



DEATH LURKS IN A PAGE.

Dr. Talmage on the Evils of Our Corrupt Literature.

One of the wars of the cities of this country is a great bonfire of bad books and newspapers. We have enough fuel to make a blaze two hundred feet high. Many of the publishing houses would do well to throw into the blaze their entire stock of books. For the fourth the innumerable and put it into the fire, and let it be known in the presence of God and angels and men that you are going to rid your houses of the overtopping and underlying cause of profligate literature.

GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY.

The printing press is the mightiest agency on earth for good and for evil. The minister of the Gospel, standing in the pulpit, has a responsible position; but I do not think it is as responsible as the position of an editor or a publisher.

GRAT SCOURGE.

The greatest blessing that ever came to this nation is that of an elevated literature, and the greatest scourge has been that of unclean literature. The last has its victims in all occupations and departments. It has helped to fill insane asylums, and penitentiaries, and almshouses, and dens of shame. The bodies of this infection lie in the hospitals and in the graves, and the souls of men are being tossed into a lost eternity—a vast expanse of horror and despair. The London plague was nothing to it. That counted its victims by the thousands, but this modern pest has already shovelled its millions into the charnel house of the morally dead.

WORKS OF FICTION.

Standing, as we do, chin-deep in fictitious literature, the question that young people are asking is, "Shall we read novels?" I reply, there are novels that are pure, good, Christian, elevating to the heart and ennobling to the life. But I have further to say that ninety-nine out of the one hundred novels in this city are as harmful and destructive to the last degree. A pure work of fiction is history and poetry combined. It is a history of things around us, with the license and the assumed names of poetry. The world can never pay the debt which it owes to such fictitious writers as Hawthorne and Melville, and London and Flint, and Arthur and Marion Harland. The tales of such life were never better exposed than by Miss Edgeworth. The memories of the past were never more faithfully portrayed than in the writings of Sir Walter Scott. Cooper's novels are healthfully redolent with the breath of the sea and the air of the American forest. Charles Kingsley has smitten the morbidity of the world, and led a great many to appreciate the poetry of sound health, strong muscles and fresh air. Thackeray did a grand work in caricaturing the pretenders to grandeur and high blood. Dickens has built his own monument in his books, which are a plea for the poor and the anathema of injustice.

USE AND ABUSE.

Now, I say, books like these, read at right times, and read in right proportion with other books, cannot hurt by amobing and purifying; but, alas! for the loathsome and impure literature that has come upon this country in the shape of novels, like a freshet overflowing all the banks of decency and common sense. They are coming from some of the most celebrated publishing houses of the country. They are coming with the recommendation of some of our religious newspapers. They lie on your centre-table to curse your children and blast with their infernal fires generations yet unborn. You find these books in the desk of the school miss, in the trunk of the young man, in the steamboat cabin, on the table of the hotel reception-room. You see a light in your child's room late at night. You suddenly go in and find "What are you reading?" "A book." You look at it; it is a bad book. "Where did you get it?" "Alas, there are always those abroad who like to loan your son or daughter a bad book. Everywhere, everywhere, an unclean literature. I charge upon it the destruction of ten thousand immortal souls.

FALSE PICTURES OF LIFE.

I charge you, in the first place, to stand aloof from all books that give a false picture of life. Life is neither the tragedy nor the farce. Men are not all knaves or heroes. Women are neither angels nor fiends. And yet, if you depended upon much of the literature of the day, you would get the idea that life, instead of being something earnest, something practical, is a fitful and fantastic and extravagant thing. How poorly prepared are the young men and women for the duties of life who get their last night wading through brilliant passages descriptive of magnificent knavery and wickedness! The man will be looking all day long for his heroine, in the tin-shop, by the fire, in the counting room, and he will not find her, and he will be dissatisfied. A man who gives himself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be nervous, irritable and a nuisance. He will be fit neither for the shop, nor the store, nor the field. A woman who gives herself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be unfitted for the duties of wife, mother, sister, daughter. The carpet that was plain before will be plainer after having wandered through a romance all night long in a tinsel hall of castles. And your industrious companion will be more unproductive than ever, now that you have walked in the romance through parks with plumed princesses, or lounged in the arbor with the polished desperado.

