

A GRAND ADDRESS.

HOPES AND FEARS OF OUR SECOND CENTURY.

Rev. Father Doyle's Able Lecture at the Baptist Church, New York.

St. Paul's church, 59th street and 9th avenue, was crowded to its capacity Tuesday evening last, when a lecture on the above subject was delivered by the Rev. A. P. Doyle, C.S.P., under the auspices of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, in aid of the poor of the parish. The lecture was an eloquent and interesting one, and was listened to with close attention by the large audience present.

In commencing his lecture the speaker said he had chosen a subject that was at least somewhat appropriate to the times. We have been and are celebrating the fourth anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America, and are entering on the second century of our national existence.

Four hundred years ago Columbus was going around seeking some one to help him out in his great scheme of discoveries beyond the unknown seas. The story of his hopes and fears, his struggles and trials, and triumphs, is well known to us all, and needs no repetition.

Today, as we look back and estimate the importance of that event, and of all that followed in its track, we may well consider Columbus as the greatest benefactor of his kind. And when we think of all that America has since become to mankind, as we look down the pages of history we can find no name that is greater than that of Columbus, the Catholic.

One hundred years or so ago, in 1789, the first Congress was held; and the events of the last 100 years have followed one another with a rapidity that takes one's breath away. The progress made, material and moral, the prosperity enjoyed, the crises through which we have passed—have astonished the world. We have developed and fostered a deep religious feeling; while such is our national prosperity to-day that our difficulty is to prevent money heaping up in our National Treasury.

On the threshold of a second century it behooves us to look to our strength. New problems are presenting themselves; we are passing through a social revolution which is developing itself in various ways. Wealth is becoming more powerful, in some instances unscrupulous and grasping; the workman is becoming more and more of a mere machine; side by side with our immense wealth we find the direst want, the most abject poverty.

All these things should make us pause and ask ourselves where will we stand 100 years hence if this state of affairs is allowed to go on unchecked and unremedied.

But if there are fears, there are also hopes, and what are these hopes?

The great modern medical theory is the germ theory, of bacteria and microbes. Let us apply this theory to the social life, which is like the human system.

The groundwork of the social system is found in the family, and there is a class of socialists to-day whose tendency is to destroy the family life by magnifying the power of the State, who would give the state authority over all the minute relations of a man's life, over everything the telegraph, the railways, education.

And then there are the Anarchists, who, far from placing any power in the hands of the Government, would have no government at all.

It is timely, then, that we should consider the rights of the family, and what belongs to them, for the family bears the same relation to the State that the stone does to the building. If the material is good, it will stand the test of time. If it be poor it will crumble away and we will have the building about our ears in short order.

So it is with the family. If there is cohesiveness among its members—if they adhere to one another as the individual stones in a well-built structure, the safety of the State is assured.

The family is the unit of society, and is God created. It was not good for Adam to be alone, so God fashioned a helpmate for him—not from his foot, lest she might be his slave; nor from his head, else she might rule him; but from his side, that she might be his companion; from beneath his arm, that he

might protect her; and from near his heart that he might love and cherish her.

The individual is not the unit. It is the *family* that is the unit of society. When the family life is perfect, the social life is safe. If it be not perfect, then the social life is in danger.

The two great dangers which menace the modern State to-day are Individualism-Centralization. Too much Individualism leads to Anarchy; too much Civilization results in Despotism. It is between these two dangers—the Scylla and Charybdis of our social life—that the Ship of State is sailing to-day; and the only way to guard against that danger is to preserve the perfect family life. It is from this perfect family life that comes the strength of the nation. If this Spring be continued, then will the nation deteriorate.

It is this the country's duty, therefore, to preserve this family life. It is the family that creates the home. And what recollections that simple word conjures up in the mind of all! No matter how humble it may be, it is *home*!

But in order to make a home in the best sense of the word, there must be some fixity of tenure—some sense of possession or proprietorship, so that one can say to those who would follow him, "thus far and no further." Would that we had such homes in this big city!

The Christian home is to society as the sun is to the world. It gives life and light; it develops man's better nature and gives strength and geniality to all around. Without it, life would not be worth living, and the grave would be a welcome escape. If America would carry out her God-given mission of giving happiness and a higher ideal of life to the nations of the world, she must guard well her homes.

The three vital principles of home life are Marriage, Education, Industry and Sobriety. The three dangers which threaten these principles are Divorce, Godless Schools and Intemperance. Our hope is in that which can cope with them and overcome them.

The tie which binds man and wife is indissoluble. It is a natural contract and Christ consecrated it, hallowed it and put his seal upon it.

