

FIVE-MINUTE'S SERMON.

The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost. THE TEACHING CHURCH.

"Going up into one of the ships that was Simon's, and sitting down, he taught the multitudes out of the ship. (St. Luke v. 1-7.) It was not without design that our Lord chose Peter's ship from which to teach the world of life to the multitude. By the mouth of His Vicar, our Holy Father the Pope, Jesus Christ still teaches the multitude from Peter's ship. And as told in the Gospel, a miraculous draught of fishes followed His teaching, so wherever the Pope teaches for Christ from Peter's ship the promise which our Lord then made to Peter and his brother fishermen is fulfilled. They became fishers of men, and astonishingly successful fishermen too. What this day are witnesses of a singular fulfillment of this promise. The present Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII., has taken occasion to teach the whole world the doctrine of Christ on many of the most important subjects that concern the well being of mankind, affecting their national and social interests, their moral and religious duties; their rights as men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; the defence of the divine institution of the family, which is the foundation of Christian society, and definition of the true principles of education.

It is no wonder that Catholics, who own him as their teacher for Christ, should hear and obey his instructions and admonitions. But what is a little astonishing is the least word of extraordinary influence upon those who are not Catholics; how universally it is acknowledged that his lessons have more weight than the teachings of all the thousands of other learned men put together, who are doctors in science, philosophy, theology, and politics. By common consent the whole world seems to agree that, in all matters concerning the highest and most vital interests of humanity, what the Pope thinks and says has to be taken into account. So we see kings and emperors, presidents and governors, leaders of great social enterprise, seeking his counsel, and following it too; or if they do not follow in both letter and spirit, as we see his faithful children do, they at least, show their profound respect for it, and are forced to apologize to defend their action which is not in full accordance with it.

All this is a cause of great rejoicing to us Catholics. We know well that so long as the world will be willing to follow the Christ of the ship of Peter, from which Christ the Saviour teaches, or trim their sails so as not to lose sight of it, it will not lose its way or suffer shipwreck.

It does not alarm us, therefore, to hear of the strife going on concerning many social, religious, and political questions. So long as the voice of Christ is heard above the din all will be well.

Of one thing, too, we are quite sure: that there is no fear for the safety of the ship of Peter. But just here I ought to say that there are some Catholics who take it for granted that because the ship is safe they are equally safe, no matter how they talk or how they behave. It is a lamentable fact that there are many Catholics who practically do not esteem the teaching of Christ by Peter. They are ignorant of their religion, and they take very little pains to be instructed. They hardly ever hear a sermon. They never read a good Catholic religious book. They do not take a Catholic newspaper or magazine. It is not instruction they care about, but amusement. They read what they like; not what they ought to like. They spend their Sundays and other free days in doing what pleases them, not in doing what ought to please them, if they were faithful, obedient hearers of the Word of Christ by the mouth of Peter. If ever there was a time when a Catholic ought to show his faith by his works, now is the day and the hour. Did ever the Catholic Church have such grand opportunities as it has now? Well, then, let those who, by their worldly, un-Catholic lives are a disgrace and hindrance to her glorious triumph, weigh well their great responsibility, for which they shall have to give account at the judgment of God.

God's Love.

There is no father, no mother so pitiful and so compassionate as He who calls you His child. Whatever else may fail, be sure that His everlasting love will not fail. He is with you in your struggle against sin, in your search for truth, your woes and griefs and loneliness and trials. All your hope, all your patience, all your regard for what is excellent and imperishable, come from Him. And as He has given you your capacity for His friendship and His likeness, He will train you and guide you to Himself if you are submissive and obedient.

"One of my sick headaches," you will hear people frequently say, as if the complaint were hopelessly incurable. As a matter of fact, Ayer's Pills not only relieve sick headache but effectually remove the cause of this distressing complaint, and so bring about a permanent cure.

The Best Pills.—Mr. Wm. Vandervoort, Sydney Crossing, Ont., writes: "We have been using Farnell's Pills, and find them to be the best Pills we ever used." For Delicate and Debilitated Constitutions these Pills act like a charm. Taken in small doses, the effect is both a tonic and a stimulant, mildly exciting the secretions of the body, giving tone and vigor.

