

BROTHER DUTTON, LEPER

The current issue of the London Tablet is authority for the statement that death had ended the career of Brother Ira Barnes Dutton, who was associated with Father Damien in his labors among the lepers of Molokai, and who after the death of Father Damien, took upon himself the care of these helpless ones.

Brother Dutton was born of a New England Methodist family sixty-nine years ago. He served with distinction in the Civil War and was promoted to a first lieutenant and recommended for a captaincy. For a long time after the war he remained in the service of the Quartermaster's Department. In 1883 he was received into the Catholic Church by the Dominican Fathers of Memphis, Tennessee. While a lay brother at a Redemptorist Monastery in New Orleans he heard of Father Damien's apostolate among the lepers of Molokai and decided to join him in his heroic work. He arrived at Kalawao in 1886, where he remained ever since ministering to the needs of those afflicted with leprosy.

INTERESTING MEMOIR

Last year a very interesting memoir on "Damien and Dutton" was written by Edwin E. Woodman, a life-long friend of Dutton, from which we take the following extract:

"Dutton's scholarship, his business training and aptitude, fitted him for immediate service as quartermaster sergeant, in an office whence were issued all articles of military use, involving large responsibility and correspondingly extensive and accurate accounting. He was so facile in the discharge of these important functions that it early led to his promotion to a lieutenantcy in one of the companies with more strictly soldierly duties. Going on from success to success, before the war was over he had been promoted to first lieutenant and commenced for a captaincy; and for a long time after the peace, remained in the service of the Quartermaster's Department, collecting the bodies of our scattered dead and relaying them in national cemeteries. This strictly historical chapter of Dutton's life may be read in the records at Washington and might be extensively filled out if this were a biography.

DUTTON'S CONVERSION

And now I come to a surprising mental change in him, a state to be approached only with delicacy of feeling, if at all, and I take off my shoes from my feet to mark it as holy ground. For there is no sanctity higher than a man's religion, his relation to his Maker. Here was a New England boy of Protestant parentage and education, of austere puritanic training, whom we find upon the career of a soldier, a novice in a monastery; and a year or two later, after humanitarian service in New Orleans and learning of Damien's work, self-exiled to Kalawao, going secretly and in poverty to uphold the falling hands of Damien, a name now resounding in every land where heroic sacrifice by a man for men is appreciated.

"Such rapid and profound changes are so much matters of temperament as to be difficult of comprehension by persons of less spirituality than is a subject of them. I am thus hampered myself. The rich pageantry and symbolism of the Catholic Church do not deeply affect me, and perhaps never would have done so; though more probably this because I was reared in a colder school of sinners and did not feel its cultural power at an emotional period. But Dutton's mind must have been naturally pathetic to it, otherwise he could not have been swept away, in a burst of sympathy, into the same martyrdom with Damien; in a spirit, I confess, immeasurably beyond my own strength of sacrifice. And though I lack a share of brotherhood in the august Roman Church, I am not a paynim to question the authentic truth of a religion that produces such heroes.

MUSIC TAUGHT FREE

When the former Lieutenant Ira B. Dutton, re-christened Joseph by the Church, arrived at the leper settlement, Damien was already stricken and with but a short reprieve from death. The volunteer for the Union, and now for the work of Damien, at once closed with his opportunity for human service, immediately taking charge of two churches and a number of lepers. He cared for Father Damien to the end of his sacrificial life, rounded his grave on the spot where he first preached to the lepers under a tree, send home his effects to Louvain, and then harnessed upon himself the pack of labors and cares that had fallen from the master. He was nurse in dressing the sores of every Lazarus; teacher in the school; lay brother in offices of the Church; was the disciplinarian and immediate hand of providence for every need of a large and childlike population—work requiring judgment, administrative tact, and, above all, a heart brimming with sympathy. I gleaned these details from letters of long ago in which he told an old friend how his hours were counted off by duties, and the friend read them shuddering, as if they had come from a like prison in a deep circle of the Inferno.

Sanol RELIABLE CURE

For Gall Stones, Kidney Trouble, Gravel, Lumbago, Uric Acid, Piles, etc. Price \$1.50, Most Leading Druggists. Literature Free. The Sanol Mfg. Co., Ltd. WINNIPEG, MAN.

