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FIVE MINUTE SERMONS

FOR EARLY MASSES
By the Paulist Fathers.
reached in their Church of St. Paul the
Apostle, Fifty-minth Street and Ninth
Avenue, New York. TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFFER PARTECOST.

"But he that shall scandalize one of these
little ones that believeth in Me, it were better for him that a mill-stone should be
henged about his neck, and that he si ould
be drowned in the depth of the sa."—St.
Matthew's Gospel, xviii., 6.

These words of the Apostle St. Mat-

These words of the Apostle St. Matthew, dear brethren, have an application to all of us without exception, but they have a particular application to parents. For parents are the immediate guardians of the little ones of whom Holy Scripture speaks, and the daily example according to which children instinctively regulate their conduct. And hence it is evident how scrupulously careful parents should at all times be never to say or do any thing that can offend the innocent souls of those entrusted to them by God.

But, alas! how forgetful are fathers and mothers of so solemn a duty! How negligent they are of giving their children an example of virtue and piety! Instead of being a help to the formation of good habits in their children, parents are often culpable, and wilfully culpable, of seeing their little ones grow up utterly devoid of Christian modesty, and ignorant of those truths the knowledge of which is so necessary to the truly Christian man and woman. They do not, or will not, recognize the weighty responsibility imposed upon them by being blessed with children. They do not consider attentively enough the strict account they will have to render to God for the souls of their little ones. For, if this were not the case, why should we see in our midst so many young peo-For, if this were not the case, why should we see in our midst so many young peo-ple without religious instruction, without moral training, without hatred for sin, without love for virtue? The rising generation are subject to many vices, because they were neglected in the homes of their childhood. Instead of homes of their childhood. Instead of seeing pictures of piety hanging about their walls, their pure minds were tainted by the sight of immodesty. Instead of hearing words of charity and purity, their ears were offended by detraction, quarreling and blasphemy. Instead of being edified by the virtuous lives of those who bore them, they were scandalized by the sin of drunkenness, and its consequent vices of disunion and hatred. They were allowed to read books and papers that gave them a love for impurity; they were allowed to keep company with young men and women of doubtful character, and opposed to the teaching of the and opposed to the teaching of the Church; they were allowed to frequent places of the occasion of sin; they were allowed to grow up with inordinate attachments to the pleasures and amusements of this world. And all this on account of the violation of the duty of parents towards their children.

parents towards their children.

Mothers and fathers, give ear to the words of our Lord: "He that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believeth in Me, it were better for him that a mill stone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depth of the sea." Love your children with a parental love; give them the example of a life of holiness; implant in them the seeds of virtue when their young hearts are capable of a rich harvest for Almighty God; instil into them a resolution to observe the command. a resolution to observe the command-ments, to avoid sin, to be faithful to their religion, and to become types of true manhood after the pattern of our Lord Jesus Christ.

> COMMUNICATED] IN MEMORIAM.

REV. FRANCIS X. SADLIER.

good men, has seen noted more regretted than that recorded above. Father Sadlier was born in Montreal in the year 1852, and was the son of the late James Sadlier, of the firm of D. & J. Sadlier & Co., and the distinguished authoress, Mrs. Mary A. Sadlier. As a boy, he was remarkable for his gentle, affectionate disposition, and great talents. When his preliminary studies were finished he entered Manhattan College, and, after completing his course there, embraced journalism as a profession. To his entered Manhattan College, and, after completing his course there, embraced journalism as a profession. To his friends he appeared at this time to be entering upon a long and useful career in the world. But a far different future was awaiting him. Little by little his thoughts turned from the things of earth, and the result was that on November 1, 1873, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Sault-au-Recollet, near Montreal, Canada. After he had been there two years he was sent to Louvain, Belgium, to continue his studies. In 1879 he returned to this city, and was stationed at the college in Sixteenth street, and the year following was sent to Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass., which he never left save to go to Woodstock for his ordination, which took place on August 29th last. Towards the end of October he was seized with a slight indisposition, which, however, increased from day to day, until at length, on last Saturday, Father Sadlier passed away, fortified by the Sacraments of the Church, and attended with all the benedictions which she extends to the most favored of her children. The funeral services, which attended with all the benedictions which she extends to the most favored of her children. The funeral services, which took place in the chapel of the college on Monday morning, November 16th, were most impressive, and at their close the remains, preceded by a large number of priests, among whom many seculars were mingled with his Jesuit brethren, were borne, with sound of solemn chant and light of blessed taper, and followed by his afflicted mother and other sorrowing relatives, to the quiet graveyard, to rest among the other sons of St. Ignatius whose work is done.

