try of relig-

ion of God's nt tradition rth. cided by the DECEMBER 5, 1993.

LODGE CEREMONIES AT CATHOLIC

FUNERALS.

Rev. C. Van der Donokt in Catholic Senti-

About a month ago I had to officiate

me with the same query I had answered

that morning. Still, I reiterated my statement, set-

ting forth the grounds which constrained me as the official representative of the

Church to exclude from my service out-

side intervention. The non-Catholic Woodman objected

The next day as the long procession

was moving toward the cemetery, I readily perceived upon seeing my ob-stinate caller of the past night carrying

"There's to be but one service," I plied. "I forbade any rules besides

ny own. Should they attempt to defy

me, I will protest." "Why ?" quoth he. "In N. the priests let the lodge have their cere-

"That is against the laws of the Church," I pursued, and on previous occasions the societies deferred to my

Fifteen minutes later we stood in the middle of God's acre. The Woodmen circled the tomb, the leader with book in hand, and a number of oth book

minent lawyer among them-holding

hymn-cards. Before blessing the grave and saying

ruling. I hope they will this time, too

to the Divine ?"

replied.

be all over.'

ranks.

will desist."

the whims of

HALLENGE.

THE JESUITS T LIE. e end justifies usly credited orking motto, n at the hands racuse, N. Y.

uthful ? They are generally on or doubt. d justifies the common use. er philosophic of nature ab-oulated by exd thieves they

the very misof defaulting clerks, book and out of pen-Sing, of eight enty-five have , lying by the io much for the

е. means is a fairather than a own pet phrase ated and slanthe Jesuits. phraseology it y laudable end means may be age success in only laudable itious and aspir-

by the million. position. To ed proverb, the means, permits, ges any every what the decep every ployed in their e not found out, are lauded, ad-nodels for emulacial and political

nt success forms n wind, issues shekels, bribes legislation and is enterprising, d. of course, re if he plays the religious tarn of school, leads in ds churches, en hospitals and hospitals and ned the end, and

neans. the real meaning

of the Syracuse d to have written be refuted by the the Jestit prins the means. Of professor had no at this a Jesuit concoct it or origte for his author the credulous and repared to accept rainst their neigh-nst neighbors they epted it as a posti and unquestioned

ionaries and cyclo olic tracts, and in text for preachers ts to popular exe-rned professor of a ht to be more cauti-han to accept on metions of the second usations so oppro-nd learned body of

interposed the Catholic assistant underhim in religion are always open to pedia articles have a than that of the ey and truthfulness cyclopedia is useful

'Go on," said some member.

permits no prayer, no matter how short,

to be published without her official ex-amination and approval. Thus, for in-stance, she forbade her children to use the prayer composed by Queen Margaret of Italy for her assassinated husband. at the funeral of a faithful Catholic, who was a member of the Woodmen of the World. On the previous day Set up by God Himself for the pur-pose of teaching His truth, the Church alone has the authority and the duty to carry out the mission given her by Christ. She cannot tolerate any rival the World. On the previous day one of my parishioners, also a Woodman, came to inquire what official part the aforesaid lodge would be permitted to take at the burial. I said : "None, or usurper. She cannot permit any man organization to encroach upon her rights. To do so in any manner take at the burial. I said : "None, except assisting in a body at the church service and marching to the grave." "All right, Father," quoth my friend, as he took his leave. To my astonishment, and, I confess, somewhat to my vexation, at 9 o'clock and to come to the particular case under consideration, to let lodges ap pend their ceremonies to her's, would be injurious to God's honor and con-trary to her divinely imposed duty, as it would be tantamount to owning p. m, of the same day, two delegates of said society presented themselves to

either that her liturgy is deficient or incomplete, and that she leans upon a human society to have the finishing touches put to her work; or, that she is not the exclusive teacher and guard ian of souls, but that the fraternal orders, for instance, are entrusted with a like mission. To hold either horn of this dilemma is simply blasphemy. It is to be desired and hoped that

