

THE CATHOLIC.

QUOD SEMPER, QUOD UBIQUE, QUOD AD OMNIBUS CREDITUM EST.—WHAT ALWAYS, AND EVERY WHERE, AND BY ALL IS BELIEVED.

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THE CATHOLIC

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Original.

EXTRACTS FROM A POEM ON THE "POWER OF MONEY," IN
THREE CANTOS, VIZ.—ON MONEY'S PHYSICAL, MENTAL
AND MORAL REIGN.

(Continued.)

Not half so wond'rous in Arabian tale
The spell of magic ring, unlikely feign'd,
Or lamp of Aladdin, as real thine:
Which makes a fool, its owner, wise appear;
Though vile, illustrious; upright, though a knave;
Sprightly, though dull; and moral, though a rake.
It doffs deformity; to wrinkled age,
Toothless, and blear'd, and bald, and piping shrill,
Gives youthful bloom and manly sounding voice;
And turns to flowing jet the hoary locks
Of sighing suitor in the fair one's eyes:
As Hymen knows, who oft has smiling seen
Led to his altar pleas'd the buxom bride
By rich decrepitude's impalsied hand,
But ah! Not beauty's self may beauteous seem,
Not virtue virtuous; ev'n not wisdom wise;
Not noble ought; not worthy, good or great,
In all the world, unsanction'd such by thee.
Ne'er comfort and content, sweet smiling pair!
Save in thy train are seen; they shun the wretch
By thee forsaken quite, and thus undone.
Thee too, life charmer, friendship close pursues,
Attendant on thy bribe; though she was sent
By pitying Heav'n to cherish want and woe;
From sorrow's cheek to wipe the briny tear;
To calm with soothing speech the troubled mind,
Still whisp'ring comfort; and, through show'ry cloud
As Sol looks cheering, to dispel the gloom
Of moping melancholy with her smile,
That bright reflects the heart's congenial glow,
And sympathy sincere; delightful felt,
Delighting as perceiv'd, when from its sluice
The brimming tear slips sudden, and relieves
The pleasing pang, that wrings the inmost soul.

O such was friendship first, no hireling, found;
But she has play'd the truant, by thy boon
Seduc'd, and from her generous task decoy'd.
To Timon such she prov'd; ingrate, for he
Might well have claim'd from her a kind return.
Long had she feasted at his sumpt'ous board,
And in his princely fortune freely shar'd;
But all her court the while to thee was paid,
His inmate, Money! Nor, when thou withdrew'st,
Lagg'd she behind, her landlord to console,
At thy departure sad; nor us'd with thee
Her influence to prolong thy wish'd delay.

Remedy for Sea Sickness.—Take as much Cayenne
pepper as you can rightly bear in a basin of hot soup, and
all sickness, nausea, and squeamishness will disappear.

INSTITUTIONS OF PUBLIC CHARITY AND PRIMARY INSTRUCTION AT ROME.

(Continued.)

From the "London Catholic."

The Popes have the honour of being the first authorities in Europe who established asylums for foundlings, whose not uncommon fate it had been to be thrown into the Tiber. An establishment for this purpose was opened by Pope Innocent in the year 1199—a decided proof that in the so-called dark ages the light of civilization was not absent, at least from the Holy See. A similar hospital was opened by St. Vincent de Paul in Paris, in the year 1638; in London no such establishment existed until within the last century. Outside the gate of the hospital a place is prepared for the reception of the deserted infant; the moment it is found it is taken in and treated with all the necessary attentions.

A due record is immediately made of the day and hour when the child was discovered, and if any note, or token, or mark of any description, intended to be proof of its identity, be found upon it, it is preserved with the most religious care. A number of nurses, who are exceedingly well taken care of, are always in attendance, in order to supply the poor little stranger at once with his natural food. Infants are also sometimes sent out to the care of women, who, having lost their own children while at the breast, make application at the establishment, such applications being, at the same time, accompanied by certificates from their cures that their own infants have recently died. Proper inspectors are appointed to visit the houses in which the infants under the protection of the asylum are placed. Suitable payments are made to these extern nurses, who keep the child until it is seven years old. They then return him to the hospital. If he be a boy, and the nurse desires to keep him, she is allowed to do so, provided she be in circumstances that will allow her to take proper care of him. The orphan thus adopted is usually as much beloved as if his nurse had been his own mother.

