

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

A GOOD MOTHER

Baron Von Ketteler, the wise and holy Bishop of Mainz, writing of his student days, thanked God that he had been preserved from doing anything of which he should be ashamed.

DOING IT SWIFTLY

Waiting to consider whether to do the right thing is one of the most disastrous habits of our life. To plunge swiftly into the right thing on the instant when it ought to be done would revolutionize life for most of us.

OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities are like flash lights. They suddenly reveal us to others and also to ourselves. We all long for opportunities. We have a feeling that they might disclose some very fine qualities and a high order of ability which we think we possess, and which the world has not discovered.

SPENDERS

Let no young man misjudge himself unfortunate, or truly poor, so long as he has the full use of his limbs and faculties, and is substantially free from debt.

significant trifles or as disaster and misfortune. It is in the courage that grapples with these last and determines to get the best of them, that many of earth's greatest opportunities have been disclosed.

KINDLY SILENCE

The kindness of silence is something that we might all bestow much oftener than we do. Granted that we do not indulge in scandal, that when we know of the distress and humiliation that have befallen a friend's household in the wrongdoing of one of its members we tell the tale only pityingly and with very extenuating circumstances, yet why tell it at all?

CHARACTER

Character is the quality that keeps us always ourselves. It stands nearest to that innermost part of us that each calls "myself." Sometimes it is even hard to distinguish the two. But I like to keep character in my bodyguard.

MAN IS A FAILURE

When he values success more than character and self-respect. When he does not try to make his work a little better each day.

When he becomes so absorbed in his work that he cannot see that life is greater than work.

When he lets a day go by without making some one happier and more comfortable.

When he tries to rule others by bullying instead of by example.

When he loves his own plans and interests more than humanity.

When his friends like him for what he has more than for what he is.

When he envies others because they have more ability, talent or wealth than he has.

When he does not care what happens to his neighbors or to his friends so long as he is prosperous.

When he is so busy that he has no time for smiles and cheering words.

When he is first of all, a courageous soul. It calls for courage to decide, in the fair morning of youth, that the straight white way of honor is the way to follow; it requires courage to continue it when the voices of the world and one's own lower nature clamour for its forsaking.

It takes courage when one has yielded, to swing back into the old high path. Yes, it takes courage to strive after the ideal!

COURAGE IS NECESSARY

The ideal man is, first of all, a courageous soul. It calls for courage to decide, in the fair morning of youth, that the straight white way of honor is the way to follow; it requires courage to continue it when the voices of the world and one's own lower nature clamour for its forsaking.

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significantly free from debt. Hunger, cold, rage, hard work, contempt, suspicion, unjust reproach are disagreeable, but debt is infinitely worse than them all. And if it had pleased God to share either or all my sons to be the support and solace of my declining years, the lesson that I have most earnestly sought to impress upon them is: "Never run into debt! Avoid pecuniary obligation as you would pestilence or famine. If you have but 50 cents, and can get no more for a week, buy a peck of corn, parch it, and live on it, rather than owe any man a dollar."

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

OUR HOLY FATHER AND THE CHILDREN

To the Franciscan missionaries of Mary in Rome is confided the guardianship of one hundred little girls who escaped the Messina disaster. The Holy Father takes great interest in these poor children deprived of their homes, and now and then he gives them an audience. Every year a certain number receive their First Holy Communion, and the day after they are presented, with their young companions, to the Sovereign Pontiff.

One of the religious relates that recently this great privilege was granted to them. While speaking to his dear proteges, Pius X. felt a pull at his sleeve. He paid no attention at first, but a second and harder pull, made him interrupt his discourse, and he asked, "Who is shaking me so?" A silver-tongued voice instantly answered: "It is I." The intruder was a tiny girl of five, and when the surprised sister in charge tried to check her, the Holy Father began to question her. "Well, my poor little one, what do you want of me?" "Holy Father, I am five years old, and I would like to make my First Communion, but the Sisters will not let me." "But," objected the Pope smiling, "perhaps you do not know your catechism sufficiently." "Oh, pardon me, Holy Father, question me, and I will answer you." From different parts of the catechism the Pope questioned the child, and received satisfactory answers. Highly pleased with the result, His Holiness turned to the religious in charge: "Sister," said he, "bring this child without fail to the Holy Table to-morrow morning." Hardly were the words uttered before the happy little orphan beaming with joy, fell upon her knees at the feet of the Supreme Pontiff to express her joy. Was not this a beautiful sight?—Annals of the Holy Rosary.