that Father N. had at the funeral of Mrs N. allowed "the Circle to have thanks to explicit diocesan statutes, the world-wide uniformity of the Church Mrs N. allowed "the Circle to have their ceremonies. I strove to make my callers under-stand that this was not a personal matter of like or dislike, but a duty on my part to abide by the laws of the Church. shall no longer be marred in regard to funerals, so that nowhere a priest shall again be asked which service —that of the Church or of the lodge —shall be held first over the remains of a Catholic and that the faithful, enlightened by per Church. "It seems strange to me," rejoined the outsider, "that while you are so tinent and timely instructions, may see the incongruity and unlawfulness of particular about your rules, you will not tolerate that we comply with ining a human appendix of the di-

Who would want trimmings of paper "Is it not reasonable," I replied, "that the human society should yield and straw to a house of marble and stone? What Catholic would not be horrified at the idea of lodge officers My non-Catholic friend, unlike his Catholic companion, could not enter into my view. Without further parley, preaching in a Catholic church? Well, they have no more right to preach at a Catholic tomb, no matter whether their owever, we parted with a mutual Good-night." sermon be read or spoken.

A TITLE AND ITS DEFENSE.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UPHELD IN

THE USE OF THEIR NAME. Catholic Columbian.

a book, apparently a ritual, what the Woodmen seemed determined to do. My forebodings were confirmed by the In the November number of the Dol-In the November humber of the Dol-phin a correspondent puts a query as to the use of the word "Knight" by Catholic organizations. Apropos of the Knights of Columbus the correspondent question which the undertaker, a nomquestion which the undertaker, a hom-inal Catholic, sprang upon me as he entered the buggy in which I had over-taken the head of the cortege. "Which service," he interrogated, "will be held first, at the grave?"

said Why should they call themselves Knights? It smacks, to say the least, of the Masonic fraternity, and gives the impression as if we were anxious to imitate the methods of so-called Knights Templar, Knights of Pythias, and similiar institutions with which the Church, and therefore Catholics, the Church, and therefore Catholes, can have no sympathy, because their oath-bound profession alienates them from legitimate control in religious and civil as well as social life. This aping of titles, together with certain forms of initiation peculiar only to the Macroine lodges makes some of us Masonic lodges, makes some of us who do not belong to the 'Knights,' yet who are convinced of their being in hand, and a number of others-a capable of rendering much service to the Catholic cause, at times distrust the Cathone cause, at times distribu-the wisdom of those who, especially among the hierarchy and clergy, en-courage the movement, which has un-doubtedly reached a very large class of the best element among our Catho-lie manhand." the last prayers, I walked over to the head man of the lodge, and said quietly : "When I am through, it must lie manhood.

" 'Twill be, as far as you are con-cerned," replied the stubborn officer, whose acquaintance I had made the e manhood. The Dolphin replied as follows : No one who has at heart the growth Catholic influence may be indiffer-

whole arrive the prohibited to join your the membership of the Knights of Co-the and the Church. If you defy me, Cath olics may be prohibited to join your sand (including associates and insur-ance members). The condition of the association exclude non-Catholics, "I cannot until I am assured that you merely nominal Catholics, and, if we 'Let them have it this time, Father," are rightly informed, all classes of

taker. "I cannot," was my answer. At last the Wordmen officers gave me their word that they would forego their cermonies. When I was through with the pray.

