BY REV. N. M. REDMONE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NO PROGRESS WITHOUT GRACE "And His disciples answered; 'Whence can one satisfy them with bread here in the wilder-ness?" (Mark viii. 4.)

For the moment, not adverting that they addressed the Giver of all good gifts, the disciples, thinking of the enormous disproportion between their meagre supply and the thou-sands to be fed, might well say what they did. In the instant they reasoned as men, leaving God—for whom impossibility has no meaning out, and, as a consequence, utter impossib.lity stared them in the breadless wilderness. But God was with them, willing the thousands food, and the loaves and fishes, like the bushels scattered in the earth, vielded an abundance. So is it in the lives of Christians. As long as they keep God with them, the difficul ties which beset a Christian life are easily surmounted, but once they are so unfortunate as to drive Him from them by sin and insult, their utter inability to cope with the duties of their vocation becomes painfully parent. When God's grace is not the soul, no real Christian progress now agreed that in but very few apparent. can be made, be the external show what it may. The disparity between man's strength and ability without the aid of God's grace, and the duties devolving upon him as a Christian, evidences an impossibility equal to that which presented itself to the disciples in the wilderness. His utter helplessness to effect the least advance is clearly asserted in the Sacred Scriptures. "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abide in the vine, so neither can says our Lord, "unless you abide in Me, for, without Me, you can do nothing." "Neither he that can do nothing." planteth is anything, nor he that watereth, but God that giveth the increase." The material rot of the branch severed from the vine is a simile of the moral rot which begins in the man whose soul is bereft of divine grace. From stage to stage downward the bent of his nature carries him, for "his imagination and the thought of his heart are prone to evil from their youth." Though advantages of education, society, and an exacting self-respect may place him high in the esteem of men, naught less than moral chaos is his case before God. As in the instance of the man aided by God's grace, one virtue prepares the way for practice of another, so is it in the case of the man impelled downward by the bent of his nature, one vice opens the way to another. So that, as every day finds him bolder, it also finds him worse in the sight of heaven. Without counting on the aid of God's grace, man might Who can keep the comwell say: mandments of the divine law and the precepts of the Church? But with blessed boon of grace, what would otherwise be as impossible as feeding the multitude in the dire circumstances of the wilderness, becomes an accomplished fact like that of the wilderness, by the power of Him who multiplied the loaves. "It is God who worketh in us both to will and to accomplish, according to time which was not, directly or indi-His good will." Our confidence in rectly, due to liquor. I have defended our own ability should be as little as that of the disciples recorded in the Gospel. Our entire confidence should centre in God, "that He who hath cide." begun the good Work fect it unto the day of Christ Jesus." staked His divine veracity not to

fulfilling the conditions placed. What is there, O man, that you despair of getting from the all-bountiful God, who, to give you confidence, has bound Himself not to allow it to be disappointed? You say your sins are as red as scarlet and as numerous as the sands on the sea-shore. Let that not discourage you, for to you He says: "Thou hast prosti-tuted thyself to many lovers; nevertheless, return to Me and I will receive thee." You say that your life is a very misery; that whitherseever you turn, you fail to find peace. To you He says: "Come to Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Take up My yoke and learn of Me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you shall find rest to your souls." haps you complain of and are discouraged by the frequency and nature of your temptations. But if you do your part, strength will not be wanting to you to be the victor, because God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above what you are able." "Resist the devil, and he will fly from you." Are you of the number that so feel for the success of their earthly interests as for them not to hesitate to forego their duties in God's service? If so, His words to you are: "Seek first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all these "Seek first the kingdom things shall be added to you." Has He not in His infinite bounty promised us for the mere asking everything necessary and useful when He says: "Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened

to you? Thus we see that nothing whatever impossible is demanded from us as Christians. God with us, all our duties will be both possible and easy. So long as we do our part, His aid will never be wanting to us, and all these will be verified, which must end in the fulfilment of His shall overcome I will give to sit with business interprises.

FIVE MINUTE SERMON Me on My throne, as I also have overcome, and am set down with My Father on His throne."

TEMPERANCE

THE WAR AND TEMPERANCE

The New York Medical Journal declares that the stand taken by the governments of the warring European nations upon the alcohol question is a great victory for the temperance cause. To quote the Journal

As a matter of fact, the months of the war have done far more for the cause of temperance reform than all the preaching and crusading that have been going on for the past twenty years.