"The talent for affairs that appeared in Dutton, and matured so rapidly in war, has effected great enlargements and betterments of the accommodations for the lepers. His devotion to humanity touched the sensibility of many persons of wealth, who gave liberally to the Baldwin Home, so that money was seldom lacking for any object of his desire (as salary for himself not being out), but flowed to the spot by pressure of a deep reservoir of philanthropy that surrounded the enterprise. Thus, as to buildings, food, clothing, medical attention, religion, education, occupation and amusement, these poor, afflicted, slowly disintegrating people generally pass their days in contentment, if not in happiness; for fortunately, their disease, though almost inevitable as to its end, and usually painful, is unable to destroy sociability in these light-hearted native island children, fond of brass bands, phonographs, and every simple pleasure.

"In recent years the care of the lepers has become elaborately organized with a superintendent, a medical staff, many nurses and teachers, two priests, and the Board of Health spending about \$150,000 yearly on the work; so that now there are Mother Mary Marianne and four Catholic Sisters on the women's side, and Dutton and four Catholic Brothers on the men's side, all giving their lives to the beneficence; all, as Dutton describes them, "followers of Damien," and all exulting in your reverence and mine. But it ought to be remembered that it was not always so. It is not so when Damien lay, as R. L. Stevenson pictures him, "that first night under a tree amidst his rotting brethren;" nor during the twelve years that he carried on the work alone, turning his skillful hands to every trade, and doctoring out of an old book, besides preaching; nor yet when Dutton went to Damien, and the two lived together, and worked together, and with their own hands built the first little home, forerunner of the extensive Baldwin Home afterwards built under Dutton's direction, and that has always been under his management, a home for the orphan boys, helpless men and blind men, ground that he has not left in twenty years. It was under these later conditions that a sectarian zealot criticized Damien as not having himself done much to improve the condition of the lepers, and the warm heart of Stevenson flamed at indignation at the charge, and his clear head said, in effect, "Damien has done it all; for without him nothing would have been done, no one would have moved." And Damien did do it all, in the sense Stevenson means when he aroused mankind to

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Twist east and west, as this small island hides. And now he is the spiritual father of Dutton, and of these other self-sacrificing men and women who have done it all in the same way since Damien's death.

A REMARKABLE MAN

And Dutton is the most remarkable man for the strength of his social interest that I have ever known. I believe he has never forgotten in the least particular any person he ever knew, either as to his name, or his family and other relations, or his movements and history. After twenty-five years of exile he now recalls them all, from Wisconsin to Louisiana, as readily as if he talked with them only yesterday. Think of the heart stress in reducing all these chords of association to mere memories that never can be realized again. Yet it may be that this trait of intense interest in humanity, and these old friendships, most of which have been mutually cultivated by mail, are part of the sustaining power that has kept him alive in his pitiful mission.

"When our war fleet went round the globe, with all nations in admiration looking on, that majestic pageant was at the request of Dutton deflected from the direct course and sent by day past Kalawao. It was a graceful attention paid to those innocent prisoners of the death colony, and to the old soldier of the Union and of the Cross who is their father in life.

"Dutton once mentioned in a letter that he had had admonitions of a fate like Damien's, but never alluded to it again. In the course of some years I quieted my fears with the thought that perhaps at the worst his might be one of the "arrested" cases. So after the annexation I wrote, that we had now brought him back into his native land and he ought to come home and make us a visit. His reply was, "I never can leave the island."

"The words are filled with the pathos of Taps, the bugle call for "lights out," which at thought of him, and of the fading light of other days, I venture to interpret: "Fare thee well! O farewell! O farewell! O farewell and farewell! To the care of God's love Fare thee well."

HONOUR THE NEW ARCHBISHOP

The pupils of St. Joseph's Academy gave a delightful concert yesterday afternoon in honour of Archbishop McNeil. About two hundred of the senior girls, dressed in their black uniforms, with white collars and cuffs, occupied the platform. The musical programme had a Scottish flavor which must have delighted his Grace the new Archbishop, as, indeed, must the whole of the entertainment, including a dignified and beautiful address and a sheaf of flowers presented on behalf of the school by Miss Olga Wallace. After the senior pupils, with Miss Florence Tobin as soloist and Miss Kathleen O'Connor at the piano, had completed the musical part of the program, the tiny girls of the school, trooped in dressed in white and when each had made her curtsy to the guest of honor little Miss Mathilde Masson presented a dainty basket of flowers.