So ended a life which was ever consistent with the highest Christian teach-

so ended a life which was ever consistent with the highest Christian teachings, and in which grace and natural disposition combined to produce a beautiful and most lovable character. The man fulfilled the promise of the youth; the Jesuit fulfilled the promise of the novice; and like blessed John Berch.

mans, and St. Stanislaus Kostka, whose feast day called him away, he was made perfect in a short time.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

A NEW SECRET SOCIETY-A GRAVE MISTAKE.

Philadelphia Standard.

Nearly nineteen hundred years ago our Blessed Redeemer, in his ever memorable discourse with Nicodemus, declared: "And this is the judgment; because light is come into the world, and men loved darkness, rather than light.

. . . . He that doeth truth cometh to the light that his works may be made manifest, because they are done in God."

be made manifest, because they are done in God."

Had the Church no experimental knowledge of the actual workings and pernicious influences of secret societies these words of our Divine Lord would furnish a sufficient reason for her condemning such organizations. Truth, purity, virtue have no reason to shun the light. Nor should those who follow and practice these excellent things try to hide the light of their good works. In obedience to the divine precept they should let it shine so that men may see it and glorify their Father in Heaven.

Yet just the reverse of this is what a number of young Episcopalians are doing in New York City, if an account of their movement in the New York Sun can be relied on as correct. It says that "a

in New York City, if an account of their movement in the New York Sun can be relied on as correct. It says that "a new secret society is rapidly spreading through the Protestant Episcopal churches of New York City. Its members are all boys." They style themselves "Knights of Temperance and Purity." Their motto is: "Sobriety, Purity and Reverence." They pledge themselves to "abstain from strong drink," and to "avoid whatever words and deeds are indecent and profane." "Rev. Dr. Da Costa, of the Protestant Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist" is "an active supporter of the new secret body."

It is highly praiseworthy for boys and young men to mutually pledge themselves to the practise of temperance and of purity of heart and of life, and to associate themselves together for the purpose of mutual encouragement and perseverance in this meritorious work. But it is a grave mistake for them to throw over their association the veil of secrecy. Thus they mar the beauty and taint the otherwise goodness of their work, by introducing an element which, if not positively evil in itself, yet always and everywhere tends to evil. It is not the pure, nor the virtuous, who instinctively seek to shroud themselves and their deeds in darkness, but the impure and the vicious. "For every one," says our divine darkness, but the impure and the vic-ious. "For every one," says our divine Lord, "that doeth evil hateth the light and cometh not to the light that his

works may not be reproved."

Among the many signs of the rapid lapse of the Protestant sects into mere naturalism and rationalism, there is none to our mind more significant than the tolerance and positive encouragement they are now giving to secret associations. Formerly most of these sects were opposed to these associations. Now their members and ministers generally belong to one or more of them. They profess to be "on the Lord's side," and fighting in His name and to be against the devil. Yet in favoring secret societies they are ranged side by side with the devil and his allies. to our mind more significant than the

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SADLIER.—At Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass., on the 14th inst., Rev. Francis X avier Sadlier, S. J., in the thirty-fourth year of his age.

The year 1885, which has seen recorded the deaths of so many great and good men, has seen none which is to be more regretted than that recorded more regretted than that recorded whether internal or external.

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