Hobbs' Sarasaparilla has over and over again proved by its cures, when all other preparations failed, that it is the One True Blood Purifier.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

The Bad Habit. Rev. Mr. Babcock spoke, in part, as follows to the boys of St. Mary's Industrial school, Baltimore, Ind., which is under the charge of the Christian Brothers. As the words are just as applicable to our Canadian youth we print them for the benefit of those who wish to profit by the sound and wholesome advice contained therein:—

"Boys, get good habits. Bad habits are black. They all begin innocently enough, by putting its arms around you until the grip strengthens, and down you go. Temptations are like strings and cords that bind you. First they are weak and easily broken, but gradually they grow stronger, and at last they have you bound hand and foot. One good habit is perseverance, and that is a habit I would have you learn. Stick to a thing. If you should want to learn to play a violin, don't give up because you don't succeed. It might not be very pleasant to your neighbor, but stick to it. That's perseverance. Don't get tired, but stick to whatever you begin, for whatever is worth starting is worth finishing. These good brothers here are teaching you what is right to do, and they will show you that if a thing is worth doing it is worth doing well. Don't black the toes of your shoes and leave the heels dirty.

Another habit I would have you learn is punctuality. Some people are always late, and for such a man I would not give a hill of beans. A great general once said that he always won his battles because he was always ten minutes ahead of time. A secretary of George Washington was late once upon a time, and he laid the blame to his watch. Washington told him that he would have to get another watch or else he would get another secretary. Suppose a doctor should be dilatory in going to the bed-side of a patient? Suppose a business man would be late in meeting his notes? They would be ruined, as many men have been ruined, always being just a little late in some things. Another habit I would have you get is the power to control a bad temper. The Lord would not have you make a beast of yourself, and he who can control himself is deserving of great praise. When you are vexed and brow-beaten do as the Saviour did, with His arms outstretched on the cross, when He exclaimed: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do!" Some people cannot control their temper, but be not one of them. When you get angry say that you are going to conquer yourself."

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

The Unselfish Son.

Happy are the parents who are blessed with an unselfish son. He is sure to be of an affectionate disposition and to have a grateful heart. He delights to recall the memory of all that they have done for him and to see what he can do to repay them in part for their care for him. He covers their failings out of sight and magnifies their good qualities. He helps them, if they are needy, even at the postponement of his own immediate advantage, and if they are above want, their home is one of his most frequent resorts, even after he has a home of his own. He is fond of them, he is respectful towards them, he pays them a thousand and one attentions of courtesy, he brightens their declining years, he is the comfort of their old age.

The unselfish son is not a myth. He exists. He is known.

One young man in Pennsylvania, with whom we are personally acquainted, settled \$15,000,—his first profits in business—on his widowed mother, before he allowed himself to contemplate marriage. Put out on mortgage at 6 per cent. that amount insured her an income of \$18 a week for life, a competence that was assured no matter what vicissitudes of fortune or of family may befall her son.

Another young man here in Ohio, has devoted himself to the support of his mother and sisters. His income suffices to keep them in frugal comfort. When bantered upon the fact that he is developing into an old bachelor, he gaily replies: "O, I have three wives at home. Isn't that enough for any man?"

A third young man, who resides in Illinois, is paying his brother's expenses through college and seminary, hoping to gratify his parents' desire to have a son a priest. As his wages are small, this charge on them keeps him at very plain living.

A fourth lad, who is still in his teens, has refused an excellent situation in a town away from home, much more congenial and remunerative than the one he has, because he wants to remain with his father who has a passion for strong drink and who keeps sober only with the constant presence, example and encouragement of his eldest boy.

These are examples from real life, examples that do credit to human nature, examples that give ground for the belief that the number of unselfish sons is legion.

The blessing of Heaven will rest upon them. Their sacrifices will be recorded in the Book of Life. Even in this world they will yet experience good luck that will be a proof of the pleasure that the great Father above has taken in their devotedness to their parents.—Catholic Columbian.

"Our Boys."