"It is now freely acknowledged that when stern work is to be performed and a high degree of efficiis required, not ency alcohol unnecessary, but its use is absolutely contraindicated. The realization of those responsible for the warring countries that in order to stand a chance to win, drink must be prohibited, is a great trump for the men who have advocated earnestly and persistently the abolition of

"So far as the effects of alcohol

instances is its use beneficial. "One of the lessons already learned from the war is the fact that if body and mind are to be keyed up success fully to meet hardships and horrors of every description, the fictitious stimulation afforded by alcohol is indeed a broken reed upon which to lean."-St. Paul Bulletin.

A LAWYER WHO CHANGED HIS MIND

At the opening meeting of the dry campaign in Duluth on May 22, Mr. O. J. Larson, chairman, told how he had changed front on the liquor question. He said :

I have never taken part in the temperance movement, and frankness compels me to confess that I have not always been a total abstainer. I have looked askance at Prohibition ists, and regarded them as impractical, visionary reformers, attempting to accomplish the impossible. But I have changed my mind. I now believe with John Mitchell, the great labor leader.that the 'happiness and progress of this nation depend more upon the liquor question than upon any other question.' My present attitude is not the result of emotionalism, but the result of observance, experience and study. I have tried to reach the solution, which would meet right with the approval of my judgment

My mind is made up and I am who believe that the saloon is a real menace, and should be exterminated. I am no longer neutral in thought, speech or action.'

and conscience.

In referring to his experience which was a contributing factor in bringing about his change of attitude, Mr. Larson said :

For six years I was Prosecuting Attorney in a county in Michigan, and I know that during that time 85% of the crime in the country was due to drink. I cannot recall a single case of murder during that many men for murder too within the past four months, and in every case drink was the cause of the homi-

Touching on the fect it unto the day of Christ Jesus." the question, Mr. Larson said that Confidence thus placed will never for every dollar of the \$165,000 disappointment. God has received by Duluth in liquor license money, the people are taxed sixteen allow it to remain unrequited, pro- to care for the results of the liquor viding that we are not wanting in traffic.—American Issue.

BUSINESS AND RELIGION

Do religion and business make a good team in the race for wealth? The majority of people will answer in the negative and give as their reason that two such opposites should not be harnessed togetherthat each one is good in its own particular field, but together one would rob the other of its strength and that the end would spell ruin. This false reasoning has gained innumerable followers even among our Catholic people, and has and is working great spiritual havoc among them, for no business can be called successful in the real sense of the term that is not guided by religion. It is true, great fortunes can be made vithout the help of religion, but one must always bear in mind that there will come a day when this wealth we have amassed must be accounted for, and unless we have attained it in a manner pleasing to the great Giverthe God of Religion—it will prove our undoing, and we shall lose our immortal souls.

Rest assured that the most success ful business in the world is founded on the basis of religion—not makeshift religion, but the pure love of God which leads us to love His Church and keep His Command-

ments. In these days of commercialism, religion is almost lost sight of in the race for wealth. Even sane men seldom stop to think what wonderful success would be theirs if they made a team of religion and business. How they would gallop to greater heights than their soulless opponents and leave them at the end of the race in the slough of despond, successful perhaps in a money sense, but losing the greater spiritual wealth which will be the crown of the man who "To him that has been guided by religion in his

The spirit of religion in business guided rightly in his dealings with his fellow creatures during the day. Maintaining this attitude, he will be interested in his work and do his best for his employer. He will not waste his time; for religion forbids respect of those around him; his be commented on; and then, wellearned promotion will come—the promotion which attention to the laws laid down by God and man will assure. What greater happiness and success can anyone expect in this world Some day, perhaps, that boy will be a millionaire, but no success he may attain will be equal to that first such

his youth. It is the same thing with the young business girl. If she has been trained in the school of true Catho licity, and lives up to her religion, practising it in business, she, too, is bound to be a success. The girl without religion—the butterfly on the wheel of business-is crushed ruthlessly in the fight for existence, because she has not been taught the value of religion as a business asset She wastes her time, she would rather elude work and deck pretty person to attract. She helps erself to her employer's money to do this, and the end is disgrace