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

ANOTHER PRIEST HERO. tions. Hence the multiplied associa-tions of Ancient Orders, Royal Knights, Fraternal Legions, Dames of Malta, Ladies of the Tenple, Mystic Circles, etc. These orders answer in various ways to the prevailing aspirations of the people in the spheres of society, charity and business. The attraction charity and business. The attraction which ancient forms, philanthropic enterprise and opportunities of self-improvement offer extends alike to Catholics and others. What dangers to the faith of Catholics lurk in absorption into these circles, whose added charm of secrecy removes the warning which accompanies temptations at other times, need not be explained here : they must gotten by those who saw it. There stood a priest, a heroic figure in the red, smoky light of the tunnel lamps. He was Father Thomas Lynch of St. Elizabeth church, which stands within half a mile of the scene of the disaster. News of the accident was quick to reach Father Lynch, and he was among the first to arrive at the mouth of the tunnel, from which the great mass of need not be explained here ; they mus be patent to any thinking person who understands the nature and value of understands the nature and value of Catholic principles. The proper anti-dote to this attraction lies in the pres-entation of similar attractions, which, however, contain no pitfalls to the faithful who feel the need of social in-tercourse, of charitable activity, and of industrial encouragement. This fact becomés an apology for adopting methods similar to those which are used by the non-Catholic world, but which are in this case operative only for the strengthening of true religious fallen rocks could be faintly seen. police barred the way, but the resolute police barred the way, but the resolute priest wayed them aside. Fearlessly pushing on, stumbling over boulders and scattered timbers, Father Lynch safely reached the fearul tangle of rocks and men. Police men Dempsey and Mead of the mounted squad, were working like mad to pry

for the strengthening of true religious convictions among the laity. But there is something more to be said in behalf of this feature of modern

said in behalf of this feature of modern fraternity life. The idea of "knight-hood" as a distinguished mark of our societies is an inheritance and preroga-tive of Catholic societies, despite the fact that it has been adopted and abused for centuries by secret societies of whose aims and methods the Church does not approve. The abuses and do nel, ankle deep in mud he hurried ahead. The cries of tortured men does not approve. The abuses and de-terioration into which the Knights Templar and other mediaeval orders Templar and other meansval others fell after the original incentives which had called them into life had passed away, are a matter of history. But so long as there was room for the exercise of their devotion to the defense of Christian interests in the East, they corred a magnificent cause. We have served a magnificent cause. We have before us the original text of the con We have stitution and rules of the old Knights Templar, as composed under the eyes of St. Benard of Clairvaax, and we won-

der how it was possible to bring to-gether such a body of loyal, devout gether such a body of loyal, devout and self-sacrificing men who for more than a century seem to have kept in-tact the spirit and letter of their ob-servance. What destroyed them was tact the spirit and letter of their ob-servance. What destroyed them was their abandonment of a definite purpose after the original aim of their institu-tion had ceased in their withdrawal from Palestine. They became involved in politics: wealth and luxary were the ambition of their social life; and thence issued scandal and defection. The purpose of the Knights of Columbus The purpose of the Knights of Columbus is less circumscribed. It must subsist as long as the Church needs defenders as long as the Church needs defenders of her faith and her precepts. And the name of "Knight" need not offend; it is more likely to inspire noble efforts if only it recalls to the members the glorious chivalry of the men who like Hugh de Payns took up the defence of the Christian pilgrim, supporting the priorthood and giving glory to the priesthood and giving glory to the name of Catholic.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

Next Tuesday the Catholic world will Next Tuesday the Catholic world will celebrate one of the greatest Feasts in the Church, that of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. The doctrine an-nounced by this article of our faith may be briefly stated to be that the Blessed Virgin, having been destined to be the Mother of God. was preserved be the Mother of God, was preserved from the stain of even original sin. By the disobedience of our first parents sin became the common inheritance of

lumbus is nigh on to one hundred thou-all humanity. and (including associates and insur-As Mary, however, had been destined to become the Mother of Jesus, the Second Person of the Adorable Trinity, how fitting that she should be exemp from this common calamity which Adam drew down on all his descendents! Most befitting, indeed, that the Three Divine Persons should have so preserved her from the slightest taint of sin. It was befitting the Father, because Mary was His daughter, befitting the Son, becermonies. When I was through with the pray-ers of the ritual, the members all waited in suspense, till the chaplain cried out: "Neighbors, there will be no Wood-men funeral." ganization, so long as it is true to its constitution and laws, must of neces-sity operate for good. The fact that on various public occasions the Knights of Columbus have been en-trusted with functions representing Mary was befitting the Father, because Mary was His daughter, befitting the Son, be-cause she was his mother, and befitting the Holy Ghost because she was His sponse. Marifold are the arguments at hand Knights of Columbus have been en-trusted with functions representing the Catholic laity, as co-operating with for proof of the fact that Mary, the

A STORY OF LOURDES.