Youth on the prow, and pleasure at the helm. The question how a young man shall spend his spare time is one of import-

ance. There are various means of recreation at hand, some good and some bad, but it is easy for a youth of ordinary brain power to distinguish between them, if he be so inclined. Reading, of course, is one of the most profitable ways in which the hours of recreation may be employed, but it would be better for the young man to be using his observing powers out of doors than to be engaged in perusing many of the books and papers that are now published. I was in a book shop not long since, where a young man, after looking over the books on the shelves and counters, asked for a vile volume that has been circulating privately for fifty years or more. It was one of those works that might make even Zola, the French past-master of literary nastiness, blush. I pitied the hobbledehey, for he was little else, who made this request with much bravado. Of course he didn't get what he wanted, for the sale of it, if the proceeding were called to the attention of the proper authorities, might have sent the seller to the State Prison. The young man who poisons his mind habitually with the stuff we have indicated has before him a career of sensuality that will end in loss of reputation and in bodily misery. He will be, if he lives long enough, that most detestable of characters—an old libertine.

The theatre is always open to attract the young. It presents many good dramas when it is under reputable management, but too often its productions are full of immorality and it offers exhibitions that can be seen only to be condemned. Shakespeare's plays, with proper excisions, are an education in themselves, and some, but not all, of the old comedies will furnish harmless pleasure. There are, too, many plays of our own time, like those of Bronson Howard, for instance, that will afford harmless pleasure, and the light operas of Gilbert and Sullivan are free from suggestive or direct rotteness. It will not take a properly disposed young man long to find out when a comedy, tragedy or farce offends the laws of God, if not those of man.

The most rational and natural recreation may always be found in the social circle where decent people assemble. Some young men complain that they do not get on well in society, and therefore, frequent places that are dangerous to their morals—places that are so full of peril that the visitor to them must attach little meaning to that portion of the Lord's Prayer which says "lead us not into temptation." But any young man can qualify himself to be attractive in society, if he be so disposed. Even shyness may be overcome by persistent endeavor. A celebrated divine, noted as a preacher and a wit, once told me that when he first began to visit he was so bashful that he had to prepare the subjects upon which he should talk long before he rang the door bell at the home of his host or hostess. It requires some tact to introduce them, but this he acquired in a short time by concentrating his mind on the object he wished to attain. He became one of the most brilliant conversationalists of his day, and his wise and humorous sayings are still quoted, though he has gone to his reward.

Every young man, unless he is in mental darkness, has some social talent that he can cultivate. He may sing, he may recite, he may act in private theatricals, or he can make himself generally agreeable by helping others. One thing he may be sure of, and that is, society will not accept him if he is a stick and sits in the corner without having the courage to say boo to a goose. In the social exchange every man must make himself felt. The ladies have less difficulty in making themselves agreeable. Benedict Bell in the Sacred Heart Review.

The Cheerful Mother.

Heaven will have a cozy chair for the good woman who on earth was a cheerful mother, for, of the minor domestic virtues that make the home a place of comfort, the most beneficent of all is cheerfulness. It is of use every day and every hour in the day. It makes the light seem joyous when the sun is shining, and it brightens the dreariness when clouds obscure the sky.

The husband, harassed by the nervous and irritable, harassed by the crotchets of business. The children romp and quarrel, and break and tear and spoil, and destroy and get into mischief a thousand and one times from dawn to dark. The servant is wasteful, or insolent, or stupid; the butcher or the grocer tries to put on the family an undesirable food; or others concerned with the household subject the mistress of it to annoyance day after day, week in and week out, from year's beginning to year's end. Now if she be a sullen or fretful woman, all these worries will rasp her temper and she becomes a Leyden-jar to accumulate and discharge the electricity of un-happiness. But if she be a cheerful person, she keeps her own spirits up, soothes and sympathizes with her husband, kisses and chides and corrects and trains and instructs her children, tactfully guides the domestic, and, gently commands all having dealings with her, to treat her right. She radiates peace. Her presence is like perfume. She is affectionate, sympathetic, willing, magnetic—a joy and a benediction to all her friends.

Happy is the home over which presides a cheerful woman.—Catholic Columbian.

THE ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE.

27TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CO. A Splendid Showing.

ANOTHER YEAR OF PROGRESS, GROWTH, AND PROSPERITY.