The cares of the asylum do not end with merely bringing up the child to the age of eight or ten years, and then binding him an apprentice to some heartless master, as is too often the case in London, whose chief object is the fee paid upon signing the indenture. At Rome, the rule is to send him to a large agricultural establishment near the Monte Romano, where he is initiated in the practice of husbandry; or if, after a trial, he be not found fit for this pursuit, he is sent to another establishment, at Viterbo, where he is taught some trade. Should he like to try his fortune in the world, when he is twenty years old, he is permitted so to do, and is furnished with a purse of ten crowns. Should he prefer going into the House of Industry, or in any other public establishment in Rome, his wishes are accomplished. Here is truly a system of charity, perfect in all its parts, which is not to be found in any other part of the world.

The great defect in the London charities, a defect from which our own Catholic institutions are by no means exempt, is the want of some safe system for the provision of the children after they have completed the course of instruction which those institutions afford. With boys they have not so much difficulty as with girls. The former are usually put out to trades, and we believe that, upon the whole, they are very well disposed of. But with respect to the girls, there are a thousand diffi-

culties to be combated. They are, indeed, uniformly well instructed in plain needle-work, which is a most precarious, and at best but a miserable employment for them after they quit the charity, in consequence of the vast competition with which they have to struggle. In addition to this employment, some of the girls are also taught to do the work of cooks and housemaids. But, unhappily, these are duties to which they very unwillingly apply after they quit their asylums. Having been brought up in comparative indolence, so far as bodily exertion is concerned, and with a degree of neatness and perhaps delicacy which are not the very best preparations for the execution of menial offices, they soon get tired of occupations for which they certainly are not fitted; and are but too seldom found to give satisfaction in the families which are disposed to employ them.

In Rome great difficulties have been experienced upon this point, and after the experiments that have been tried, we do not know that these difficulties have been altogether removed. Through the exertions of Monsignor Virgilio Spada, a woollen and linen manufactory has been established, in which a certain number of the foundling girls, as well those brought up in the asylum as those restored by extern nurses, are employed. In order to excite them to industry, they are entitled to receive a portion of the gains realized by their labour. At the same time, they are bound to take their turn in performing all the household work of the community into which they are formed; and a degree of labour is purposely imposed upon them, with a view to induce them to seek employment in families in which they would not have quite so much to do. This is so far an excellent system. In England, the charity girl goes into the service of a family from a previous condition of almost entire ease. In Rome, she is made to work hard before she goes out, and finding her new situation one attended with less labour, she easily and cheerfully executes the duties assigned to her. We strongly recommend it to the governors of our charities to take this plan into their consideration, with a view to see if steps could not be taken to establish something like it in this country.

Besides this manufactory, a large conservatory has been appended to the asylum, in which all the departments for washing, drying, and repairing linen have been formed. Here also needle-work of the finest kind, embroidery, &c., are carried on. Unfortunately it has not yet paid the great expenses which it requires, and absorbs out of the general income of the charity (50,000 crowns) 30,000 crowns a year. Considerable numbers of the foundlings taken into the Roman asylum are brought from the provinces, and even from Naples.

An admirable institution, not known, we believe, elsewhere, exists at Rome, which was originally founded so far back as the year 1564, under Pius II. A number of devout men associated themselves together, originally for the purpose of attending with particular care to the Chapel of the Holy Sacrament, in the Church of the Apostles. Being united for this object, and being, for the most part, men of education and intelligence, they resolved to extend their first design by adding to it practical works of charity. They went about giving spiritual advice and consolation, especially to families that had been reduced by misfortune from a state of comfort to one of privation. They did not give alms to anybody who applied to them, until they ascertained, by personal