cess to which religion urged him in

We read these stories every day in the newspapers, of virtue rewarded punished, even in this world. And yet it seems to convey no warning to our young people. From the pulpits our spiritual advisers denounce vice and acclaim virtue-and yet, every day some poor boy or girl of Catholic parents, but who has not been trained to live up to their religion, fails ignominiously and disgraces the name of Catholi city. In many cases it is the fault of their parents. They have failed in their duty to them, with the result that the children fail in their duty

not only to them, but to God. There is, thank God, a bright side to the picture. There are thousands of our boys and girls a credit to God and their parents. Thousands whose mere example is winning thousands more to lead good lives These young soldiers of the Church are steadily winning battles in the world, for the simple business world, for the simple reason that religion, meaning their duty to God and their neighbor, is the leading factor which guides their lives. Many of these boys and girls are weekly communicants, which "My mind is made up and I am fact perhaps, explains their success ready to take my stand with those in the business world. Daily they eat of the Bread of Life knowing that they require it if they are to have strength to win the day's battle. It is surprising to see the number of these young soldiers of Christ who attend early Mass on week mornings and then hurry off to their day's toil, imbued with fresh hope and vigor to face natural trials,

which attend a business career. These boys and girls started early the path of religion. As little children they attended schools taught by men and women who had given up all for God, who had levoted their lives to religion and the spiritual and mental training of our Catholic children. The lessons imbued in these early days in the minds of the little ones has taken oot and bring forth flowerseof sple

did growth. God bless and guard our Catholic They are the bulwark of this great nation. They are the enemies of Socialism and anarchy, and when the day comes when two forces meet in deadly conflict—as assuredly this will—the victors will be the former children of our Catholic schools. Fortified and clad in their spiritual armor they will fight and vanquish the powers of darkness and bring peace in their train. In the business world they will be a special power, for Socialism aims at its destruction, and anarchy would make a complete wreck of it.

Catholic parents! Remember it is your duty to send your children to a Catholic school. Nothing excuses you from not doing so. The lessons taught your children when they are in the plastic age are the only lessons that count. The character is moulded in youth for good or evillet it be for good. Put them in charge of holy men and women who mentally and spiritually are fitted to guide them rightly and leave the rest in God's hands. Do your part, and by your example lead others to do the same. This is a frightful age of materialism and agnosticism.

The powers of hell are let loose, seeking the destruction of souls, and it will require all our strength to

combat them. every Catholic mother and father took this lesson to heart their children would be a success not only in the business world but in every path of life, in which it has pleased Him to place them.—Sheila Mahon

A CATHOLIC DUTY

Religion is unquestionably the strongest and the most vital of all the powers operating in our world and it may be questioned whether, since the foundation of Christianity religious activity was ever greater than it is at present. It is mani-fested in a thousand ways and opportunities for its exercise are continu-

ally increasing.
The cries. What is truth? and

eve ywhere outside the pale of the can be adopted by every one. It is an asset worth having, for it paves the after a firm and sure creed—search way to success. The working lad ing everywhere but in the right place going out to work in the morning for the lost groat of faith. Now as ing everywhere but in the right place | Catholic Church of history in its true | a call to clear, courageous thinking, must find time for a few moments' everybody in these days reads and communion with Gal if he wishes to wants to read, it is easy to see how much may be effected by disseminat-ing printed matter calculated to dissipate the prejudices or dispel the ignorance of Protestants in regard to the doctrines of the one true Church.

Whatever can be done by zeal and charity, enlightened and guided by discretion, should be done by every Catholic individual in the great cause of the conversion of souls. We are in duty bound to pray for, edify, and instruct our non-Catholic brethren.-Intermountain Catholic

SOME REASONS FOR CONVERSIONS

An analysis of the official figures reported to the chancery offices, which appears on the first page of this issue, shows that the number of converts received last year in the United States was well above the 40,-000 mark and was probably not less The official English Catholic Directory places the convert total for 1915 in England at 9.034.

the publicity which is their due, would start a great many people thinking. Why is it that such a large number come each year to the Catholic Church from other religious bodies? There are altogether too many to warrant belittling the movement and altogether too many to support the charge that conversions are mere phenomena of individual minds working in ways which our Protestant friends would call erratic. Such substantial totals here and abroad, piling up year after point to far-reaching causes, and while it is true that no two con vert experiences are ever exactly alike, it is possible to distinguish

percentage of newcomers to the Church is shown to be the highest, we are told that the disaffection from the various Protestant bodies strongly marked. unusually Cause No. 1 for the convert movement is to be found in the disunion among Protestants, the teaching of contradictory doctrines even within the same denominations, and the consequent recognition among thinkpeople that a church so divided within itself cannot possess and is Christianity.

