

YOUTHS' DEPARTMENT.

"UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN."

"Fair Child, in manger lying,
Whom birth the angels sing,
What mystery surrounds thee?"
"I am thy God and King."

"O Babe! unknown and lowly,
Whom heavenly hosts proclaim,
Tell us, what shall we call thee?"
"Emmanuel is My name."

"Hast thou come down from heaven
To pain and poverty?
What brings Thee from Thy glory?"
"I came to die for thee!"

"O Babe! whom angels herald,
O long-desired one!
Who bringest to earth redemption,
Joy! joy! that Thou hast come!"

ARA COELI.

The Christmas Legend of the Temple of Jove.

On the Capitoline Hill, where was once the Temple of Jove, stands the Church of the Ara Coeli. There exists a legend of this Church of Our Lady, in which an inscription declares there once stood on this spot the first altar erected to the "First Begotten of God." It is said to be enclosed in the Capella Santa under the octagon baldachino, in the centre of the north transept. It is said that Augustus Caesar, elated with joy, asked the Sybil if anyone living exceeded him in happiness or power, and if he should allow the obsequious Senate of Rome to enroll him among the gods of the city. The inspired woman, shrinking not from call of duty, told him that one was now born, whose power should eclipse even that of Caesar himself. Then she led him at dawn to the Temple of Jove, and showed to him, amid the glowing disc of the rising sun, a vision that startled the eyes of Augustus. It was the Virgin Mother seated and holding her Child in her arms. The pious Emperor, then and there, called for incense, and on his knees sacrificed to the "First Begotten of God," thus revealed to him. The subject is seen in the paintings of the Pitti palace, Florence, one especially by Garofalo shows the Sybilla Tiburtina, pointing to the image in the sun, and the Emperor bowed with clasped hands before the altar. Whatever be the origin of the legend, the words of Virgil's Poem (Eclog. iv.) are certainly strange:

"Magnus ab integro saeculorum nascitur ordo
Jam redit et virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna,
Jam nova progenies coelo demittitur alto."

The lines inspired Pope's "Ode" and Milton's glorious "Nativity":

The oracles are dumb—
No voice or hideous hum
Runs through the arched roof in words deceiving.
Apollo from his shrine
Can no more divine
With hollow shriek, the steep of Delphos leaving.

In support of this very curious oracle, carved up on a stone, is said to have been found among the ruins of the old temple in the Capital. These are three hexameters of the Delphian Tythou:

"Ille puer Hebraeus Divos Deus ipso gubernans,
Cedere sede jubet tristemque redire sub orcem,
Aris ergo, aching tacitis, abscedite nomen."

In this church of Ara Coeli, the famous Bambino is placed in a splendid crib, and every morning little children give each a discourse of three or four minutes on the mystery of the Incarnation: "From the mouths of infants and sucklings Thou hast perfected praise."—The Catholic.

Oedipus The King.

Oedipus being reproached concerning his parentage left Corinth (whose King, Polybus, loved him), and in disgust exiled himself, going into Thebes. At this time the Thebans suffered much from the persecutions of a dreadful monster, the Sphinx, who stood upon the public road and devoured all who passed without answering a clever riddle she propounded. The throne of Thebes was vacant, and Creon, the regent and the queen's brother, had proclaimed that the widowed queen, Jocasta, and all the sovereignty of Thebes should be given to him who should solve the riddle of the Sphinx and free the city from her baneful presence. Oedipus passing by, answering the Sphinx, who in a rage flung herself down from her pinnacle of rock. He at once was declared the King of these kingless Thebans and took as his wife Jocasta, the childless widowed queen.

The Oracle at Delphi had foretold to Oedipus that a fate wretched, horrible and deplorable awaited him. But Oedipus laughed and was happy in his heart with his new kingdom, his queen and his four

children, Eteokles, Polynices, Antigone and Ismene. His sons were brave and valorous, his daughters sweet and lovable maidens. All things seemed to show that Oedipus had faced the Oracle down and his destiny would be all unfulfilled. But, alas, the elements of his happiness were to run to baneful misery; his blessings were to be the very curses which the god foretold. About the time his children were grown to full manhood and womanhood a dreadful plague ravaged Thebes, and a famine swept through the city, taking the heart and courage out of the people. It was clear that some curse was working out, so the people begged Oedipus to send a messenger to the Oracle at Delphi to know the cause of the trouble and if possible to learn a way to stem it. Creon went to Delphi and there found that the murderer of Laius, the former King of Thebes and husband of Jocasta, was denounced and proclaimed the cause of the evil. In his anxiety to discover the murderer, Oedipus was made to learn fearful things and much became clear to him which had been shrouded in deep mystery. When he stopped at Delphi on his way from Corinth as a youth, the Oracle had frightened him by telling him that he should be the murderer of his own father, that he should marry his own mother and be the father of an accursed progeny which mankind should not endure to look upon. Hence his wild flight into Thebes and his joy on marrying Jocasta who could in no way be connected with his past. Conceive his horror when he finds that an old man whom he had slain for an affront offered him on the public road was Laius, the former King and husband of Jocasta. Horrors heap on horrors' head when he finds, through the statements of a high priest, corroborated by those of some trustworthy ancient servants, that he was the son of Laius and Jocasta and had been exposed in order that he might die rather than fulfil the dreadful prophecies made concerning him. In his helpless infancy he fell into the childless hands of Polybus, King of Corinth, who brought him up as his own child and thus made clear the way by which he was to fulfil his dreadful destiny. When there was found no circumstance on which to hang a doubt, Jocasta hanged herself, and in a frenzy under the maddening sting of his abominable disasters, Oedipus tore out his eyes and wandered forth from Thebes attended by his dear child, Antigone, the beautiful and brave.

