisoner. Upon interrogating the latter, the judge was not satisfied with his replies, and ordered a search. There was found upon him a large sum in gold, some jewels and five watches, four of them gold and very valuable, while the fifth was an old silver one, of but little consequence. As soon as Meyer saw this last he declared it to be the same that his brother wore the day that he left home, and the description of his watch, published months previously, corroborated his assertions. The robber had never dared to expose it, for fear it would lead to his detection, as he was well aware it had been described very minutely in all the principal journals of Germany.

In short, after the most minute and convoluted legal proceedings of eight months the murderer was condemned to be broken alive, and his corpse to remain chained upon the wheel as an example to others.

On the night preceding his execution he confessed among other crimes, what till then he always denied, that he was the murderer of Meyer's brother. He gave them all the details above related, and declared that he always believed the accused dog died of its wounds. "Had it not been for him," he repeated several times, "I should not have been here. Nothing else could have discovered me. He killed the dog, and buried him with all that he wore."

He expired on the wheel, and his was the corpse which I beheld before entering the city of Leipsic—Mrs. C. A. Soule, in Holy Family.

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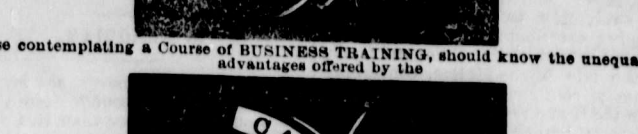
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D. C. MACDONALD, MANAGER. London, 27th June, 1885.

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