DANGEROUS BOOKS.

Again, abstain from all those books which, while they have some good things, have also an admixture of evil. You have read books that had two elements in them—the good and the bad. Which struck you? The bad! The heart of most people is like a sieve, which lets the small particles of gold fall through, but keeps the cinders. In a menagerie in New York a man put his arm through a black leopard's cage. The animal's hide looked so sleek and bright and beautiful. He just stroked it once. The monster seized him, and he drew forth a hand torn, mangled and bleeding. Oh! touch not evil, even with the faintest stroke! Though it may be glossy and beautiful touch it not, lest you pull forth your soul torn and bleeding, under the clutch of the black leopard.

BOOKS THAT CORRUPT.

Again I charge you to stand off from all those books which corrupt the imagination and inflame the passions. I do not refer now to that kind of a book which the villain has under his coat waiting for the school to get out, and then, looking both ways, to see that there is no policeman around the block, offers the book to you on his way home. I do not speak of that kind of literature; but that which evades the law and comes out in polished style, and with acute plot sounds the toxin that

CATHOLIC NEWS.

There are 365 Catholic churches in Rome—one for every day in the year.

The Polish Catholics of Webster, Mass., are ousting themselves a church.

The Vatican is about to send several German missionaries to Africa in conjunction with the German African Society.

The whole number of Popes, from St. Peter to Leo XIII., is 258. Of these 22 are venerated as saints, 33 having been martyred.

King Humbert has decorated the Archbishop of Milan, and his name is mentioned as indicating his desire to conciliate the Pope.

The Mic Mac Indians still sing the Gregorian Masses taught them centuries ago by Jesuit missionaries.

The Right Rev. Bishop Flinch, La Crosse, Wis., gave the white veil to 36 candidates of the school of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Milwaukee, last week.

On the 5th inst., Most Rev. Archbishop Feehan, assisted by a number of clergymen, dedicated the new church at Wilmington, Ill.

Rev. Bishop Watterson, of Columbus, was tendered a grand reception by the Catholics of that city on his return from Europe recently.

The total amount collected for the new Catholic University at Washington to date is \$750,000. Work upon the buildings will be commenced in a few weeks.

Rev. Theodore A. Metcalf, rector of the Church of the Sacred Heart, South Boston, celebrated on Sunday the eighteenth anniversary of his ordination to the Catholic priesthood.

A religious, Sister Mary Innis, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has inherited her fortune of £120,000 for the purpose of erecting an Industrial Home for grown-up girls out of employment.

Within the last ten years the Catholics of France, unaided by the State, have established five good theological schools—viz: at Paris, Lille, Toulouse, Lyons and Angers.

Moritz Moser, a Jew, was baptized last week in the Catholic faith by Rev. P. Decker, of Milwaukee, at St. Anthony's Church. His father is a rabbi at Gelheim, Bavaria.

The Archbishop of Boston, with his secretary, the Rev. John Gray, are in Rome; and the Bishop of Ogdensburg, N. Y., with the Rev. S. DePaum, and the Rev. G. Normandeau are likewise in the Eternal City.

The next total eclipse of the sun, which will occur on August 17th, will be observed on behalf of the Royal Astronomical Society by the Rev. Father Perry, S. J., and Dr. Copeland, at Professor Brechich's observatory, East of Moscow.

The Sisters of St. Dominic, of Brooklyn, have commenced the building of a convent on Shelton avenue, in the village of Jamaica.

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Where the sob of the waves, like a soul oppressed,
By the haunting thoughts that never sleep
When vales eternal bring unrest,
With the wandering winds that rustle by
To kiss the foam on the willing ear,
A ghost steals in 'twixt you and I,
Chill as the mists on yonder shore.