The 27th annual meeting of the Ontario Mutual Life Assurance Company was held in the town hall, Waterloo, Ont., on Thursday, May 27th, 1897. The attendance was a most representative one, including quite a large number of the policy-holders in addition to the directors and the principal agents of the company throughout the Dominion. The president, Mr. I. E. Bowman, occupied the chair, supported by the manager, Mr. Wm. Hendry. On motion of Mr. Alfred Hoskin, Q. C., Toronto, seconded by Mr. Robert Melvin, of Guelph, Mr. W. H. Riddell, secretary of the company, acted as secretary of the meeting. The minutes of the last annual meeting were formally taken as read and adopted. The president then read the directors' report.

Your directors have the pleasure of submitting to you the following statements as their report of the business for the year ending the 31st December, 1896, and in doing so it affords them great satisfaction to be able to inform you that the uniform and uninterrupted success which has attended the company since its organization has continued during the past year to a very marked degree.

The report shows an increase in the number and amount of new policies issued, as compared with the previous year, and there has also been a substantial increase in the premium in some of the interest income, and in the surplus available for future distribution among the policy holders.

The net premium income for 1896, including \$2,278 for annuities, was \$601,617.90, and we received for interest on our investments the sum of \$158,785.94, making the total income \$760,403.84.

Although the rate of interest on first-class securities continues very low, and great care is required in the selection of investments, yet the rate of interest earned on our assets during the past year was somewhat higher than the previous year, which shows that the funds of the company have been satisfactorily invested.

The total assets of the company at the close of the year were \$3,401,977.09, and the reserve required to be held by the company's standard is \$3,176,716, which, after providing for all other liabilities, leaves a surplus of \$225,261.09. This surplus would be increased to \$255,800, if our reserves were based on the Government standard of 44 per cent. instead of the Actuaries' 4 per cent.

The surplus earned by the company for the year has been quite satisfactory, amounting to \$24,935, of which \$11,825 has been paid to the members, and the balance has been added to the general surplus fund.

The company commenced issuing twenty year Distribution Policies in July, 1891, and the surplus belonging to this class is being kept distinct from the general surplus account. During the past year 1,825 new policies were issued for assurance amounting to \$2,838,250, and 82 applications for \$108,750 were received from persons whose health and family history were not up to our standard, and therefore had to be declined.

Our death rate for the year was somewhat higher than usual, the cause being largely accidental, there having been no less than sixteen deaths from unforeseen accidents involving losses amounting to \$14,000, so that the ordinary normal death rate was much below the average.

The executive committee has again carefully examined the securities and cash held by the company, and found them correct as reported by your auditors. You will be called on to elect four directors in the place of C. M. Taylor, Robert Melvin, W. J. Kidd and Robert Baird, all of whom are eligible for reelection.

On behalf of the board, I. E. Bowman, President. In commenting on the report, Mr. Bowman said that the business for the past year had been very satisfactory indeed. There was an increase of something over \$200,000 in the amount of new policies issued, as compared with the previous year, and this augmentation in new business still continues, for during the first four months of the present year we issued \$1,016,050, an increase over the same period of last year of \$232,200, so that the company is progressing and the business increasing all the time. Notwithstanding that the rate of interest tends downward, it will be a source of satisfaction to our policy holders to learn that the rate of interest earned on the company's investments for 1896 was higher than either of the two previous years, owing to the purchase in that year, on every advantageous terms, of \$180,000 worth of mortgages, guaranteed by the County of Huron, and to the fact that all our money was kept continuously invested during the whole year, so that at its close we had no funds lying idle in the banks. While competition for new business among existing companies has not decreased, there are a number of new ones about to enter the field which, doubtless, will add to its intensity; but I am sure the Ontario Life will be able to hold its own against both old and new competitors, and without measurably increasing the cost of procuring a fair, if not a liberal, share of business.

On the whole we have much cause for congratulation in view of the marked success that has attended the management of the company's affairs, and the efforts of its energetic staff of agents, during the past year; and I think it may be fairly claimed that the company has now reached a position among life companies second to none—a position that is creditable to everyone identified in any way with the company. Having presented the certificate of the examining committee, the president moved the adoption of the report, submitting the following:



Best Wash Day SURPRISE SOAP

Don't forget the name SURPRISE.

