

**EARN \$10,000,000 FOR STATE.**

The state of Iowa has been paying \$5,000 a year for two years to a man who in the last twelve months has earned \$10,000,000. His name is Prof. P. G. Holden and he is agronomist.

Iowa farmers laughed at the idea of a man with such a title trying to teach them, the best corn growers in the world, anything about the art of raising corn. But they do not laugh now. Instead, they flock by hundreds to hear Prof. Holden talk, and they go away and do as he tells them. As a result, in large part, of following his advice, they have raised about 100,000,000 bushels more corn this year than in any year before, and they expect to add another 100,000,000 bushels to their crop next year.

Prof. Holden became an agronomist—an expert in grain raising—by accident. When he taught school in Michigan he proposed a corn growing contest among his pupils. He induced the boys to pick out the earliest, biggest and finest ears from the fields, save them and plant from them the best kernels. The result, aided by scientific methods of cultivation, was that the boys raised more corn in their little patches than anybody had dreamed of.

Prof. Holden worked on this system until it was perfected. His fame spread, and Funk Bros., who own a 25,000-acre farm in Illinois, offered him a large salary to run it. He raised 20,000 acres of corn a year for them, and added to their yield more than 100,000 bushels the first year.

The state of Iowa thought he was worth having, and engaged him to occupy the chair of agronomy in the agricultural college in Ames. The place was created for him.

The results are read in the corn crop this year. The average crop of Iowa corn for 1904 is 40 bushels to the acre. For nine years it has been 27½ bushels to the acre. This year's crop will aggregate 350,000,000 bushels, about 125,000,000 more than last year's yield. The crop is worth about \$30,000,000 more than a year ago, and Prof. Holden is universally credited with a third interest in the extra yield.

**EXTREME UNCTION.**

Conditions Under Which It May Be Administered—Its Benefits.

From the Church Progress.

Sickness and the likelihood of death resulting therefrom are the two conditions which must exist to entitle one to the sacrament of Extreme Unction.

Some, however, not sufficiently informed may imagine the above definition at variance with the practice prevailing in the Church. They observe the sacrament being administered to those who have met with an accident which is pronounced fatal. There has been no previous sickness, hence the absence of one of the necessary conditions. But they should remember that the accident itself, not producing instant death, results in a sickness which may terminate in death. Both conditions are, therefore, present, and the injured person is consequently entitled to the sacrament.

While we believe that almost all Catholics have a proper knowledge of the occasions on which the sacrament may be administered, yet there can be no mistake that some are seriously at fault touching its benefits. Their conduct would indicate that they believe the administering of the sacrament means certain death. Hence they defer sending for the priest until the very last moment, risking the death of the sick person before the priest's arrival.

There are no grounds for such conclusions, neither is there justification for such action. On the contrary, there should be great anxiety to have the sacrament administered as early as possible. We have it on the authority of St. James that "the prayer of faith shall save the sick man." We have it on the authority of the Council of Trent that health is also restored to the body when that is expedient for the salvation of the soul. We have it also on the authority of the priest, confirmed by the observation of even non-Catholic physicians, that immediate change for the better in the condition of the sick frequently follows the reception of the sacrament. Many of us, also, have been convinced of the same fact from personal knowledge.

**IRISH SCULPTOR DEAD.**

John O'Brien, once well known as a sculptor, is dead in Galveston, Tex. He was a native of Ireland, and 70 years old. He served in the Crimean

war, and at its close enlisted in the Papal guards, and during the period of his enlistment studied sculpture under Cattini in Rome. After seven years he came to New York, where he opened a studio. In 1860 he was commissioned by Ohio to produce the monumental statue of Commodore Perry, of that city. During the civil war he served in the First Ohio. At Perry, which ornaments Euclid avenue, of that city. During the civil war he settled in Washington, where his most notable works are life size statues of Chief Justices Taney and Chase. His masterpiece is his Winchester Soldier, erected upon the famous battlefield in Virginia. Twenty-two years ago he went to Galveston. Aside from the busts of Houston and Austin, he produced nothing of note in that State. He leaves no relatives.