Protestantism by the spectacle of unity in faith and discipline, at all times, in all places. They read the Gospels and note that Christ founded a Church to last forever, that He promised this Church would not fail, and that He prescribed as its essential characteristic that there should be one fold and one shepherd

and subordination to one supreme Alas for them, the pendulum is directing herd. What religious swinging back again at this very organization exists in the world to- early day. In the Survey of June 3 day which fulfils these requirements? The inquirer does not have Adolph Meyer, of Johns Hopkins to look far. Surely this type of the true Christian Church is not to be view. Dr. Meyer, it is well to note, found in the 300 odd varieties of is hailed by that journal as "one of Protestantism, no one of which agrees with the other and no one of Very emphatically does agrees with the other and no one of which is in accord among its own that "the conclusions from hereditary study can not be codified in the the perception among earnest seekers form of for religious truth that the Catholic Church is the only one that can lay claim to be the Church instituted by plexity of the problem and the the Master and the authorized teacher of His doctrines.

Third, the facts of history are coming to be examined with more fairness, and in proportion as history-study frees itself from prejudice just in that proportion do the false impressions and false pictures of Catholicism tend to disappear. For the first two hundred years after the religious break of the sixteenth century, the vast bulk of Englishwritten history was written by non-Catholics and was colored by the hatred and bitterness religious engendered by the Reformation. There grew up what Newman so aptly called the Protestant Tradition -that is, a body of history handed down from one generation to another which was accepted as true by the sons because it had been believed by the fathers. Just as there was an inherited Protestant faith, so there was an inherited picture of things Catholic which was hideous and repulsive. The Oxford Movement of the 1840's was the first entering wedge driven into this mass of traditional misconceptions, because the Oxford divines determined to go back with open minds to the sources and study history intelligently and without prejudice from the ground up. Their clarifying work has been

they never used to have to see the expression, the Survey declares, light.

And finally as the supreme determinant in so many conversions, is a Cause which is not open to discussion. We refer to the abiding Presence of Our Lord in our Catholic tabernacles. All that need be said is that the number of those who become Catholics merely by attend ing Mass and the other services of the Church is very large, and there is no priest but who can tell of instances where conversions have occurred that are not explainable in way except the influence Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. In the last analysis all conversions are acts of Divine Grace, but the preparatory processes differ. go through a long period of intellectual effort. To others it would seem. God makes the great gift with out exacting much from imperfect human understanding.-The Catho lic Convert.

SOUNDNESS OF THE CATHOLIC VIEW

From the Press Bulletin of Central O34.

These statistics, if they received excellent Catholic Association, we Thought Little Sisters of the Poor.

"No, I am not a Catholic take the following

The Church is the balance wheel of human progress. Her quiet self-possession in the midst of great popular clamor for extreme reform has become proverbial. Calmly She points out the error and the danger in the radical demand of any particular place or period and at the same time recognizes its element of truth. Her own program, She can always show, has long ago anticipated the need and provided for it.

The widespread eugenic move-ment for the regulation of the martial relationship was a recent and interesting evidence of this old certain broad and well-defined scientific gentlemen had awakened to the fact that all marriages were First, may be set down as unques- not productive of healthy or desir tionable that converts are most able offspring, and legislation of the numerous in the places where Protestantism is weakest. In the Middle West for example, where decide as to who should be married according to the official figures the and who should not, and a compulsory physical examination was demanded for those about to enter upon the state of matrimony.

Catholic thought could not agree with such a proposal. It pointed to the fact that the Church had always recognized that there were certain marriages which, because of the evil results to health and morals of the offspring, were prohibited by the natural law. Their prevention was to be the work of moral restraint out of touch with his Church, her and education among the people not qualified to teach the truths of rather than by arbitrary action of the State. 'As a last recourse, the Second, as many are driven from State might indeed, and should impose certain restrictive reguladisunion, so they are attracted to tions for the common good, but Catholicism by observing its perfect these must not go too far. The Church itself, through its centuryold battle against vice, had been and is the greatest eugenic force in his-

of course, this did not at all please the gentlemen advocating the panacea · legislation. The Church hould be one fold and one shepherd had for another time clearly out-that is, oneness in its teaching lived its "mediæval" usefulness. ohns Hopkins

