

ROMAN NOTES.

The Feast of the great Apostle of Ireland was celebrated at the Church of St. Isidore of the Irish Franciscans, where Pontifical Mass was celebrated at 10.30 a.m., accompanied by beautiful Gregorian music executed by the boy choir, and directed by the Abbe Muller.

The Feast of St. Joseph, Protector of the Universal Church, was celebrated with the greatest solemnity in all the churches of the Eternal City, having been preceded by a Novena, by order of His Eminence the Cardinal Vicar, being a Feast of Obligation.

In honor of his Pontifical jubilee the Holy Father invited the members of his family in Rome to spend a day with him. There were the two Counts and Countess Pecci and their families, and other relatives, numbering altogether twenty-two.

The sermons of the Rev. Basil Maturin, in the Church of San Silvestro in Capite, on Sunday and Thursday afternoons, at four o'clock, are attended by an enormous crowd of English and American strangers, who thoroughly appreciate the eloquence and earnestness of the eminent preacher.

During the past week the Very Rev. Father Magnier, C.S.S.R., gave a Retreat for English-speaking ladies, in the private Chapel of the Convent of Marie Reparatrice.

Religion and Society.

Observance of the fourth commandment, which bids us to keep holy the Sabbath day, is of great importance both to religion and to civilization, said the Right Rev. Bishop Canevin in the course of a sermon which he preached in the cathedral on Sunday morning last.

human society, depends upon the due observance of the command to keep holy the Lord's day. It is the duty of employers, whether on railroads or rivers, in factories, mills and shops, or in households, to arrange the work so that those whom they employ shall have an opportunity to observe the fourth commandment.

Sisters Insulted In Cincinnati

In these days when the secular press teems with accounts of nearly all sorts of wickedness, the public is almost proof against surprise in any publication of crime. Our own great city, however, enjoys the distinction of harboring individuals who seem to be past masters in the art of surprising and shocking the community with an exhibition of vice so low and disgusting that it can not be fully described in the columns of sensational newspapers.

The daily journals of Sunday and Monday tell us that last Saturday night Mr. Moses Goldsmith, of Walnut Hills, gave a reception in honor of his son and the latter's recently wedded bride. Ballet dancers, robed as Sisters of Charity, according to the Enquirer, as Sisters of Mercy, as the 'Post' has it, waited upon the door, and when the revelry was at its height threw off the nun's habits, appeared in pink tights and indulged in Oriental dances to the delight of the assembled guests.

Such bacchanalian revelry may be deemed just the thing by creatures of the Goldsmith ilk, but all decent citizens are shocked at the deliberate prostitution of the nun's habit which seems to have been very enjoyable to the participants in last Saturday night's carousal. It was a cowardly insult to a noble class of self-sacrificing women. Catholic sisterhoods all over this land are looked upon by all denominations with respect, admiration and love for the heroic work they have accomplished on the battlefield, in hospitals, pest-houses, orphan asylums and homes for the wayward.

It is difficult to fathom the depth of turpitude that could suggest that under the nun's robe is concealed the shameless immodesty of the brazen ballet dancer. The conception and its execution are worthy the brain and the morals of a pagan, whose excesses of vice which wrecks the mind while it saps the strength of the body.

The insult which Mr. Goldsmith and his convivial friends have flung in the face of Cincinnati Catholics

should not be allowed to pass unnoticed. We presume they can not be reached by process of law, but we know they can be punished on the pillory of public opinion. We know that the decent citizens of the Queen City will join us in our protest against the premeditated and outrageous insult to the angels of the battlefield and the gentle nurses of the hospital and the asylum.

Catholics are sorely wounded in their tenderest feelings, for to them the Sisters are brides of Christ, who, to show their love for their divine Spouse, devote their lives to the alleviation of human misery.—Catholic Telegraph.

Bureau of Forestry

The Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture has been raised to the rank of a regular Government Bureau. The importance of this step will be fully appreciated when we recall the rate at which our wooded lands are being depleted and the consequent necessity of preserving and if possible increasing their extent.

A thorough study of the timber question reveals the fact that the annual natural income of timber does not equal the output and that we are daily drawing on the surplus of the past. This becomes a serious question when we consider not only the effect on the climate, the rainfall and the floods that result, but also when we consider the effect on home industry and foreign trade. One item alone will bring to our minds the enormous consumption of wood. Our newspapers, magazines and books are printed on paper made from wood pulp, and acres of virgin woodland are required for a single issue of a metropolitan daily or a leading magazine. Our exports are growing, and manufactured articles that require wood form a large part of them. Lumber is sent across the Atlantic in shiploads, our paper goes to Europe and Australia by millions of pounds, American carriages and furniture are largely used in Europe, but railway and trolley cars are purchased in South America, New Zealand and in Asia, and American wood and pulp manufactures are used the world over. And to this American agricultural machinery which is in universal demand and we can form some idea of the rate at which our forests are being depleted.

The fact that the country is awake to the problem that confronts it is clear from the response that was universally given to the offer made by the Division of Forestry in 1898. This was an offer of expert services to advise and make plans for the management of woodlands. The response came from every State and Territory in the country and summed up embraced an area of 3,500,000 acres.