WELL BEGUN IS HALF DONE

Start wash day with good soap, pure soap; that's half the battle won. SURPRISE SOAP is made especially for washing clothes, makes them clean and fresh and sweet, with little rubbing. It's best for this and every use.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1896. Income: Premiums net, \$569,289.39; Interest, annuities, etc., 161,063.94. Total, \$730,353.33. Disbursements: Payment to policy holders for death claims, dividends, surplus, surrender values, etc., 570,032.18; Expenses and taxes, 125,538.91. Total, \$695,571.09. Assets: Loans on first mortgages, \$1,822,664.09; Municipal debentures, 761,881.02; Loans on company's policies, 451,264.02; Real estate, 49,942.00; Cash on hand and in banks, 813.15; Other assets, 211,881.21. Total, \$3,318,941.49. Liabilities: Reserve actuaries' 4 per cent., \$3,176,716.00; All other liabilities, 141,911.74. Total, \$3,318,627.74. Surplus: On company's standard 4 per cent., \$242,780.96; On Government standard 4 per cent., 308,800.00. Total, \$551,580.96.

word for the company, and will do so now with renewed energy. OTHER BUSINESS. A by-law to regulate the compensation to the directors having been submitted and considered, was passed unanimously. On motion of Mr. Kranz, ex-M. P., Berlin, seconded by Mr. Geo. Diebel, merchant, Waterloo, Mr. J. M. Scully and Mr. George Davidson were re-appointed auditors for the present year.

VOTES OF THANKS. The customary votes of thanks were tendered to the Directors, Manager, Secretary, Head office and Agency staff, and responded to, when the singing of "God Save the Queen" brought to a close the 27th annual meeting of the company. The directors met subsequently and re-elected Mr. I. E. Bowman, president; Mr. C. M. Taylor, first vice president, and Mr. Robert Melvin, second vice president of the company for the ensuing year.

An Interesting Relic.

A petrified cross, supposed to have been used by the Jesuit Fathers in their missionary work among the Indians nearly one hundred and fifty years ago, has been unearthed at Rochester, Pa. It was buried in a mass of limestone rock, four feet beneath the surface of the earth. Crosses of this design, and leaden plates, inscribed with the royal design of France, were buried through western Pennsylvania during the year 1719. A Capt. Colerain was the leader of the company who did this work. He left Lachine, near Montreal at the date mentioned, with M. de Contrecoeur, afterward commander of Fort Duquesne, and a Jesuit priest. There were in the company, beside eight officers, six cadets, one hundred and eighty Canadian civilians. At stated distances on their route from Canada they buried the leaden plates, claiming that the country for France, while the priest buried the wooden cross to symbolize the work of the Church. The first of these memorials to be disclosed was the petrified cross recently found. It will add to the interest of Catholic historical research in this country when other relics of the same kind are uncovered. The literary work of Parkman, excellent as it is in its way, does not tell half the story of the untiring labors of the Jesuits in "North America."—Sacred Heart Review.

Archbishop Janssens.

A notable visit is made in the ranks of the American hierarchy by the sudden death of Archbishop Janssens of New Orleans. His death occurred at sea on Thursday, June 10. He was on his way to New York aboard the steamer Creole, and when the melancholy event came his remains were transferred to the steamer Hudson, which arrived in New Orleans on Saturday morning.

There is something in diverting ourselves from ourselves when we are in grief which has the peculiar effect of enlarging the heart, and swelling the dimensions of the whole character; and something also so particularly pleasing to God that, when it is done from a supernatural motive, and in imitation of our Lord, He seems to recompense it instantly by the most magnificent graces.

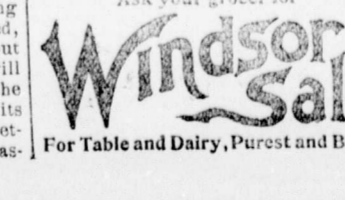
Parents Must have Heat.

A President of one of our colleges says: "We spent many sleepless nights in consequence of our children suffering from colds, but this never occurs now; we use Scott's Emulsion and it quickly relieves pulmonary troubles."

We hear a great deal about purifying the blood. The way to purify it is to enrich it. Blood is not a simple fluid like water. It is made up of minute bodies and when these are deficient, the blood lacks the life-giving principle. Scott's Emulsion is not a mere blood purifier. It actually increases the number of the red corpuscles in the blood and changes unhealthy action into health.

If you want to learn more of it we have a book, which tells the story in simple words.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Bellevue, Ont.



Windsor Salt. For Table and Dairy, Purest and Best.