It is true that in the early ages polygamy existed; but we find that, although a man lived with many women there was but one Wife. Previous to the Christian era, woman was the slave, the plaything of mankind, the victim of his lusts and passions. Christ came, however, and in the person of the Blessed Mother, raised her up, ennobled her and placed her upon a pedestal from whence she never can be removed.

Today, however, we stand face to face with a great and awful danger. The marriage tie is indissoluble—and it is well that it should be so, owing to the innate restlessness of human nature—but it is lightly assumed and recklessly broken. The divorce horror is spreading like a moral plague over the land. The sacred, sacramental character of marriage is being lost sight of; and to the politician, or the Judge upon the Bench, is given the right to break the tie than which nothing is more sacred.

The evil of divorce has grown to such dimensions that the Rev. Morgan Dix (of Trinity church), in an address at Trinity chapel, said he was in doubt whether it was not almost too late to arouse men to a sense of the danger that was impending; and quoted statistics from different States to prove how widespread and blighting were its effects.

But the Catholic Church—and Dr. Dix honored her for it—she put her foot down firmly. She stands to-day at the door of the home, and says emphatically and decisively, "Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

And as the perfect family is impossible without the perfect marriage, so too, the perfect family is impossible without education. Now, to do its work properly, education must be popular and widespread, and thorough going. It must cultivate and improve the heart as well as the mind; we must educate the spirit as well as the intellect. Without religious education we cannot hope to last as a nation. If there be no religion among the people, we will assuredly find none in the government.

The original common school was a religious school. All sects—Catholic and non-Catholic—admit the importance of religion in education, but it is the Catholic Church alone that has had the courage to carry out the principle, although in doing so she has been often misunderstood and frequently belied.

The third principle to which allusion has been made—industry and sobriety—is antagonized and endangered by vice, Intemperance, which is to-day one of the most fearful enemies of mankind. It is insidious, seductive, but terrible in its awful strength. It is the one vice that is strong enough to go down to the bottom of a man's heart and pluck therefrom the strongest sentiment in the human breast, the parent's love for a child.

The Catholic Church is grappling with this fearful monster, as she is grappling with everything that antagonizes the moral and physical and social welfare of the nation.

This is a Catholic country. It was Catholic brains that thought out the way to it across the trackless ocean; it was Catholic hearts that helped and encouraged Columbus in his efforts; it was Catholic money that defrayed the expenses of his voyages of discovery. It was Catholic priests and missionaries who travelled over trackless waters and pathless forests, braving with them where ever they went the light of the Gospel and of civilization. It is the Church, too, that will enable America to do her great work among the nations of the earth. Her great mission is the diffusion of a broader liberty and a higher happiness to all classes. As a Church by her immense power and authority protects the home life of the country, sue it is who will contribute more than any other power to perpetuate American institutions and enable America to carry out its great mission among the nations.—N.Y. Catholic Union and Times.

IRISH NEWS.

The mackerel fishery in West Cork has been a complete failure. The catches have been few and the fish small.

Mr. Thomas McGrath, Redmondite, has been re-elected chairman of the Carrick-on-Suir Board of Poor Law Guardians.

The mackerel fishery is being prosecuted with unprecedented success at Dingle and Fenit, the lakes at the former place being enormous lately.

Mr. Heard, Unionist, has been elected a Poor Law Guardian from the electoral division of Lehenagh; Mr. O'Sullivan, Nationalist, from Enniskenney, and Mr. Walsh from Blackpool.

An infant named Thomas Drouot received shocking injuries at a crossing near Clonakitty Junction on the 7th inst., by being run over by a ballast engine. It is feared that he cannot recover.

Mr. P. J. Power, M.P., has been elected chairman, Alderman Power, Nationalist, vice-chairman, and Mr. D. McDonald, Nationalist, deputy vice chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Waterford Union.

Mr. Thomas O'Leary, Nationalist, has been re-elected chairman of the Thurles Union. Mr. P. Finn, Nationalist, has been again chosen vice-chairman, and Mr. Stephen Dunne, Redmondite, deputy vice-chairman.

Messrs. P. J. O'Brien, M.P., Thomas Bourke and Thomas O'Brien, Nationalists, have been re-elected chairman, vice-chairman and deputy vice-chairman, respectively, of the Nenagh Board of Poor Law Guardians.

Mr. Peter Hughes, of Castleryn, was elected chairman of the Dandalk Board of Guardians on April 1; Mr. Nicholas Byrne was chosen vice-chairman, and Mr. John L. Neary deputy vice-chairman. All three are Parnellites.

