

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

THE DAY'S RESULT
Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him to-day?

Can you say to-night, in parting with the day that's slipping fast, that you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

DO THE HARD THINGS FIRST
Suspended above the desk of a Pittsburgh bank president is this motto: "Do the hard things first."

"How did you climb so fast?" I asked.
"I lived up to that text," he replied.

"Tell me about it," I asked.
"Here is not much to tell," he replied. "I have long been conscious that I was not keeping up with my work; it was distasteful to me."

"Suddenly the thought came to me, 'I have been doing only the easy things. By postponing the disagreeable tasks, the mean, annoying, little things, my mental muscles have been allowed to grow flabby.'"

HARD WORK SPELLS SUCCESS
Following rainbows in the form of get-rich-quick schemes is the shortest cut to failure, Governor Philip of Wisconsin, thinks.

"Find out what you want to do and do it well.
'Don't be a plunger—don't chase rainbows—be conservative.
'Don't borrow money unless you know how you are going to pay it back."

ROBERT'S LESSON
Robert was insulted. The teacher had crowded another boy into his seat, which was plainly intended for only one. He was a new boy, and while he was neat, and could read quite as well as Robert, he had no right to take up part of his seat.

BE BRIEF
"There is no business so important that it cannot be told on one sheet of paper," said Cyrus W. Field.

"In due time I received the answer. It was a satisfactory one, too; but do you think I would have fared so well if my letter had

covered half a dozen sheets? No, indeed. Brevity is a rare gift."—Catholic Columbian.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

THE USEFUL DIARY
The papers are telling a story of a certain nine-year-old boy who has been keeping a diary. The book was given him last Christmas by a relative, and his father had forgotten all about it until he accidentally found the volume the other day.

Looked in the glass, but whiskers ain't sproutin' yet.
"Stashed a boy. Got licked."
"Pop borrid 10 cents for car fair, that makes \$1.15 he owes me. Wonder if he ever get it?"

Mamma borrid a dolor. These people are always borrid. A fellow can't save nothin'."

A BUNCH OF WILD FLOWERS
Opportunities for sending a ray of brightness into darkened lives comes to us oftener than we realize.

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glass one was always "rigid," as she said.

Then she put each into a long, narrow box that was just a little small, so small that she had to crowd to get them into it. What happened? The rubber tube bent just enough that it squeezed in nicely; but when she tried to crowd the glass tube into place it snapped and broke into several pieces.

"You see what has happened," she explained. "If the glass tube had not been so stiff and rigid that it would neither give nor take an inch of space on either side, it would not have come to grief."

Now this may have been Miss Brake's way of teaching the meaning of the word "rigid," for she was always doing something of this sort to make it easy to remember the hard things.

There is always a fascination about buried treasures; be this in regard to the mineral treasures hidden in the earth by nature, or the treasures accidentally lost or purposely concealed by man, writes Right Rev. Bishop Busch.

Treasures of a spiritual nature are likewise buried within easy reach if we but know. There are chapters, or at least portions of our catechism that would afford us much consolation and spiritual benefit, and were we but aware of the fact, we might be tempted to dig them out for our own advantage or that of others.

The chapter on the Angels is such a poetry of religion. The subject of Grace is another example. If people but knew more about sanctifying grace, they would be more anxious to avoid sin and to do good.

The Cardinal virtues, Fortitude, Justice, Prudence and Temperance, how necessary they would seem particularly in our times! The necessity of temporal punishment—the possibility of satisfying for the same by indulgences and the spiritual and corporal works of mercy—how this would remedy so many of our present day social problems.

The Beatific Vision, the light of glory, the Beatitudes, the halo of virgins and of doctors, and perhaps many other points of Catholic doctrine are rarely touched upon either in sermons or in the instructions for the children. The principles back of each of the Ten Commandments would furnish a most up-to-date commentary on our present world problems.

If we undertook to dig, would we find many eager to pick up the nuggets? Beginning with the new year we intend to try the experiment. In the meantime we hope to secure a full number of readers who will help to obtain the greatest possible number.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

THE HOMEWARD TREND AMONG ANGLICANS
We believe that the following news item marks a point of distinct advance toward Catholic unity, because it records a remarkable change of attitude on the part of more than one of the Anglican Bishops toward that most important matter, the accepted canon of the Holy Scriptures.

Robert sat very straight and stiff in the middle of the seat, determined not to give an inch to the intruder. The new boy was crowded to the very edge of the seat, and there seemed to be no room for his books, while it was very plain that he did not like the idea of being forced in where he was unwelcome.

All day Robert kept his place in the middle of the seat, though Tommy had found that his seat was really large enough for two boys to get along nicely, and he and his new chum were the best of friends.