Here in this light your eyes look dim,
Once their light was a guiding star;
Now, the chant of the Vesper hymn,
Gleets no burning orb afar,
Only the broadening, deepening rays,
That dye the waves on the dripping ear,
When evening shades the trodden way,
And love and life are near the shore.

Over the hills of beauty fit,
Come, from the rest of timeless day,
Here by the grim old boatman sit,
He rowed you once while the dawn was gray.
Show aching wounds that were on the wave,
Light depths unfilled by human love,
Where faith must guide when near the shore.

Back from the world sounds greet the ear,
Like mystic bells that marmors hear
Where phantom shades are on the wave,
Here while the earth is gliding by,
With every stroke of the silent oar,
Chilled by a ghost 'twixt you and I,
Seems love and life when near the shore.
GRACE O'BOYLE, Ottawa.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

A Spirited Debate on the Crimes Bill—Morley's Amendment Against Perpetual Coercion Rejected—The Grand Old Man Speaks.

LONDON, June 27.—In the House of Commons to-night Sir James Ferguson, Under Foreign Secretary, replying to Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, said the order in which the Queen received the Ambassadors and Envoys on the occasion of her Jubilee was devoid of special significance. The Papal Envoy was received somewhat earlier than some of the others. The audiences appeared in the Court Circular in the order in which they were held. The mission of the Papal Envoy was confined to offering congratulations to the Queen.

W. H. Smith, replying to Mr. Johnston, M.P. for South Belfast, said that no proposal to establish diplomatic relations between England and the Vatican had ever been contemplated, nor had any such proposal been made to or by the Government.

Mr. Smith announced that the Government intended to proceed with the Crimes Bill until it passed the report stage.

Mr. Robertson (Liberal) moved that a new clause be added to the bill proposing that the act could be repealed by an order in council. This, he said, would prevent the House of Lords keeping the act on the statute book in defiance, possibly, of the wishes of the House of Commons.

Mr. Balfour opposed the new clause urging that the control of the House of Commons was carefully preserved in the Bill, and that any ministry could prevent its operation. The proposed clause was rejected.

Mr. Morley moved that the duration of the act be limited to three years. It was the first time, he said, that any Government had the shameful courage to propose perpetual coercion. In any exceptional mutilation of civil rights, particularly in so grave and serious a mutilation as the present bill contemplated, the Government ought to be compelled from time to time, at tolerably short intervals, to examine whether the circumstances still justified the existence of such exceptional legislation. The bill turned into offences acts which were not now considered offences. He quoted returns of agrarian crimes, and urged that the figures showed there was the smallest possible necessity for the Bill. He protested against a permanence, which implied a permanence of the evils against which the bill was directed.

Sir H. Webster, Attorney-General, opposed Mr. Morley's motion. He said that although it was true that previous bills were of restricted duration, no previous measure had contained the same safeguards and the same powers of parliamentary revision.

Mr. Gladstone urged that the special character of the bill was a reason for limiting its duration. Its enactment as a permanent measure would aggravate existing evils and intensify that alienation and estrangement from the law wherein lay the fundamental evil of Ireland's social condition. A list of precedents unusually long and authoritative, justified the opposition to bills of a general character which placed the Legislative power in the hands of the executive. The invariable rule had been to limit the duration of such laws. The present bill created new crimes and the Government was handing over the people's right to be dealt with silently and secretly at the discretion of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Mr. Balfour said that precedents showed that temporary bills were fallacious, and experience demanded the adoption of permanent measures.

Sir W. Lawson, Radical, supporting the amendment, said it was an honor to America to send money to those who were fighting for the freedom of Ireland.

Mr. Redmond also spoke in support of the amendment, and the division was then taken, when the amendment was rejected by a vote of 180 to 118.

Mr. Chance, Nationalist, moved that a new clause be added, providing that the proceedings in certain criminal trials be reported by shorthand writers.

Mr. Holmes opposed the motion, which was rejected by a vote of 196 to 135.