REMARKABLE CASE OF AN ENGLISH BUSINESS MAN WHOSE CURE WAS OF THE SOUL, NOT OF THE BODY.

In the third and concluding instalment of a singularly readable, inspir-ing and instructive sketch, entitled "With the English Pilgrimage to Loundes" with the the state of the state Lordes," written for the Ave Maria by Rev. Richard Howley, D. D., we find the following " story told us publicly from the altar in Chapel of the Crypt by one of the English priests of our party." "Nothing I saw there, re-marks Rev. Dr. Howley, "affected me so much. At my request he (the Eng-lish priest) wrote out the account for me and I give it in his orm words, over party me, and I give it in his own words, over his own signature : Probably I am the only pilgrim pres-

The

Probably I am the only pilgrim pres-ent who had the pleasure of knowing personally the Abbe Peyramale, who was parish priest here during the time of the apparitions vouchsated to Ber-nadette Soubirous. I came here for the first time about thirty years ago; and Father O'Reilly, the Spiritual Director of this pilgrimage, tells me that what of this pilgrimage, tells me that what happened then will, he feels sure, be of interest to yourselves. At his request, therefore, I venture to repeat to you what I have already mentioned to him

privately. I had been a student at St. Bernard's Seminary, Alton, Birmingham : and on the evening before the day I had hoped to be promoted to the sub-diaconate, my Bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Ulla-thorne, informed me that the letter of the physician under whose care I had the physician under whose cire I had been for some months was so unsatis-factory that he could not assume the responsibility of ordaining me. I left the seminary consequently; and shortly afterward, through the kindness of Father Thomas Pope, I was asked to take up my abode for a time at the Owntory Richaston a promosition which ratory, Edgbaston, a proposition which met with the warm approval of "the Father"—as we were then privileged ' the of the poor fellow whose eyes were fixed to call him, now better known as His apon his calm face. Clutching the crucifix, the dying man pressed it to his breast as Father Lynch administered the last rites of

Eminence Cardinal Newman. Whilst I was at the oratory, a gentleman who held an official position in Birmingham was accidentally struck on the back by a ball of twine which

on the back by a ball of twine which had been thrown by one of his clerks, in fun, at another. Mr. D., the gentleman referred to experienced great pain in the back. By the advice of his doctor, leeches were applied to the injured spot, and, being allowed to remain there longer than the time pre-scribed, they tapped the spine, with the unfortunate result that Mr. D. lost the use of his lower limbs. He suffered at times intense pain, and one day con-fiding in Mr. Roger Pope, of the Oraearthquakes looked toward the sea and the air and recede from the land. He ran out of the village to the high ground ran out of the village to the high ground where the rice shocks were and set them aftre. When the people saw the fields burning they rushed out, and, when some one accused him of being the in-cendiary, they were about to stone him, for the rice fields were their food, but he said. "Look." and as they holed fiding in Mr. Roger Pope, of the Ora-tory School, declared that his sufferings were beyond endurance. He had, if I remember rightly, no definite relig-He had, It i remember rightly, to definite relig-lous belief at this time, and wondered why, if there were a God, this Omnipo-tent Being would permit a creature to te be tormented as he was. Mr. Pope for the rice fields were their food, but he said, "Look," and as they looked back toward the village they saw it sub-merged by the waves. If the people had not come out to see their rice fields barn, they would all have been drowned. The old man was then the called upon him snortly alterward with a copy of Father Faber's "All for Jesus," and begged of him to read it. Mr. D. read and reread this book. Its contents were a revelation to him. He God sometimes has ero of the town. God sometimes has a attract our attention by treating us borrowed more books, ultimately de-sired to be instructed in the Catholic to attract our attention by catalog severely, to burn some things in our lives in order to save us from danger, to be severe in order to be gentle, and when we see His purpose in it we love Him all the better for it. and in due course was received

