

FIVE-MINUTE'S SERMON. Sunday Within the Octave of the Ascension.

THE CONSTANT STRUGGLE.

Be prudent, therefore, and watch in prayer. (St. Peter iv. 7.) What a happiness many Christians have at the Easter time through Confession and Communion, and how desirable it is that this happiness should continue!

Be prudent, therefore, and do not let yourselves be ensnared again by evil. Consider the great happiness which you now have, and compare it with your great misery when you were in danger of being lost for ever.

Now that you have the happiness of being in God's favor, how you ought to strive not to lose it! Show your gratitude by watching in prayer.

The assistance of God continues while the habit of prayer lasts, but no longer. Pray, and all will be well with you. If you do not pray, nothing can save you. Watch for your failings in the duty of prayer, and continually repair and correct them.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

The editor of the Record of Rochester, N. H., attended the services on Easter Sunday morning at St. Mary's Catholic church in the place mentioned, and this led him to make the following remarks:

The pastor preached a sermon in which he emphasized the need of faith and hope in the world, as well as love. He also expressed the hope, as thousands of other clergymen of all denominations have done, that peace and honor will still abide with our beloved country.

Time changes all things,—all things but memory, nothing can change that. Seems like it wuz just yesterday or the day before that I hearn the Old Man callin' "Mudder, mudder, I want'er tell you sumfin," and that I seen him put his arms around her neck 'nd whisper softly to her.

Rev. Chas. Fish, Methodist Minister, 192 Dunn Ave., Toronto, Cured of Eczema. About ten years ago I felt the beginnings of what is commonly known as Eczema.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

THE OLD MAN.

Eugene Field.

I called him the Old Man, but he wuz n't an old man; he wuz a little boy—our fust one; 'nd his gran'ma, who'd had a heap of experience in sich matters, allowed that he wuz for looks as likely a child as she'd ever clapped eyes on.

Lizzie 'nd I made it up between us that when the Old Man grew up we'd send him to collage 'nd give him a lib'l education, no matter though we had to sell the farm to do it.

Lizzie got just wrapt up in that boy; toted him round ever'where 'nd never let on like it made her tired,—powerful 'nd hearty child too, but heft wuz n't nothin' 'longside of Lizzie's love for the Old Man.

Sometimes, when I think of it, it makes me sorry that I did n't show the Old Man some way how much I wuz wrapt up in him.

Most all boys, as I've heern tell, is proud to be round with their father, doin' what he does 'nd wearin' the kind of clothes he wears.

The Old Man had a kind of confid' wuz with his mother. Every once in a while, when he'd be playin' by his self in the front room, he'd call out, "Mudder, mudder; 'nd no matter where Lizzie wuz,—in the kitchen, or in the wood shed, or in the yard, she'd answer: "What is it, darlin'?"

It had been an open winter, 'nd there wuz fever all around us. The Baxters lost their little girl, and the Homers Thompson's children had all been taken down.

They had had no daughters, only three sons, and these had, in matrimonial matters, been allowed to do as they would, it being deemed by their parents (ignorant of what a kindly parental foresight had done for themselves) that Love was lord of all below.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Catholic Columbian.

While the editor of this department was yesterday ransacking its archives for some data, he came upon a scrap of paper clipped from the New York Independent four years ago and containing the part of an article that is printed below.

To Help their Children to get Married. Permit me to give one or two true instances illustrative of my position that parents are in duty bound to arrange for the matrimonial future of their children.

In the early part of the present century a gentleman high in the councils of his country had an only son, the delight of the eyes of both father and mother.

Four weeks engagement? Four weeks is better. Four months is long enough. If a man really is enamored of a woman every minute of delay after winning her makes her his bride is irksome to him.

When a young man commences his wooing he may have no determined line of action in view beyond the stereotyped formalities of Wednesday and Sunday evening calls interspersed by visiting with the young lady here and there.

If a young man is a persistent caller on one particular young lady and he takes her out in public, public opinion pronounces the verdict and the young man and woman are recognized as prospective husband and wife.

It is economy to profit by the experience of others. Thousands have been cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, why not you? Cannot Be Beat.—Mr. D. Steinbach, Zurich, writes:—I have used Dr. THOMAS' ELECTRIC OIL in my family for a number of years.

A CLEVER LUNATIC.

Governor Adams' private secretary, Rod King, will probably never forget his experience in conveying Oscar Hake, a lunatic, to the Colorado State Asylum, says the Iowa State Register.

The conductor came to collect the fare, Secretary King was treated to a surprise. In some manner the lunatic had succeeded in getting out of Mr. King's overcoat pocket his pocket-book, containing tickets for the Governor's private secretary and one Oscar Hake.

It was the daughter of the second son who brought the old matchmaking letters to light. Well would it have been for her if her parents had not seen fit to trust to chance for her future!

DOCTOR'S ADVICE

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Dodd's Dyspeptic Tablets are the only Cure for Stomach Troubles that has been Found in Forty Years.

"I don't know what makes me so nervous to day," remarked the lawyer. "Every nerve in my body seems to be on fire."

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For 5 cents we will mail to any of our youthful readers a new story for boys, from the pen of the popular story teller, Father Finn, S. J., and an interesting tale for girls, by Ella Louvie Jersey both contained in, and written especially for Our Boys' and Girls' Annual for 1904.

THOS. COFFEY, CATHOLIC RECORD OFFICE, London, Ont.