**AN INCIDENT OF A MISSION.**

By the Rev. L. C. P. Fox, O.M.I., in Donohoe's for January.

On the day after our departure from the scene of our memorable mission, the Earl of Leitrim drove to the door of the chapel in company with his agent and one of those unfortunates whom he always took about with him. He sent his agent into the chapel to summon the priest. "Well, Priest Kain," says he, "What's this I see here before the chapel door?" "It's a mission cross, your Lordship. Some priests from Dublin have lately preached a mission here for our people, and according to custom they have erected this cross as a memorial of what has taken place here." "Have it removed at once," said his Lordship, "you know I don't allow anything of that sort to be erected without my sanction, so don't let me see it here, if I pass this way tomorrow. And I hear you have built two rooms over the sacristy at the other end of the chapel, without asking my leave, so have them pulled down at once. You know well that I am the master here." Father Kain answered: "Your Lordship's orders shall be obeyed at once about the two little rooms, but I make bold to tell you that if that cross be pulled down there will be a rebellion amongst the people, for they will never stand that." The agent then whispered something to the earl who said, before driving away, "Well, let that infernal cross stop till I see you again, but take down the rooms at once. You know well that if you thwart me I can take your chapel from you and change it into a Methodist meeting-house." I received this authentic account of all that transpired after our departure from a respected parish priest who rendered us valuable services during the mission. It must afford us a pretty clear conception of what the Catholic renantry and their clergy had to suffer during those days at the hands of bigoted landlords or their agents. Thank God those days are past. There are but a few left of the stamp of the Adairs, the Leitrim, and the Clanricards. I must here thank those who have accompanied me in this imperfect history of my missionary career.

**"OUR TAINTED NATURE'S SOLITARY BOAST."**

For the Immaculate Conception means the absence of original sin. It means this, that at the moment when Mary was conceived, that is, at the moment when God created her soul and infused that soul into her body and she became thereby a living thing, a human being, a person—at that self-same indivisible instant she was sanctified by the habitual grace of God. By the future redemption of her Son, Mary was preserved from original sin. Mary was redeemed by Christ, just as we are. But while in us redemption blots out original sin, in Mary redemption preserved her from its stain. As the first Eve was created, so Mary, the second Eve, was conceived into the supernatural order. Never, therefore, for one instant did Mary exist out of the grace of God. Never for one instant was her will turned away from God. Sin never touched Mary—Adam's fall never stained Mary. The trail of the serpent was never over Mary. All the rest of Adam's posterity are conceived in sin, are conceived "filii irae—children of wrath," serfs of Satan, heirs of hell (Ephes. II., 3). Mary alone was conceived the adopted child of God. Others have been born immaculate, because sanctified in their mother's womb. The prophet Jeremiah was born immaculate. John the Baptist was born immaculate. But Mary's privilege is unique. For she alone was conceived immaculate.—Rev. Charles Coupe, S. J.

**Underwear a Farmer Needs**

Regular weights won't do for the farmer. He must be warmer clad, because his work about the farm and long drives to town keep him out in the cold so much.

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comes in special weights, especially for farmers. Special weights don't mean clumsy, bulky garments. Stanfield's Underwear is so warm because of the peculiar knit of the garments. It's pure Nova Scotia wool, that has been treated to take out the shrink and leave in the softness. We—and your dealer—both guarantee Stanfield's to be unshrinkable.