street to be instructed in the course faith, and in due course was received into the Church. Among other graces granted to him was that of an ardent devotion to our Blessed Lady; and when he was told of the miraculous cures which, were be-ing wrought at the shrine of Lourdes, he resolved to go there and implore her ing wrought at the shrine of Lourdes, he resolved to go there and implore her to cure him, as his sufferings were extreme and constant. It was under these circumstances that I was asked to accompany him. His wife also had been received into the Church by this time, and I con-sented to go with him to Lourdes pro-vided she came too, as he was then new and powerful weapon to assist hem in their warfare on the deadly olls. An "endless chain" card system has been started with the United States Naval society at Philadelphia as a base, and is spreading rapidly throughout the country. It is hoped to secure an enormous number of signatures in this way to a petition to congress asking for legislation against the sale of eigarettes sented to go with film to bounded pro-vided she came too, as he was then practically helpless. The journey was a very anxious one and added consider-ably to his sufferings. On arriving at the bounes of

I asked, "can have brought about such a change ?" She quietly remarked that if her father could retain such un-bounded confidence in Our Lady, after all he had gone through, the religion he had embraced was very different from what she had supposed it to be, and that the step he had taken was one well worthy of her imitation.

One word more and my story is told. A few days before Mr. D.'s death he said that he wished to reveal to me a secret of his life known only to himself and his confessor. It was that be-fore he thought of becoming a Catholic and when he doubted whether there was a God or a future beyond the grave, his sufferings were so intense and such a burden to him that he resolved to committ suicide. He pur-chased poison for the purpose and kept it in a secret drawer of his desk feeling convinced that not a creature but himself was aware that any such drawer existed. Twice he shut himself up in his room intending to drink the fatal dose but his courage failed him. third time he took an oath that he would drink it and on opening the drawer he found in the place where he had secreted the poison-no bottle, but a small crucifix. Rev. ALFRED HALL.

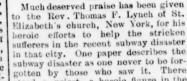
The Presbytery, Warwick, England, October 28, 1903.

"There indeed," comments Rev. Dr. Howley, was a miracle—a tender mir-acle of divine love, unspeakable in the wisdom of its design and execution. There must be hundreds, (though few perhaps so touching) effected every ear at Lourdes."

THE RELIGIOUS SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Missionary. Our American people are a people of education. They are a religious people. They are seeking higher standards, imitating better ideals. The majority in some way aim for a higher life, the Christ Life. They are yearning for knowledge. This is a healthy appetite in a people; for it imports an awaken-ing and an opening of minds and hearts to the higher "things" of life. Every department of knowledge contributes to the popularizing and humanizing of truth and assists in guiding the "multi-The Missionary. truth and assists in guiding the "multitude" to the higher life. Education which might be utilized by a Julian to deflect and even bar the official way to knowledge of Christ, to day is dissipat-ing the mists and fogs of religious pre-judice that hung over the "multitude," and is directing them to seek the highest truth and its official teacher. To-day while the walls of Protestant