Mr. Hugh Carraghan, of Lenamore, County of Longford, died suddenly at Queenstown on April 6. He had gone to that port with his wife and three children with the view of emigrating to America. Death was probably due to heart disease.

Messrs. Michael Mescall and Thomas Lillis, Redmondites, have been re-elected chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the Kilsrish Board of Guardians. Mr. Anthony McNamara, Redmondite, was chosen deputy vice-chairman.

Mr. William Kelly, Nationalist, chairman of the New Ross Board of Guardians, has been again elected presiding officer. Mr. James Doyle, Redmondite, has been chosen vice-chairman, and Mr. Patrick Kennedy, Nationalist, deputy vice-chairman.

Some fishermen from Bere Island recently succeeded in capturing a large halibut in Bantry Bay, which contained a French coin about the size of a crown,

bearing the date of 1721. It is in the possession of John Dwyer, from Bere Island, who returned recently from America, which he again intends to visit during the coming summer.

The Rev. Richard Healey, curate of St. Patrick's Church, Chinoeep Falls, Mass., has been given charge of a parish in Clinton.

Miss Kate King, daughter of the late Thomas King, of Knockbridge, received the white veil and the name in religion of Sister Mary Care, at the Convent of Mercy, Ardce, on the 6th inst.

Limerick has lost a well known citizen by the death of Mr. Thomas Fosherry, who up to the recent Spring Assizes was County Surveyor of the eastern division of Limerick for the last thirty-one years.

J. J. Platt, who has been for the last ten years United States Consul at Queens-town and Cork, has been promoted to the more important post of Consul at Dublin, in succession to Mr. Reid, who has resigned.

Major W. J. Hall, D.L. (Unionist), Mr. Robert Harpur, J.P. (Unionist), and Mr. John O'Hare (Nationalist), were on April 1 unanimously re-elected chairman, vice-chairman and deputy vice-chairman, respectively, of the Newry Board of Guardians.

The first meeting of the new Mountbellew Board of Guardians was held on April 1. The three outgoing chairmen, Mr. Thomas Kenny, chairman; Mr. Patrick Geraghty, vice-chairman; Mr. Peter Cruice, deputy chairman, were unanimously re-elected.

A special meeting of the Abbeyleix Board of Guardians was held on April 3, for the purpose of electing the honorary officers of the Board for the ensuing year. These were chosen: Lord de Vesce, chairman; Robert Staples, D.L., vice-chairman; James McMahon, J.P., deputy vice-chairman.

The Rev. M. Horgan, of Causeway, has been transferred to Castleisland. Father Horgan had been eleven years in the former district as curate in the united parishes of Killurry and Rattoo. After the death of the late Rev. T. Enright, parish priest, he was Administrator till the appointment of the present pastor.

The Rev. Richard Devaney, a curate of Newmarket-on-Fergus, died on April 2, from rheumatic fever and congestion of the lungs. Father Devaney was educated at Ennis Diocesan College, and at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. He was for some years after his ordination curate at Corofin, but most of his life as a priest was spent at Newmarket-on-Fergus.

The election of officers of the Tuam Union took place on April 1. Colonel Nolan, M.P. (Redmondite); Mr. John Nolan, J.P. (Nationalist), and Mr. Farrell McDonnell (Redmondite) were elected chairman, vice-chairman and deputy vice-chairman, respectively. Last year all the chairs were occupied by Redmondites.

Mr. W. H. Cobbe, a Protestant Nationalist, was chosen chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Mountmellick Union on April 1. Mr. William Delany, Redmondite, was elected vice-chairman, and Mr. A. Gallagher, Nationalist, deputy vice-chairman. The last-named gentleman is the secretary of the Ballybrittas branch of the Irish National Federation.

Intelligence has reached the Coalisland constabulary that a house belonging to a laborer named Michael McGarry, in the townland of Drumreagh, two miles from Coalisland, had been wrecked. Constables McKeown and Cadden repaired to the place and found two windows completely smashed, and McGarry's wife with a deep gash on the side of her head, apparently inflicted by a stone. In the interior of the house were found forty-seven paving-stones. The McGarry family is the only Catholic one living in the locality. No arrests have been made.

Sub-Sheriff Hobson and a party of bailiffs proceeded to Pallaskeynry on April 3 to make seizures for rent on the lands of three tenants of Mr. Caulfield, but the stock having been removed, the sheriff was unsuccessful in realizing anything; while a similar condition of things was experienced as regards the execution of a process for debt against other parties.

GUARD AGAINST CHOLERA.

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