## Many Women Suffer Untold Agony From Kidney Trouble.

Very often they think it is from so-called "female disease." There is less female trouble than they think. Women suffer from backache, sleeplessness, nervousness, irritability, and a dragging-down feeling in the loins. So do men, and they do not have "female trouble." Why, then, blame all your trouble to female disease? With healthy kidneys, few women will ever have "female disorders." The kidneys are so closely connected with all the internal organs, that when the kidneys go wrong, everything goes wrong. Much distress would be saved if women would only take

**DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS**

at stated intervals. Miss Nellie Clark, Lambeth, Ont., tells of her cure in the following words:—"I suffered for about two years with kidney trouble. I ached all over, especially in the small of my back; not being able to sleep well, no appetite, menstruation irregular, nervous irritability, and brick-dust deposit in urine, were some of my symptoms. I took Doan's Kidney Pills. The pain in my back gradually left me, my appetite returned, I sleep well, and am effectually cured. I can highly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to all sufferers from kidney trouble."

Price 50 cents per box, or 3 for \$1.25. All dealers, or DOAN KIDNEY PILL CO., TORONTO, ONT.

**POPE'S SANDALS AMERICAN.**

The sandals worn by the Pope in the great ceremony of crowning the Blessed Virgin at St. Peter's on Dec. 8, were made in America, and were presented to the Pope by the thousand or more pupils of a Jesuit school in New Orleans, the children of the Mary sodality of the Jesuit church. They raised the money necessary for the making of the sandals, over \$2,500.

The sandals are marvels of workmanship and decorative skill. They are lined with white satin and finished without in silver leaf work raised etched with gold embroidery. The leaf work is studded generously with diamonds, rubies and sapphires.

**A LENGTHY SERIAL.**

When Lieut. Colonel Lynam founded the "Shamrock," thirty-eight years ago, in Dublin, he wrote a serial story for it, entitled "Mick McQuad's Adventures," and from that day to this the serial has done duty in the pages of the same periodical. For thirty-eight years Mick McQuad has been amusing the readers of the "Shamrock"—surely a record run for a serial story. A comparison between the Mick McQuad of the sixties and the Mick McQuad of 1904 reveals the extraordinary fact that he has not altered in appearance in the slightest degree. He is still a young man.

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The two pictures to be given are typical bits of child life. The prevailing note in each is—as it should be—bubbling enjoyment of the moment, with just a touch of one of the evanescent shadows of childhood to throw the gay colors into relief. They will please and charm upon any wall where they may hang, bringing to one an inner smile of the soul even on the darkest day. For what can shed more happiness abroad than the happiness of children?

One of the pictures is called

## "Heart Broken"

We will not let the reader into the secret of what has happened, but one of the merry little companions of the woeful little maid who has broken her heart is laughing already, and the other hardly knows what has happened. Cut flowers nod reassuringly at them, and a bright bit of verdure covered wall stands in the background. There is something piquantly Watteauesque about one of the petite figures, suggesting just a touch of French influence on the artist.

The other picture presents another of the tremendous perplexities of childhood. It is called

## "Hard to Choose"

As in the other picture, we will not give away the point made by the artists before the recipients analyze it for themselves. Again there are three happy girls in the picture, caught in a moment of pause in the midst of limitless hours of play. One of the little maids still holds in her arms the toy horse with which she has been playing. Flowers and butterflies color the background of this, and an arbour and a quaint old table replace the wall.

The two pictures together will people any room with six happy little girls, so glad to be alive, so care-free, so content through the sunny hours amidst their flowers and butterflies, that they must brighten the house like the throwing open of shutters on a sunny morning.

## Quick Reference Map of The Dominion of Canada

SPECIALLY PREPARED

The map of the Dominion of Canada will fill a long felt want. It has been prepared specially for the Family Herald and Weekly Star, and is right up-to-date. It is printed on a sheet 22 x 28 inches, each province in a different color; it shows the adjacent portions of the United States, the exact location of the towns, villages, etc., all railroad routes, including the new G. T. Pacific. It gives the population according to the very latest census, of all small and large places in Canada. With the Dominion maps will be enlarged provincial maps, that appeal to subscribers in each province, as follows:

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