POWDERLY ON LIQUOR.

Powderly in a recent speech said: "Now, a word about the great curse of the laboring man—strong drink. Had I 10,000,000 tongues, and a throat for each tongue, I would say to each man, woman and child here to-night: 'Throw strong drink aside as you would an ounce of liquid hell.' (Tremendous applause.) It wears the conscience, it destroys everything it touches, it reaches into the family circle and takes the wife you have sworn to protect and drags her down from her pinnacle of purity into that house from which no decent woman ever rose alive. (Applause.) It induces the father to take the furniture from his house, and change it for money at the pawn shop, and spend the proceeds in ruin. It damn every thing it touches. I have seen it every city east of the Mississippi, and I know that the most damning curse to the laborer is that which gurgles from the neck of the bottles. (Cheers.) I had rather be at the head of an organization having 100,000 temperate, honest, earnest men at the head of an organization of 12,000,000 drinkers, whether moderate or any other kind."

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.

THE LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN THINKS THE CRIMES ACT WILL SUPPRESS IT.

DUBLIN, June 21.—At the regular fortnightly meeting of the Irish National League, held in this city to-day, the Lord Mayor, T. D. Sullivan, M. P., and editor of the *Nation*, made a speech. He said that he believed that they were enough for him (Dillon), and he for one, would not advise any further advance merely to suit the malicious convenience of the coercion government.

READY TO MEET THE ACT.

Mr. Timothy Harrington, M. P., and secretary of the league, in his address referred to the general idea prevalent that the league should issue a manifesto directing the people how to meet the enforcement of the coercion measures. They were, he said, prepared to meet the Coercion act inch by inch, but he did not consider it wise at this early stage to tell their opponents just how they were going to fight the act.

VENVRABLE J. B. DE LA SALLE.

The Archbishop of Paris has announced that on the occasion of the Papal Jubilee, Leo XIII. would canonize the Venerable J. B. de la Salle. Apropos of this fact by way of history we may appropriately say that as our Lord chose the humblest of men to leave ungrateful men the most wonderful token of His charity, by instituting the Bessed Eucharist, it would seem that he wished, on the eve of the bloody outrages that the 17th century was preparing for Him, one proof more of his paternal solicitude. There was a question in those trying times whether it was His will that he should leave up to the rising generations for the inability of the perversity of parents. And behold! God leads forth from the treasure-house of His mercy one of those rare men destined to procure the salvation of peoples and the edification of the Church. This man was Abbe de La Salle, so justly called the friend and benefactor of children. Born at Rheims on the 30th April, 1651, from his earliest years he gave sure signs that he was born for virtue. He was later appointed Canon for Rhimes and sent to the seminary of Saint Sulpice, Paris, to make his theological studies. Having completed them and received Holy Orders, his mission in life was to discover the needs of the children of the poor, and the perfection of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

The Institute, like all good works that men do here below, lived after the Venerable de La Salle, and was approved by Benedict XIII., in 1725, six years after his founder's holy death. God had indeed blessed this Order. It counts more than three hundred establishments and two thousand Brothers in France, Italy, Belgium and even outside Europe, giving to-day a gratuitous and Christian education to more than a hundred and forty thousand children of its work in the United States, sufficient to say that it is an essential factor in the solution of Catholic education. So constant are the demands made on the institute that it is no longer able to meet them. We pray God to influence the minds and fill the hearts of young men to enter this particular and most meritorious portion of His vineyard.

Never, in fact, can this Order be esteemed as much as it deserves. This we say by way of no fulsome flattery. For the Brothers as we meet them in our schools are the instruments of the goodness of God in the salvation of the poorest and most abandoned children. God wishes that all men should come to a knowledge of religion. But how, especially in these evil times, can children of the poor acquire this knowledge, if there are no Christian and gratuitous schools in which the truths of religion are taught? The brothers supply for the deficiencies of fathers and mothers in the Christian instruction of their children. The poor, employed as they necessarily are in laboring for the support of their families, have neither the time nor the means to instruct their children. How kind, then, is it of Providence to give poor, abandoned children, parents according to grace, who are the most important duties of parents according to nature! The Brothers are therefore the apostles and guardian angels of youth. Most fitting then in this jubilee year that their venerable founder be placed upon our altars, and ere its close all Catholics be able to invoke his intercession and say Holy John Baptiste de la Salle, pray for us.