To-day while the walls of Protestant church organizations are admittedly insecure and in need of props, while many have described the pews, it is a delusion to imagine that they are abandoning religion. They are aband-oning the inconsistent formulas and undigested dogmas; but they are following the light of their conscience, they are adoring in the temple of their hearts. They are longing for the light of the way. They are seeking for the freedom, truth, and peace of the light of the way. They are seeking for the freedom, truth, and peace of Christ. They wanta higher life, nobler living; and they want it more abun-dantly. They have not looked towards the Catholic Church; they have not discovered the way, nor known the truth, nor lived the life in its fulness ; not because of unwillingness, but partly be-cuuse our language, our expressions and formulas, had no signification for their intrained minds; partly because of a lack of intelligence and charity in some of the household of the faith; partly because it was felt that the Catholic Church would destroy their beliefs, their devotions, and their spiritual life. The Catholic Church, the official teacher of the way, the truth, and the teacher of the way, the track, and the life, stands to-day as she ever stood, with the ideals of Christ, with the standards of Christ, with the knowledge and truth and love of Christ. She is legislation against the sale of eigarettes to minors. The eard, a copy of which has reached Salt Lake, reads: "A national league has been formed against the eigarette habit and a mammoth petition is to be sent to con-gress that a law shall be passed pro-libiting the sale of eigarettes to minors. Will you send a copy of this States Naval Society, Philadelphia, Pa. Do not fail to do this or the chain which it be broken and the object for which it



up the huge stones under which men were writhing, and Father Lynch was

said. Way was made for him, and through the semi-darkness of the tun-

inned down by the jagged rocks guided

Under one great boulder three men

were pinned. One lay dead, hanging head downward. Another was alive, but unconscious, while the third suf-

fored, with legs crushed, tossing wildly in agony. Father Lynch saw the man and unhesitatingly climbed the shaky rocks toward him. The shouts of res-

rocks toward him. The shouts of res-cuers were hushed as the priest prayed

for the dying man. "Lord, have mercy on us," he said.

Then, taking a crucifix from his breast, he managed to reach the hand

Rice or Life?

Several years ago there was an earth-

uake in Japan near the coast, and an id man who had been through many

aw a wave 30 or 40 feet high rise up in

Anti-Cigarette Crusade.

Enemies of the cigarette have adopted

My duty is to help the dying," he

beside them in an instant.

nim.

the Church.

no scholar will dearbiter on disputed

ifted Robert Louis the Rev. Hyde, of nnies of Father Daolic tracts and scatpropagate religious bus hate. hophesy seems to be

hey seem to inherit Whose name they hate and false witmen is more loved by those who do loved by those who learning, their self-

ary lives. hat the learned and of the Syracuse Unirateful to me for callwhat they call the and I hereby solemnlesuit ever held such ould not be tolerated to teach such a prin-

ze the more my asserte that I shall pay to he University the ex-rd and tuition during ars of his studies there any of the writings or Jesuits, or from any whatsoever that they doctrine that the end ns, and I freely permit rch he may invite the learned faculty, a onot succeed I ask fur-onor and candor and University, that whenappear on that black-is, it will be qualified it is nowhere to be eaching of the Jesuits. d calumniously imputed

ose who mourn ; for it is we are in tears, that we the things of God, that nly things where real to be found .- Aug.

Thereupon a Woodman of the household of the faith spoke up: "I would rather lie on top of this ground than be hold of the deprived of the rites of my Church."

It appears that the widow, on I ewed by representatives of this , had expressed the desire of society, had their ceremonics at her hushaving band's grave.

The Church is the divinely appointed ediator between God and man. It is

admission into life everlasting in

with souls. Their primary and almost exclusive object is to secure the maexclusive object is to secure the terial well-being of their members.

the coin of the tribute money was the property of the sovereign whose image and inscription it bore, so the soul, created to the image and likeness of its Maker, is the Creator's domain.

certainly embraces, as a natural result of her adopted motherhood, the right and the duty of burying her regener ated children. For their burial, a ated children. well as for their baptism, she makes use well as for their baptism, she makes use of cortain prayers. In composing these, as well as in proposing revealed truth to our belief, the Church is assisted and guided by the Holy Ghost. "I will guided by the Holy Ghost. "I will send you the Holy Spirit; He will teach you all truth, and will abide with you forever. Now, the Church teaches not by propounding revealed doctrines but also by her public prayers and cere-monies, agreeably to the theological axiom. "The form of prayer is the worm of belief."