For a weary time they wandered up and down, the sweet Antigone obtaining the scanty alms sufficient for their existence. At last the woe-worn father and his loving child came to the vicinity of a city whose towers and walls showed in the distance. Antigone told her father they certainly were in a consecrated spot for it was "all full with bay, the olive and the vine, within it dense flocks of winged nightingales are singing sweetly." They had come up to Athens. At home in Thebes an internal dispute reigned as to who should govern the people, the sons of Oedipus or Creon, the brother of Jocasta. The Oracle declared that victory would attend those among whom Oedipus should die. So Creon and Polynices make unsuccessful attempts to carry him back to Thebes. Oedipus curses them both for their selfishness and greediness and foretells more woes and miseries for his unhappy family. He blesses Antigone who had followed his helpless wanderings, and Ismene, who had warned him against his son and Creon. Then, amid a fearful storm, he disappears, and none know his burial place save the perpetual successors to the throne of Athens.—ELODIE HOGAN.—In the Monitor.

Root and Branch,

the poison in your blood, however it may come or whatever shape it may be taking, is cleared away by Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It's a remedy that rouses every organ into healthful action, purifies and enriches the blood, and through it cleanses and invigorates the whole system. Salt rheum, Tetters, Eczema, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Enlarged Glands, and the worst Scrofulous Sores and Swellings, are perfectly and permanently cured by it.

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A Happy Orphan. XI

ST. JOHN'S ASYLUM,
KENTON, KY., Oct. 9, 1890.

In our orphan asylum here there is a 15-year-old child that had been suffering for years from nervousness to such an extent that she oftentimes in the night got up, and with fear depleted on every feature and in a delirious condition, would seek protection among the older people from an imaginary pursuer and could only with great difficulty be again put to bed. Last year Father Koenig while on a visit here happened to observe the child and advised the use of Koenig's Nerve Tonic and kindly furnished us several bottles of it. The first bottle showed a marked improvement and after using the second bottle and up to the present time the child is a happy and contented being. All those suffering from nervousness should seek refuge in Father Koenig's Nerve Tonic.

REV. FATHER HILLEBRAND,

FREE—A Valuable Book on Nervous Diseases sent free to any address, and poor patients can also obtain this medicine free of charge. This remedy has been prepared by the Reverend Pastor Koenig, of Fort Wayne, Ind., since 1870, and is now prepared under his direction by the

KOENIG MED. CO., Chicago, Ill.

Sold by Druggists at \$1 per Bottle. 6 for \$5. Large Size, \$1.75. 6 Bottles for \$9.

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Watches, Jewellery, Clocks, Silver Plate, Fine Lamps, Rodgers' Table Cutlery. Spoons and Forks, All quality, Choice Selections and Low Prices.

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THE SUNBEAM, a monthly paper for Catholic youth; 50 cents a year, send for sample copy. 761 Craig Street, Montreal, P. Q.

COMMERCIAL.

FLOUR GRAIN, Etc.

Flour.—Prices are quoted as follows:—
Patent Spring.....\$4.20 @ 4.35
Patent Winter.....4.10 @ 4.25
Straight Roller.....3.50 @ 3.65
Extra.....3.00 @ 3.15
Superfine.....2.00 @ 2.65
Fine.....2.25 @ 2.60
City Strong Bakers.....4.00 @ 4.15
Manitoba Bakers.....3.50 @ 4.10
Ontario bag—extra.....1.50 @ 1.55
Straight Rollers.....1.90 @ 2.00
Superfine.....1.30 @ 1.45
Fine.....1.10 @ 1.15

Oatmeal.—We quote jobbing prices as follows:—Rolled and granulated \$4.00 to \$4.06; Standard \$3.80 to \$3.95. In bags, granulated \$2.00 to \$2.05, and standard \$1.90 to \$1.95.

Mill Feed.—Lots quoted at \$13.50 to \$14.00 per ton. Shorts are firm at \$14.50 to \$15.50, and moultie at \$19 to \$22.

Wheat.—No. 2 Spring wheat have been secured at 70c and delivered here, No. 2 hard Manitoba held at 80c North Bay.

Corn.—At 60c to 62c, duty paid.

Peas.—In the West sales have been made in the Stratford district at 53c to 54c per 60 lbs., which is 1c to 2c better than a ago. Here prices are steady at 71c to 72c per 60 lbs.