The next morning Robert sat as straight as ever. At the close of the morning exercises Miss Brake took from her desk two tubes, the same size and shape, the one made of rubber and the other of glass. She showed how the rubber one would bend into various shapes, while the

ening news to those of my readers who with the Pope have so long deplored the flooding of this country with these mutilated versions of God's Holy Book. On with the prayers."

The following is a fine tribute from the editorial page of the English Church Times to the refining power of the Catholic Faith: "The chivalry of the Middle Ages, which at its best was a very beautiful thing, and even at its worst was not ignoble, grew actually out of the Catholic religion. We have said that the Catholic saints were models of courtesy. What better example could one have of this than the letter written by St. Paul to Philemon, a 'little chief-d'oeuvre,' so Renan called it, of the epistolary art? Its exquisite tact, its fine courtesy, its freedom from self-assertion, show that it was written by one who was what we mean by a gentleman in the best sense of the word. Christian controversy has sometimes obtained a bad name for bitterness and bad manners, but a book like Newman's Apologia, written in a fiery heat of anger and indignation, contains not a trace of rudeness."

Catholic Book Notes reviews very sympathetically a deeply spiritual little book entitled "The Sacred Way," by Rev. Jesse Brett, an Anglican chaplain of one of the communities of women in the Church of England. The review goes on to say: "As this book, partly ascetical and partly mystical, is founded on St. Teresa, St. John of the Cross, St. Bernard, Mother Juliana of Norwich, and Father Ignace, we are not surprised that its substance and method are doctrinally sound. Main features are the fervent use of confession, recourse to a spiritual director, humility, courage, mortification, and an habitual upward look of the soul towards God. Fidelity to the guidance of the Holy Ghost and the reception of Holy Communion hold the first place in the life of advancement. The traveller is guarded against a wayward egotism by the warning of needless reliance on the external guidance of the Catholic Church. All this, coupled with devotion to the Sacred Heart and trust in the prayers of saints and angels, is admirable, and a real advance to that unity for which all are sighing. (Italics ours.)"

"Our only criticism is not on any point of doctrine, practice or manner, but that these eloquent pages, earnest and rich in Scripture, present at times a vagueness and lack of dogmatic theology. The book is intended to meet the definite spiritual needs of many devout persons at the present hour; but it is much more than this—it is a sign of the times. (Italics ours.)"

We give below a really beautiful thing which lately appeared in "The American Catholic (Anglican)." It is entitled: "THE GREATEST INFLUENCE OF MY LIFE"

A long-drawn breath, a hand moving from brow to breast, eyes lifted for an instant before closing towards the racked figure on the Crucifix beside the chancel, a shadowy glimmer of a patient face above a violet stole, and I sink to my knees once more in the familiar place.

Since my last appearance in health has passed, four long weeks of restless, and frustrated endeavor, thirty days of mingled weariness and hope. Each morning, the sign of the cross and a fresh resolve to go softly and sinlessly through just one day; each evening, the bowed head looking down in gentle reproach from my bedside crucifix, the weary prayer: "Mary, Mother, pray for me because I have sinned."

Because I have sinned: This is why I, with many others, am here today, to share the painful happiness of revealing my sins to a fellow creature.

So the timid, sordid recital begins, untruthfulness, presumption, uncharitableness—"Oh Father, it's all the same old things I told last time!" and still the patient face beyond the lattice remains mercifully averted, and beside the door, God in His death Agony reaches His Arms to me. So the minutes pass: dishonesty, malice, despair; once I falter and pause until the reassuring whisper comes, "Go on my child." So one broken law follows another, vainly, envy, sloth; so the night grows and deepens around the wavering soul, so the horror and wretchedness of sin becomes even more lurid until I almost look to see great drops of blood oozing from the very wood of the crucifix, and the all-pervading loneliness of Gethsemane encompasses me about.

A surprise rustles in the twilight; I feel rather than see three fingers lifted above me: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has led power in His Church to absolve," and the darkness begins to lift; "and by His Authority" and the East is gray: "I absolve thee from all thy sins;" and the glory of the Resurrection Dawn is here: in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. And the Father, Son and Holy Ghost welcome me at the very gate of Heaven.

And as Magdalene from the Garden, so the shriven penitents return to the love and service of God's world: "For if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

This is the greatest influence in my life—the confessional.—The Lamp.

He who shuns unusual efforts will never accomplish unusual results.

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First Announcement

We have in preparation a new book under the suggestive title: "The Facts About Luther"

THE forthcoming celebration to commemorate the 4th centenary of Luther's "revolt" which occurs October, 1917, lend to invest the volume with a special timeliness. But, apart from this consideration, the need has long been felt for a reliable work in English on Luther based on the best authorities and written more particularly with a view to the "man on the street." Monsignor O'Hare admirably fills this want, and the book will be published at so nominal a price that those whom the subject interests may readily procure additional copies for distribution. We also beg to call your attention to the fact that this work will be an excellent addition to the mission table.

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