Turning pale with anger, some lodge

men declared in a low voice that they would never attend a Catholic funeral again.

MOTIVES OF THE CHURCH'S STAND.

her office to take unreserved charge of souls of her members from the cradle to the grave, or rather, from their entrance into life or earth to their

Fraternal orders have nothing to do heaven.

Man's soul, waiving for the present the question of his body, belongs to God.

The God-man gave His Church charge over the souls of all men. His com-mand, "Go and teach all nations," ceptainly con-

of higher education and charity, shows that this influence is being estimated by leading churchmen. The Kaights, on their part, have apparently under The Knights, stood the importance and dignity of their position in this field, and their leaders have thus far, it appears, shown not only unfailing respect for the authority of their Church, but an

admirable readiness to harmonize their action with that of the hierarchy, wherever there has been any indication

of a desire for lay co-operation. All this has placed the association of he Knights of Columbus in a favor able light even with those who, in the beginning, had their misgivings as to the outcome of its formation. e circumstances it would be not only

short-sighted but also a destructive a short-signed but also a destructive policy to ignore or neglect a factor in the development of American Catholic social life which is plainly shaping it self into action. Here we have an al most spontaneous concentration of the most spontaneous concentration of the Catholic lay element with purpose and power similar to those of the "Cen-trum" in Germany, or the "Cercle Catholique" in Belgium. To take no interest in it, or merely to complain of the accidental and local errors of purpose or branches, is to mistake the

members or branches, is to mistake the value of an opportunity which, in times of anti-Catholic agitation, we would surely make every effort to foster and utilize in the defence of Catholic

As for the name of the odd forms of As for the name of the odd forms of initiation there is enough truth in what our correspondent says to make us set a proper value upon the traditional feeling against the assumption of novel methods in Christian warlare. Never-theless, there is here question of a feat not of a theory. The fact is that fact, not of a theory. The fact is that the modern tendency to revive the spirit of chivalry, mutual defence, and industrial cooperation, as an antidote to the spirit of self-worship, social

by to the theological divisions and industrial greed has called for us to earry on our last journey is forth a revival of some of the medieval institu-interview which sustained the medieval institu-

Mother of Jesus, was exempt from the hierarchy and clergy in works original sin. They are too numerous for repetition. But we might call attenion to the fact that only an Immac Mother could be a fit mother for the Son of God. For such a dignity her purity should surpass even that of the angels. As God could select a mother to His own pleasure, there is no doubt but that He would select one befitting God Himself ; one free from every stain of sin.

Perhaps, however, the Feast cele-brated on Tuesday by the Church us with the strongest argument that Mary was without the slight est trace of sin. What greater proof that Mary was preserved from sin from that Mary was preserved from shi from the first moment of her conception than the celebration of the fact by the Church itself. For that is the real significance of the Feast of of the Immaculate Conception. That is the doc-trine of the Church, that the belief of the entire Catholic world .--- Church Progress.

Lord Acton Lived and Died a Catholic.

Sir .- What a deplorable error in the Buffalo paper copied into this CATHOLIC

Lord Acton an "Old Catholie !" He attended Mass every Sunday at the Catholic church in Cambridge, while professor there, until his death. He was one of the public speakers at the laying of the foundation stone of

He was one of the public spearce of he laying of the foundation stone of Vestminster cathedral, in the presence westminister cathedrai, in the presence of Cardinals Vaughan and Logue. I remember his speech was shortly to this effect : Do your work simply and humbly in the fear of God, and trust Him for the future : religion is to help us thus to live, according to His will, in the small space of our pilgrimage on earth. W. F. P. STOCKLEY. Nov. 22, 1903.

The only parcel that will do any good reached 30,000.

A Jesuit Astronomer.