SOME ADVICE TO WIVES.

Remember that you are married to a man and not to a god; be prepared for imperfections.

Anticipate the discovery by your husband that you are "only a woman"; if you were not he would not care about you.

Once in a while let your husband have the last word; it will gratify him and be no particular loss to you.

Be circumspect; it is a great deal to ask under some circumstances according to grace, who are the most important duties of parents according to nature! The Brothers are therefore the apostles and guardian angels of youth. Most fitting then in this jubilee year that their venerable founder be placed upon our altars, and ere its close all Catholics be able to invoke his intercession and say Holy John Baptiste de la Salle, pray for us.

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A SUDDEN CALL.

HALIFAX, N.S., June 21.—A gloom was cast over the city to-day by the news of the sudden death of V. Y. Rev. Monsignor Power. He has been suffering from heart disease for some months. He rose at 6 o'clock, performed a morning service at 7, breakfasted, went down town, got shaved, returned to the glebe house, lay down and was dead in a few minutes. He was surrounded by Archbishop O'Brien and priests. Telegrams of condolence have been received from the ecclesiastics of the provinces and dioceses. A funeral service was held, at which all of whom will attend the funeral. The deceased was 59, universally popular, and had several times been administrator of the diocese.

VILLE MARIE CONVENT.

The following is the list of prize winners at the Ville Marie Convent distribution took place yesterday. Graduating courses.—The following young ladies received diplomas: Misses P. Decarie, O'Brien, R. Decarie, Montreal; Hodgdon, Boston; Hainault, Beauharnois; Cuddy, Montreal; McElroy, Oneida; Garvan, Hartford; Hodges, Montreal; Rich, Colorado; McKinnon, Ontario; Purcell, Boston; O'Connor, Ontario; Ferguson, Manchester; Macdonald, Judah, Montreal.

A gold medal for religious instruction, presented by the Rev. J. N. Matchel, Notre Dame de Grace, was awarded to Miss Cuddy.

A gold medal for mathematics, presented by Mr. Garvan, of Hartford, was awarded to Miss McKinnon.

A gold medal for elocution, presented by a friend of education, was awarded to Miss Rich.

A gold medal for penmanship, presented by Mr. J. J. McElroy, of Washington, was awarded to Miss Purcell.

A gold medal for composition, presented by Mr. J. N. Matchel, was awarded to Miss McKinnon.

A gold medal for history, presented by Mr. J. N. Matchel, was awarded to Miss Purcell.

A gold medal for natural history, presented by Mr. Ed. Murphy, of Montreal, was awarded to Miss O'Brien.

A gold medal for French, presented by the Rev. S. Colin, S.S., was awarded to Miss P. Decarie.

The Countess de Beaujeu's gold medal, for proficiency in French conversation, was awarded to Miss Agnes Garvan.

Several magnificent volumes, presented by the Rev. M. Senteau, P.P., Notre Dame, were given as prizes for different branches.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT ST. LAURENT COLLEGE.

The honors for the scholastic year just ending were conferred on the pupils of the above well known institution on the 22nd instant. The large hall of the college was filled to its utmost capacity by the parents and friends of the students and a large number of clergymen. Some very fine music, vocal and instrumental, was discoursed during the entertainment and deservedly appreciated. But the pieces of resistance of the day were two orations delivered in French and English by Mr. Ferret and Mr. J. D. McGee, respectively. We congratulate these young gentlemen on the splendid success which attended their efforts and anticipate for them a brilliant future. Following will be found the names of the prize winners and medalists, giving only the first and second of each class: French classical course, rhetoric—F. McGarry, gold medal; belles-lettres, silver medal, J. A. Little, verification; (prose) class, silver medal, J. Meehan, P. Q., N. Y.; syntax, J. Murphy and J. Mully; elements, Alf. Boyle and E. Harwood.