It has been said that the secret of Archbishop McNeil's success is the fact that he never loses an opportunity of getting something done. On this occasion, after thanking the girls of St. Joseph's Academy for their kind welcome and congratulating them upon the beautiful way in which everything was done; he offered them the privilege of helping in the mission work of the Church, and placed upon them responsibility for the rent of a school which is being conducted for Japanese children in Vancouver. A little self-sacrifice in the way of sweets and hair ribbons, he said, would soon provide the necessary \$4,000 week and accomplish a very good work.

A THANKFUL HEART

How many of us ever make a sort of rosary of the words, *Deo Gratias*.—"Thanks be to God"? We say our ordinary rosary for many and varied intentions, asking many favors from Almighty God through our Lady's intercession. Let us sometimes say on each bead a *Deo Gratias*, reflecting gratefully on the many tokens of His loving kindness that God has given to us.

A thankful heart pre-disposes us to joy and peace, to resignation and hope. If a time of sorrow comes, a painful bereavement, a heavy cross, the truly thankful heart has become already so accustomed to the daily, even hourly thought of God's constant kindness and His watchful love, that even in bereavement it seeks out and speaks of the traces of that love that it has accustomed itself to see so frequently elsewhere. A house of mourning may become almost heavenly in its aspect, if such a heart of humble gratitude be there. And oh, what an example to others is this grateful heart; how it draws us nearer to God by its own nearness to Him!

Many of us have read these little maxims sometimes called "St. Teresa's Bookmarks," and are they not descriptive of the grateful heart? Let nothing disturb thee. Let nothing fright thee. All passeth away. God only remaineth. Patience possesses all things.

Who hath God loses nothing. For God is his all.

Such are the blessings that the grateful heart clings to; such is the joy that makes smiles to shine through tears. This peaceful, glad, continual seeing of God's care and love everywhere; this constant watching out for His benefits, first, in all trouble; this leaning steadfastly on the thorough conviction that God is our good God forever and ever, and that behind the darkest clouds is the sunshine of His love; this is indeed a token that the soul is "firmly settled and grounded upon Christ."

How glad, then, is the thankful heart in the midst of temporal and spiritual joys, since it can give thanks also amidst pains and griefs! Such a heart learns to sing with the angels; such a heart becomes tender, kind and charitable to all men; such a heart carries sunshine with it, and is a benefit to the community in which it lives. Let us best God to give to us, more and more, the true spirit of thanksgiving and a personal understanding of the joys of a grateful heart!—Sacred Heart Review.

RUNNING THEM DOWN

In Ireland they are vigorously carrying on the crusade set on foot there some time ago against immoral literature. Recently the "Dublin Vigilance Committee" had a meeting at which a pledge in the following terms was unanimously passed for general adoption: "I promise not to buy or read any newspaper, periodical, book, or postcard, of an immoral character, and to discourage the sale and circulation of such. I also promise not to purchase anything—or even good, though it may be—in any bookshop or other place in which demoralising publications, whether exposed to view or not, are known to be on sale."

One of the speakers at the meeting suggested not giving advertisements to papers in which objectionable matter appeared. "Shout them down," said he, "run them down, and hunt them out of the country." Father B. Larkin, O. P., in approving the pledge, said that for four hundred years the Catholic Irish have been fighting for the principle now fought for by the "Dublin Vigilance Committee," namely, morality, and he recalled the example of St. Augustine who by reading a bad book fell, and by reading a good book—the Epistles of St. Paul—rose again and became the moral light of the African Church and of the Universal Church since.

The praiseworthy work of this "Dublin Vigilance Committee" has been greatly helped by the co-operation of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and by the Order on this side of the Atlantic much good work in the same line has been done in many parts, and needless to say

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there are room and need for much more. Almost wherever there is "civilization" there is the evil of immoral literature.—Freemantle's Journal.

DIED

DINAN—At Quebec on October 2nd, 1912, Alderman Patrick Dinan. May his soul rest in peace!

CHAMBERS—At his late residence Warriminer, on Saturday, Jan. 4, 1913, John Chambers. May his soul rest in peace!

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A. G. wishes to return thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Anthony for a favor received and a promise to publish in the CATHOLIC RECORD.

A subscriber wishes to return thanks for a favor received, through prayers to the Blessed Virgin, St. Anthony and the saint, St. Joseph, St. Ann, and St. Elizabeth, for a favor received after prayers in their honor; also to return thanks to the Holy Souls for favors received.

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WANTED A TEACHER HOLDING A SECOND CLASS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE, for senior room in Kinkora, S. S. State salary expected. Duties to begin Jan. 1. Apply giving references, experience and qualifications to John Walsh, Sec. Treas., Kinkora, Ont., 1773-4.

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