Another hopeful feature is recognized in the specific trend of American industrial life. The large corporations in every department of industry are producing not only the finished product but also the raw material, and thereby cheapening the cost of production. This same tendency is seen among paper manufacturers who are large consumers of wood. If they deplete the forest from which they take the wood they must move their mill, which means a large money loss. They are therefore obliged to take care of their woodlands that they may have a constant supply of wood for their paper pulp. So interested have some of these firms become in the preservation of the woods that although they control thousands of acres of forest they will not fell a tree that is under a foot in diameter, thus enabling them to use their pulp mill and forest indefinitely. They moreover employ skilled foresters to care for the trees.

Among the large consumers of timber must be reckoned the railroads. They require the wood for ties and telegraph poles, and as no satisfactory substitute has been found for wood as a railroad tie its increasing price is forcing the railroad companies to become practical timber growers, and in recent meetings of railroad managers there have been earnest discussions on the advisability of regular tree planting and cultivation on land secured for that purpose. This action by these companies opens up a field for trained foresters. The manufacturers of agricultural implements are adopting the same policy and some already have large tracts of woodland skillfully managed under advice received from the Division of Forestry.

The lumber companies are slower to adopt the scientific plan of staying by one tract of forest land and caring for it; still there is a gain in this direction, for in the Adirondacks, for example, it has been found profitable to adopt the advice

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of the Bureau and cut only trees above a certain size and to so do the work that the younger growth is not injured. Measures are also taken to guard against forest fires.

The Government of the United States has forest reserves amounting to about fifty millions of acres. To care for these government reserves and for the large woodland tracts controlled by corporations men skilled in forestry are required, and it has been the aim of the Bureau of Forestry to encourage in our colleges courses that will fit competent men to undertake this work in an intelligent way, and while making a good livelihood, protect and develop this important source of many industries in the country. At present there are forest schools in Yale, Cornell, Biltmore, N.C., and in many of the universities of the Middle West. The importance of this work cannot be overestimated, and now that it is being put on a scientific basis we can look forward to the preservation of our forests that means so much for the material development of the nation.—American Catholic Quarterly Review.

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The Laws of a Great City.

Mr. Eugene A. Philbin is well qualified to write upon the theme he has chosen for his contribution to the current number of the "Messenger Monthly Magazine," and entitled "The Laws of a Great City." His long and intimate association with the courts of New York has afforded him many opportunities of getting at the facts which he has elaborated in his article with much literary skill. Touching upon a question which we have often dwelt upon in the columns of the "True Witness"—that of misrepresentation of prisoners in regard to religion and nationality, Mr. Philbin says:

A careful analysis of the work done by our Church might show that untold sums of money were saved to the state by its good offices. As it is, we are charged in the statistics with every person of an Irish name who is brought to the bar of justice. While District Attorney I procured the conviction for murder in the first degree of a negro named Planagan, who was neither an Irishman nor a Catholic, but, of course, the enemies of the Church put him down as both. For many years it was the practice in our criminal courts to ask before sentence the religion of the convicted person. In many instances, particularly where the judge was of our faith, the answer would be "Catholic," even where the appearance of the prisoner

None knows the weight of another's burden.

He that looks not before finds himself behind.

At first we hope too much; later on too little.

There is virtue even in the looks of a great man.

OUR CORNSTONE OBSERVER.

HE other day I asked me if I was as good as dead. She said that I was a friend a silver egg was highly appreciated, same friend had sent a letter to another person, taken as an insult. I declined to give any subject, in case what I would might not suit, or the effect of the silver above mentioned individual said that I was not an such matters, therefore I be excused.

A BRIEF STUDY.—Now occurrence and this peculiar reflection in my mind began to think about the of eggs for Easter, and the strange manner in which son regarded such a gift, eggs should be eaten as diet at Easter, and why should be selected as representative of that season is something have not studied. I have rious origins for this curious they all seemed to me to puerile and even to be contemptible I have paid but attention to that phase of it and I must admit that I deeply interested therein. idea of a person taking of cause a friend had the mess to send him, or her, of present, or gift, at such afforded me matter for study. My first conclusion the person in question my "crank," or one so full of notions as to almost anomalous. It is often gauge the effect certain in all kindness, will produce of uncertain disposition I have found that when you deal with persons of that it is always safer never to do them a kindness of less they have made it clear they would accept gladly it is preferable not to make, far less to do the than are people in the world, wares are so unique, that with suspicion upon every that is done them. They the Trojans of old, only their solid reasons, who Greeks even when bringing is not always easy to find natures, but once you have hint that such a weakness a person, your most happy will be to avoid doing that any outward kindness. To seem a peculiar advice come one whose pen has always charity, good will, and deeds. But, there is no doing that which will give no good will can result for which creates a hard feeling is no friendly deed, if it wrongly construed.

Whisky Destroys This is to be no sermon talism. The desire is to dis young men and others, not mental principle, but the in each individual. Strong drink is the curse lions in our modern civilization. There is throughout society may be called a "whisky level exists in every great in every small village. The men classed as whisky drinkers, and, whatever they profess to believe, they are know they are the pariahs community. Whisky has many apologies are many arguments offered favor. But these arguments be compared with those that be brought against it. You are told truthfully that The drinking nations of the are the great and successful. A small handful of drinking can subdue and control the ate millions of India, Egypt Perfectly true. The powerful do drink. But the powerful do not drink.