Oats.—At 31c to 32c per 34 lbs., with sales reported at 31c.

Barley.—We quote 48c to 55c for malting grades, and feed at 38c to 42c.

Malt.—Sales of Western at 65c to 67c, and we quote 65c to 75c as to quantity.

Rye.—The market is quiet at 53c to 55c.

Buckwheat.—The market is quiet at 18c to 50c; sales are reported in the West at 42c f.o.b. on the Midland.

Seeds.—Timothy is high, being quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Red clover seed is firm at \$15 per 100 lbs.; \$15.25 to \$15.50 per 100 lbs., and white clover \$24 per 100 lbs. Flaxseed is quiet but steady at 90c to \$1.00.

PROVISIONS.

Pork, Lard &c.—We quote:—

Canada short cut mess pork per brl. \$20.00 @ 20.50
Canada clear mess, per brl. 19.50 @ 20.00
Chicago short cut mess, per bbl. 20.00 @ 20.50
Mess pork, American, new, per brl. 20.00 @ 20.50
India mess beef, per tierce.....00.00 @ 00.00
Extra Mess beef, per brl.....00.00 @ 12.50
Hams, city cured, per lb.....12 @ 12 1/2
Lard, pure in pails, per lb.....10 @ 10 1/2
Lard, com. in pails, per lb.....9 @ 10 1/2
Bacon, per lb.....11 1/2 @ 12
Shoulders, per lb.....10 @ 10 1/2

Dressed Hogs.—Prices may be quoted at \$8.25 to \$8.35 per 100 lbs.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—We quote prices as follows:

Creamery choice fall.....22 1/2c to 23c
do good to fine.....21 1/2c to 22c
Eastern Township dairy, choice fall.....21 1/2c to 22c
do do good to fine.....20c to 21c
Morrisburg & Brockville.....18c to 19c
Western.....17c to 18c

About 1c to 2c may be added to above prices for choice selections of single tubs.

Roll Butter.—Morrisburg in baskets selling at 18c to 20c.

Cheese.—There is no break in the strength of the market, further sales of finest Western being reported at 11c to 11 1/2c, with business in under grades at 10c to 10 1/2c.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Eggs.—Held fresh are steady at 19c to 20c. Any lots suitable for boiling are quoted at 21c to 25c.

Beans.—Sales of choice handpicked, at \$1.35 to \$1.40 per bushel, while good ordinary lots are quoted at \$1.15 to \$1.20.

Hay.—No. 2 Ontario hay in car lots being quoted at \$3.00 to \$3.50 f.o.b. in the country. There have been sales at points east of the city at \$3.50 to \$4.00 for No. 2, and at \$10.00 for No. 1. Here we quote \$9.00 to \$9.50 for No. 2, and \$10.50 to \$11.50 for No. 1.

Honey.—Comb honey 13c to 14c for choice white clover, and dark honey at 8c to 11c as to quality. Extracted 6c to 8c as to quality and quantity.

Hops.—Eastern Townships hops quoted at 18c to 19c.

Dressed Poultry.—Choice young chickens dry-picked are also wanted, with sales at 8c to 9c. Fine large geese weighing 10 to 12 lbs. are sought for and will command 8c to 8 1/2c per lb.

FRUITS.

Apples.—At \$2.25 to \$2.75 as to quality.

Dried Fruits.—We quote dried apples 4c to 5c, with lower prices expected; evaporated 5c to 7c; peaches 14c to 15c; apricots meeting with good demand at 14c to 14 1/2c per lb., evaporated vegetables selling freely in large cases at from 18c to 14 1/2c per lb., as to quality.

Oranges.—Fancy Florida, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Valencia \$4.00 to \$4.25; Messina, \$2.50 to \$2.75; Jamaica in barrels, from \$5.00 to \$6.00 as to quality; Manderins, boxes, \$4; half-boxes, \$2.25.

Lemons.—We quote fancy Messina at \$3.25 to \$3.50; prime \$3.00, common \$2.00 as to quality.

Dates.—At 5c to 6c per lb. in large boxes.

Coconuts.—\$4.75 to \$5.00 per 100.

Grape Fruit.—At from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per box.

Cranberries.—We quote \$9. to \$10.

Onions.—We quote Spanish 90c to \$1., Canadian red and yellow in barrels, \$2 to \$2.25.

Potatoes.—At 90c to 85c per bag of 90 lbs.

FISH AND OIL.

Oils.—Although prices are firm at 36 1/2c to 37 1/2c for Newfoundland, 35c for Gaspe, and 33c to 34c for Nova Scotia. Cod liver oil is steady at 65c to 75c.

Pickled Fish.—Dry cod is steady at \$4.50 per quintal. Herring continues quiet but firm at \$5 to \$5.25 for Labrador and Canso, and Cape Breton, August and September catch, was \$4.50 to \$4.75.

Smoked Fish.—Yarmouth bladders \$1.25 per box of 60; smoked herring 12c per box; boneless cod fish 5c to 7c, and fish 4c to 4 1/2c.