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SATURDAY, JAN 17, 1903.

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

JANUARY.

- 18—Second Sunday after Epiphany. Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus.
- 19—Monday—St. Canute, Martyr.
- 20—Tuesday—Saints Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs.
- 21—Wednesday—St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr.
- 22—Thursday—Saints Vincent and Anastasius, Martyrs.
- 23—Friday—Espousals of the Blessed Virgin.
- 24—Saturday—St. Timothy, Bishop, Martyr.

CATHOLIC REFORM.

The Tablet, of December 27th, prints a very striking paper by Bishop Keppler, of Rottenberg, who replies to a school of would-be reformers that has been of late creating some stir in Germany. Many of his aphorisms are epigrams sparkling with fresh, unthought-of truth. Dealing with the necessity of reform from within, His Lordship writes: "Our Catholic reformers seem to pay no respect to the inner life of the Church. Their whole effort goes to the intellectual side of the Church. This is shallow, and we must protest against it. We require heart and soul, not only mind and intellect. The aim of Catholic culture is not only that Catholics should believe more, but also that they should know more than educated non-Catholics. But this knowledge is rather of a spiritual than of an intellectual kind. For this reason the education of a Catholic will always and of necessity be more mediæval than modern. The mediæval spirit is outwardly rough but inwardly noble; the modern spirit is outwardly fine but inwardly mean. The Catholic, therefore, will always fare better if he follows the former rather than the latter. Thus at least he will not endanger his soul and his eternal salvation."

Proceeding to consider the origin of all real reforms, he continues: "The Divine Spirit must be the soul of every reforming movement within the Church. But if this be so, then the reform of the Church or of Catholicism can consist only in a vigorous campaign against all that is contrary to the Spirit of God, in a renewed effort to beat and ward off from her the anti-Christian spirit, the spirit of the age, the world, the devil. If a reform comes in the name of the spirit of the age, it must necessarily be a false reform. To call in and admit the spirit of the age as a judge, corrector and reformer of the Church, is to degrade the Church. If, as Harnack (Wesen des Christenthums, p. 5) has truly remarked, it is an insult to the Christian religion to ask what it has done for the progress of civilization, before deciding on the merits of the latter, how much more insulting is it to drag the Church before so incompetent a judge and so doubtful a tribunal as the spirit of the age or modern culture? Those who do this understand the nature neither of Christianity nor of modern culture. I know it is the fashion with

some to look upon Catholicism as antiquated. But it is surely far more true to say that modern culture is antiquated—has grown old and become senile—and that modern society requires to be renewed unto youth. And whence is this renewal to come to it except from Christianity and the Catholic Church? To be worn out, old and senile, and yet to disport oneself as full of vigor and youth is a peculiarly modern feature and quite characteristic of our present age."

The above extracts suffice to show how very suggestive and thought-provoking is His Lordship of Rottenberg. We shall have occasion to quote from him again.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC CLUB.

Very Satisfactory Reports—Mr. F. W. Russell Elected President—Presentation to Past-President T. D. Deegan.

The third annual meeting of the members of the Catholic Club held on Thursday evening last was the most successful gathering ever held in connection with this very flourishing organization. The large hall was crowded and those present were thoroughly representative of Catholic social and business life in the city. The very greatest harmony prevailed and the unanimity and enthusiasm which characterized every stage of the proceedings spoke eloquently of the good feeling and the loyalty which animates the membership in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the club. President T. D. Deegan occupied the chair, and the first business was reading of the annual report by Honorary Secretary Russell.

This document reviewed the work of the past year, emphasizing the fact that progress had been made all along the line. The old debt had been paid off and the members would start the new year without one cent of pecuniary obligation and with all the handsome appointments of the rooms absolutely their own, fully paid for. The membership had shown a satisfactory increase and the attendance at the club was getting ever better every month. The report also detailed the social features of the year and concluded with thanking all who had assisted at the various entertainments and social gatherings.

Mr. R. F. Hinds, Financial Secretary, then read the details of the auditor's report, which proved most satisfactory.

President Deegan supplemented the report by commenting on the various points and in an eloquent speech appealed to the members to keep up the good work. He announced his own retirement from the Presidency and bespoke for his successor the same hearty good will and generous co-operation that he had always received during his three years in the office.

The reports were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted on motion of Mr. J. Fahey, seconded by Mr. A. H. Kennedy.

Next came the election of officers, which resulted as follows:—
President—F. W. Russell.
Vice-Pres.—J. T. Dumouchel.
Hon. Secretary—H. Brownrigg.
Fin. Secretary—R. F. Hinds.
Treasurer—D. T. Coyle.

Executive Com.—T. J. Langford, W. Jordan, O. Marrin, E. R. Dowdall, J. P. Raleigh, T. F. Gallagher and M. Dalton.

All the officers with the exception of the Executive Committee were elected by acclamation.

President-elect Russell, in rising to thank the meeting was greeted with enthusiasm. He was evidently deeply affected by the honor done him, but made a very graceful acknowledgment of the compliment. He spoke of the interest he had taken in the club since its inception. Having served for three years as honorary secretary, during which period he had been very close to President Deegan, he was in a position to thoroughly understand the responsibilities of the office to which he had now been elected, and at the same time he was fully aware of his own limitations, his inexperience. One thing he could, however, assure the members and that was he would administer the duties of his office fearlessly and honestly, with kindly feeling and courtesy for all. He asked the same

consideration at the hands of the membership and he was confident that if they lived the next twelve months in that spirit of fraternal charity and co-operation which had characterized the period of President Deegan's administration the year 1903 would see steady and satisfactory progress in the affairs of the club. He concluded by again in eloquent and earnest words thanking them for the trust they had reposed in him and resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

Stirring speeches were then made by Rev. Father Guillet, N. Bawil, E. Cass, D. Smith, J. Fahey, Bro. Lewis, C. H. Forrester, Dr. McKenty, H. O'Connor and others.