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deserves the humiliation and sorrow that that child is certain to bring upon him in after life. Children nowadays, in a great many instances, do just about as they please; they are absolutely beyond parental control. I see them returning from picture shows, unattended, late at night. Perhaps their parents have no idea where they have spent the evening. Children, you have to-day become soldiers of Christ through the sacrament of confirmation must be obedient to your parents, to your teachers, to your pastors. You cannot copy from the world as it is to-day; the world must copy from you. When you came to this altar you made one of the greatest sacrifices a human soul can make, namely, that of dedicating your lives to Christ; you are His soldiers and must fight courageously for God and for the right. Evil influences will be all about you, but with the aid of the graces you receive through the sacrament of confirmation you will be able to overcome temptations and to remain firm in your faith.

OUR THANKS TO THE CONTINENT

The following is quoted from an old number of the Continent: "That absurd and preposterous 'encyclical' which is alleged to have been issued by Pope Leo XIII. as of a date about twenty years ago and purports to command Romanists in the United States to massacre their Protestant neighbors has again been revived and put in circulation. Protestants everywhere in the name of common honesty ought to stamp on the thing wherever it appears. As the Continent recently observed, there is somebody in the United States who thinks he can serve God by circulating atrocious forgeries which are falsely put forth as Roman Catholic productions. The whole business is a very serious reflection on the honesty as well as the intelligence of Protestants, and it must be repudiated with all intensity. There is all too much ground for controversy with Roman priests and hierarchy to say. To try to make them say offensive things that they are not guilty of is outrageous." "Thanks awfully. But we care less for such 'atrocious forgeries,' which carry their own refutation, than for the more delicate, but none the less insidious lying of The Continent itself. The real evil always begins above, never below. The high-class liar is a thousand times more dangerous than the bar room kind. What about the glaring falsehood concerning the Catholic Sisters at Rosary Wis., printed and vouched for by Mr. Cyrus McCormick's paper? All the millions of the International Harvester magnate won't cover up the guilt of it. What such papers as The Continent need is a little common honesty.—Extension.

TIT FOR TAT

Was it not in Newark that the Presbyterians were guilty of trying to capture some poor Ruthenian Catholics some time ago by simulating the Mass and performing other "idolotrous" acts of worship? The innocent victims never suspected the fraud, and for a time were caught in the trap. They said their prayers in the Protestant conventicle as piously as they used to do in their little churches in their far-away homes, and no doubt were very grateful to the kind Americans who were so solicitous about the spiritual welfare of unfortunate immigrants in a strange land. Fortunately the trick was exposed by a watchful layman, and the dishonorable device to increase Presbyterian church-membership was unmasked and abandoned.

papers of incorporation for the holding of church properties. It provided for the appointment of laymen, along with other trustees, who were to be chosen by the bishop of the diocese, the said bishop being in communion with the Holy See, etc.

So far there was no difficulty, but to make the provisions of the measure general, the lawyer or legislator who drafted the bill added the following clause: "Any religious organization incorporated under and by virtue of any law of the State shall organize under the provisions relating to the incorporation of Ruthenian Greek Catholic churches."

The bill went through with a rush. It took only five minutes to get it to a final reading; and was about to be sent to the Senate when, fortunately or unfortunately, some one discovered that if it passed that body and was signed by the Governor, every religious organization, Protestant as well as Catholic, would have to acknowledge the Pope of Rome before being able to hold property. It was a very humorous situation. The clause was amended, of course, but

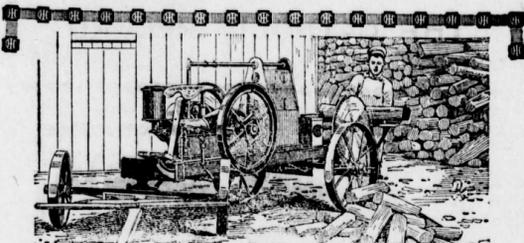
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it was too late. The Senate was about to adjourn, so the Ruthenians will have to wait for their papers of incorporation till the next session of the legislature. But, meantime, when they come to realize how they had very nearly converted by force their quondam friends they cannot but fail to be very merry over the whole affair.—America.

To have a sweet temper we must have faith in a Divine Providence. That alone lifts us above anxiety and care; that alone plants our feet upon a rock and brings content, satisfaction, and peace into the soul.

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