Commercial course, 3rd year—Silver medal, J. Gagnon; honorable mention, A. Lacasse; 2nd year, J. Gagnon and G. Chartier; 3rd year, H. Boissennault and Z. Delorme.

English classical course, rhetoric—F. McGarry, gold medal; belles-lettres, silver medal, J. A. Little, verification; (prose) class, silver medal, J. Meehan, P. Q., N. Y.; syntax, J. Murphy and J. Mully; elements, Alf. Boyle and E. Harwood.

Commercial course, business class—Gold medal, A. Montgomery, New York; honorable mention, E. Bourgie, A. Lacasse, A. Montgomery; E. Bourgie, St. Louis, P. Q.; F. E. Forget, Ste. Agathe; J. Kearney, Roxton Falls, P. Q.; Ed. Keady, Harris, France; 4th year, silver medal, Chas. McGinnis, P. Q. Grandmaître, W. Grandmaître; 3rd year, P. Grandmaître and Kearns; 2nd year, J. Hennessy and X. McCormick; 1st year, Ed. Royap.

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GRACE O'BOYLE, Ottawa.

POWDERLY ON LIQUOR.

Powderly in a recent speech said: "Now, a word about the great curse of the laboring man—strong drink. Had I 10,000,000 tongues, and a throat for each tongue, I would say to each man, woman and child here to-night: 'Throw strong drink aside as you would an ounce of liquid hell.' (Tremendous applause.) It wears the conscience, it destroys everything it touches, it reaches into the family circle and takes the wife you have sworn to protect and drags her down from her pinnacle of purity into that house from which no decent woman ever rose alive. (Applause.) It induces the father to take the furniture from his house, and change it for money at the pawn shop, and spend the proceeds in ruin. It damn every thing it touches. I have seen it every city east of the Mississippi, and I know that the most damning curse to the laborer is that which gurgles from the neck of the bottles. (Cheers.) I had rather be at the head of an organization having 100,000 temperate, honest, earnest men at the head of an organization of 12,000,000 drinkers, whether moderate or any other kind."

A BRAVE WOMAN.

THE HEROIC CONDUCT OF MARY WAKEFIELD, ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE CHAMPLAIN DISASTER.

CHICAGO, June 24.—Schooner Racing, the crew of which rescued the survivors of the Champlain disaster, arrived here last evening. At the time the Champlain caught fire Racin was lying alongside a pier six miles from Charlevoix. Captain Hanson woke up, saw the burning steamer, and sent a part of his crew in a yawl to rescue the perishing passengers. With the remainder of his crew he ran down the beach to an old fish-boat, launched it and started for the wreck. The boat had not been used for a long time and leaked. When about half way out to the Champlain Captain Hanson came across a young woman who was swimming towards the shore with a child. This was Miss Mary Wakefield, of Charlevoix. She had jumped overboard from the steamer with the six-year-old child of Capt. Kechoe clasped in her arms. Grasping a broken fender, she clung to it, and, seizing the clothing of the child in her teeth, she bravely struck out for the shore. Captain Hanson says she is the luckiest woman he ever saw in his life. When he started to take her and the child into his boat she told him to hurry away to others as she could take care of herself. She reached the shore in safety, and when another of the shipwrecked passengers was taken from the boat in an almost frozen condition, she took off her flannel undershirt and wrapped it around him. When Captain Hanson reached the wreck, the yawl of the Racing had picked up fifteen persons. He saved six more and seventeen others floated ashore by the aid of planks and life preservers. Among the bodies picked up by Captain Hanson was that of Mrs. E. O. Smith. In speaking of Capt. Kechoe, Captain Hanson said he never knew what courage in a man meant till he witnessed the heroic fortitude displayed by the brave commander of the Champlain.