The British Association which met recently at the Jesuit College of Stony-hurst, in England, listened to a remarkable paper presented by Father Aloysius Cortie, S. J., at Southport, a few days before the Stonyhurst meet-

The paper, which was on "Solar Prominences and Terrestrial Magnet-ism," was read before Section A, Physics and Mathematics, of the Assoiation at Southport in Lancashire.

Father Cortie said the results of his rather Cortie shu the results of his observations had been to corroborate those taken at South Kensington in so far as they showed that the wide lines were more prominently times of solar minimum. I But they gave times of solar minimum processing in the enem-istry of a sun-spot at different periods of the spot cycle, nor of the crossings in the types of lines widened, so much insisted upon by Sir Norman Lockyar. -----

THE QUESTION BOX

by Father Conway, is a book of some six hundred pages, being the replies given to questions received during missions to non-Catholics. It has a missions to non-Catholics. It has a good index—often a neglected part of many otherwise useful publications. All sorts of questions from the days of St. Peter—was he ever in Rome?— down to the fads of the day, like Chris-tian Science, have been asked in these missions, and in this book find an answer. We predict for this work a answer. We predict for this work a large circulation and much good. Just such a little book as Catholics might have and hand to their nonneighbors. It is bound in paper and can be had for 20c. post-paid from the CATHOLIC RECORD Office, London, Ont. The sale has slready in one month

be broken and the object for which it was started defeated. Please be prompt. No money asked." occasion, when he dined with us, he told us that when Bernadette first came to him with her story about the appar-itions, he treated her with considerable harshness, and threatened to box her ears if she came again with such nonsense. He went on to say that he soon bitterly regretted his unkindness to her; and that whatever doubt had ex-isted in his mind as to the truth of her story was removed by the fact that shortly after, when giving her Holy Communion, she was surrounded by a marvelous light which almost overpowered him.

Day by day, I regret to say, Mr. D.

Day by day, I regret to say, Mr. D. grew worse, instead of better. He bathed, I think, twice, and then be-came so ill that at his request we re-turned to England without delay; in delay; in fact, I was afraid he should die or way home, and made up my mind for the worst. His wite shared my alarm, and implored me to make all the haste possible. He reached home and lived

on in agony for some weeks. At Lourdes, as well as after his return home, his devotion to and confidence in Our Lady increased ; he was to the

end full of resignation, and more than once remarked that if Our Lady had not cured him it was because she had won for him some greater grace; and in this bissful hope he passed peacefully away. May it be that the grace of restored health which he at first sought for him-self he obtained for me? At any rate I was shortly afterward recalled to the seminary, ordained, and last year kent

other sheep the fulness of Christ's message, the nobler living, the higher ideal. It is not a discussion; it is an assertion. It has exposed much error, and explained much truth. It has done much to popularize for this generation the great verifies of Christ. It has striven to adjust an accommodate the language and expressions of Catholic truth to the present-day minds and hearts of non-Catholics. This mivement of the Church aims, not to extin-guish their spiritual life, but to nourish it; not to destroy their devotion, bat to increase it; not to abolish their faith, but to perfect it.

Dr. De Costa Made a Deacon.

Rome, November, 22.-Dr. B. F. De Costa, formerly an Episcopal minister who was ordained a subdeacon November 15, was to-day or-dained deacon by the Bishop of Flesole, near Florence. His health has im-

Dr. De Costa's ordination has been hastened on account of failing health. It is announced that his elevation to the priesthood took place on Sunday, Nov. 29th.

Importance of Salvation.

I was shortly alterward recalled to the which all depends ! They call the seminary, ordined, and last year kept Saints wise, because they have attended seminary, ordained, and last year kept my silver jubilee. Not the least remarkable sequel to Mr. D's case was this. His daughter who had ridiculed his becoming a Cath-olie and sneered at the idea of his going to Lourdes, informed me a week or two after our roturn that she herself in