Next came a most pleasing incident, namely the presentation of a handsomely illuminated address and gold locket, suitably engraved, to the retiring president. The presentation was made by Mr. Russell, and the recipient was evidently taken quite by surprise, not even a hint having been given him that anything of the kind was contemplated.

The address spoke of the success achieved during the three years' existence of the club, and declared that this was in no small measure due to the fact that the institution in its inception had at its head a gentleman of such sterling social qualities and magnificent administrative abilities as Mr. Deegan, and he was asked to accept this accompanying gift, not for its intrinsic value, but as a memento of the early days of the club, and as an evidence of the very high regard in which he is held by the members.

Mr. Deegan was evidently hard put to it to command his feelings, but pulling himself together he succeeded in his own eloquent way in thanking the members for their thoughtful kindness. Once again he bore testimony to the good will which the members had always shown him and he declared he would treasure the address and the locket amongst his most honored possessions in memory of the happy years he spent as President of the club, and of the excellent body of men who composed the membership. He was heartily cheered during the speech and on resuming his seat.

From this point President Russell took charge of the meeting and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to retiring Vice-President Genest and Treasurer Jordan for their services during the year.

The other formal business of the meeting was then rapidly completed and this memorable meeting was brought to a close.

Chats with Young Men

If my readers will turn back with me to some of the chats we had before Christmas they will review how earnestly I held forth the necessity of possessing a forceful character to one who desires to influence and lead others, or who aims at success in business. Men act from impulse or according to reason; and impulse is often the result of a powerful impression made by another person, while reason is subject to the logic of stronger minds or dictates a course of action pursuant of paths along which high minds lead. Thus the silent influence of a strong mind is responsible for opinions and actions of a large circle of dependent creatures. How conducive it is then to the uplifting of humanity that the cardinal elements of noble living,—honesty, truth and honor, should reign in the minds and hearts of those who lead the world. But character, while forceful, must also be clothed in pleasing manners. Sometimes the strong-minded are cold and forbidding and fail to influence because they lack the smile that makes a ready connection with an admiring multitude. Hence we must attend to it that the little embellishments which complete and add strength to character may be found linking the many to the thrones of the few to whom the people look for direction.

Last week I wrote of the advantage as well as the pleasure of enlisting as friends all with whom we come in contact. I dwelt much upon the negative attitude, that of not antagonizing anyone by care-

less, uncharitable remarks. There is much more to be said on the positive side, that of impressing favorably those with whom we actually have words or dealings; and that my remarks may have some centre round which to arrange themselves in your memories, we shall call the theme of this chat Amiability. From the derivation of the word I would judge it means quality of winning friends. That at any rate is a good enough meaning for us. It is largely a gift born with us, and hence the exercise of it comes more naturally and more easily to some than to others. In this respect it resembles all other gifts of nature. Each person has a special and peculiar individuality embracing in a marked or unmarked degree certain of the Creator's bounties. Accordingly what is the easy unfolding of some natures requires forethought on the part of others. Thus it is some have the good fortune to make friends on every side, while others seem to have the misfortune of making enemies or at most lukewarm friends. Should one be contented then if one is outstripped in this direction by those who have more genial dispositions. No, this is the very point at which I wish to meet every young man who reads the chats. For if he is ambitious either to become a leader among men or for his own success in business he must acquire the ways of getting close to the hearts as well as to the minds of men.

In the first place we must get at the true concept of amiability. It does not consist in fawning, foolish smiling, or in yielding to good humor when the subject comporting not with honor or decorum; neither is it obsequious bending to the fountained condescending of the great. It is manifested rather in a simple and dignified bearing in commonplace and uncommonplace matters, where an exchange of good will is involved, so long as our good will is not maintained at the expense of something more precious. To mingle with persons who, like ourselves, have failings we must often disguise our dislikes. If we should avoid everyone who does not please us in every particular we should soon be quite isolated. That is quite impossible, however. We must go among our people every day and must see day after day in the same persons peculiarities or faults that we do not like. If we manifest our dislikes either openly or by studious avoidance of all meetings with such persons we not only violate the requirements of amiability but we are certain sometime to lose friends who might be valuable to us.

Again, too, when for the sake of pleasure or convenience our wishes are opposed to those of others of our party, it is well to yield to the majority when nothing of importance to ourselves is involved. In casual meetings, too, it is best always to give and take the friendly greeting, to reward a joke with a deserving smile, and to consider every one sincere in his approaches until we know him to be otherwise. We must recognize everyone with an honest and appropriate greeting whether persons are older or younger, superior or inferior to ourselves. In a word, let us consider that our hearts were given us to love those in whom our minds perceive the image of God; that life is too short to spend half of it in hating; that there is enough unhappiness in the lot of every creature without our adding our mites by expressing our dislike for failings that in each individual are sufficient punishment in themselves.

Thus, young men, you are responsible for the good cheer of your own life as well as for the happiness of many others. You can make friends by studying the feelings of your fellow creatures. Your sympathy should be broad as humanity. When you have a world of hearts that have cause to love you, at your bugle call in the hour of need eager and loyal friends will spring to your aid as each crag and bush yielded up its gleaming blade to James Fitz-James. This for your success. Moreover, your force of character will lead men along the highways to your heart and the standard of living will be raised and earth happier because you have lived.

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A BIRD DINNER.

"Gee whizz!" exclaimed the hungry robin, "I wish I had lived about three hundred years ago."

"Nonsense! What for?" demanded the sparrow.

"I've just been reading something in a religious paper about a Diet of Worms they had then."—Catholic Standard and Times.