> legislation. A careful student of the literature and of the reason why we should be cautious about pushing everything to the point of legislative enactment." Even many of those of a so-called point tainted strain can marry if proper care be exercised in the choice of a partner. Education needed and the prevention of undesirable matings. remedy for this, however. "The first step," he says, "is protection of the foolish against playing with the holiest of all sacraments-marria He points to the regulations in force in Switzerland, that, "no marriage license is valid that has not been posted for three weeks by the civil authorities and published in the newspapers." It is this which he recommends for this country. 'Runaway matches and marrying

parsons," he says, "have no place under such conditions." Here we have a strong, unqualified endorsement of the stand which the Church has taken. Long ago did She throw this suggested safeguard around marriage in the publication of the banns, three successive Sundays before the ceremony. Among the so-called "bleeders" of a mountain village in Switzerland do we see a whole section of the people under the influence of Catholic thought stamping out the disease supplemented since then by other non-Catholic historians, by men like by legislation—but by a voluntary James Gardiner the court historian of Edward VII., who free from the She has proceeded—by the educaof Edward VII., who free from the bias of the early writers, have punctured one after another the fables which centuries of Protestant young folks had been taught as facts. Cause No. 3 among the great impelling favers helpind the converging forms helpind the converging forms helpind the converging favers impelling forces behind the converproblem should be met by a "greater sion movement may thus be set measure of economic security among down as the reform in the methods all classes," he again voices the of historical research, which is give attitude of the Church on this subwhere is truth to be found? are heard ing English - speaking people de- ject. Certainly it is instructive to Ottawa.

pendent for the most part upon non-Catholic writers, the chance which science writing in this vein. His away from the exaggerated fears founded on insufficient knowledge and also away from the false optimism founded on unwillingness to face the truth." It goes a long way, it may be added, to show the sainity and practical applicability of Catho-lic truth.—Sacred Heart Review.

> THE HILLS GENEROUS BENE-FACTORS OF THE CHURCH

Catholics will ever hold Mr. Hil!, who died a Catholic, in affectionate remembrance for his many bene-factions to Catholic churches and institutions, chief among which was his princely gift to Archbishop Ireland of the \$300,000 Seminary of St. Paul. He also gave Carroll, of Helena, \$50,000 for the latter's cathedral, and \$60,000 for the Bishop's College of St. Charles. Marquette University, Milwaukee, not long ago received from Mr Hill the sum of \$ 5.000 for its endowment fund. When his new home on Summit avenue, St. Paul, was completed, he left the Tenth street nansion just as it stood, furniture and all, and turned it over to the

'No, I am not a Catholic," he had answered when his gifts were announced, "but my wife is, these are her offerings." was one of the largest individual contributors to the St. Paul cathedral building fund. Mr. Hill's wife, Mary Theresa Mehegan Hill, has always been a zealous Catholic, and raised all her children in the faith. Mrs. Hill has always enthusiastically seconded any movement made for the welfare of humanity and the extension of the true faith Her daughter, Miss Clara Hill, last built at her own expense in St. Paul, a convent for her old teachers, the eresting evidence of this old Visitation Sisters, at a cost of All of a sudden certain \$125,000.—The Monitor.

GOOD REASONS

The same reason which makes it

necessary for the doctor to read medical journals, for the judge and lawyer to read law books, for the farmer to read agricultural papers the same reason forces the Car to read religious publications, if he wishes to remain intelligent and practical, if he wishes to retain a lively faith and Catholic sentiment How sadly would a professional man be behind the times in a short while if he neglected professional informa needs, her trials, her progress. faith, his piety, his zeal will soon grow consumptive and perish Every parish priest can assure us from his lifelong experience that his practical, fervent, active and intellieent parishioners come from homes where Catholic literature exercises its salutary influence, while the ignorant, the luke-warm, the cold members of the Church, are particularly those who are entirely indifferent to the Catholic press, who neither patronize nor read what is written and published for their defense, instruction and personal benefit. -Catholic Universe.

Where grace is there is the Precionly merit by coming in contact with the Precious Blood.-Father Faber.

RHEUMATISM MOST SEVERE

Dreadful Pains All The Time Until He Took "FRUIT-A-TIVES".



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W. M. LAMPSON.

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