

FEBRUARY 27, 1922.

SERMON ON RELIGION AND LABOR.

London Universe, Jan. 16.

On Sunday at the High Mass in the Cathedral, Marlborough street, Dublin, Father Daniel Downing preached a little sermon for five or six minutes which greatly pleased everyone. He took for his text: "Is not this the Carpenter and Mary's Son?" and said: "There is nothing more marvellous in the whole course of the world's history than that He who made the world should have toiled for long years unknown to the world at a carpenter's bench. It is quite bewildering to think that He, whose angels adore, before whom the pillars of heaven tremble; that He, the Teacher of the nations, whose words shall outlast earth and all its ages; that He, in the days of human life was a hard-working man from morning till evening; that He earned His daily bread by daily toil in an obscure country village. Surely, this is a subject for devout— for profound and reverent meditation. "Tis mid-winter, and the snows are deep upon the mountains— Hermon and Libanus, and Mount Carmel by the sea—but

LOOK IN AT THE OPEN DOOR OF A WORKSHOP AT NAZARETH. Who is the workman working for bread for Himself and His Mother? This is "the Carpenter, the Son of Mary." 'Tis summer in that Eastern land, where summer suns burn with a branding, scorching, parching heat that quickly warms, relaxes, and exhausts human energies. Who is the workman with the teeming sweat of toil upon his brow? This "is the Carpenter, the Son of Mary. What a mystery is here!

MANY A QUIET YEAR WORE BY IN THE LITTLE VILLAGE of Nazareth, amongst the hills of Galilee, and "the Son of Mary" toiled all the week long till the Sabbath Day to keep a home and a shelter about Himself and His dear Mother. So when His hour had come, and when He entered into the synagogue or little church at Nazareth, and unfolded the leaves of Isaiah the Prophet—and began to speak "as never man did speak"—when He said, "I am come to heal the contrite heart, to preach deliverance to the captive, and sight to the blind, and liberty to the bruised, and good tidings to the poor."

I have already alluded to the testimony of St. Augustine on this point. As I have said before, Anglicans affect this great Doctor of the Catholic Church. For that reason alone it will be well to quote him at greater length. "There are many other things which keep me in the bosom of the Catholic Church—the agreement of different people and nations keep me there; the authority established by miracles, nourished by hope, increased by charity, and confirmed by antiquity, keeps me there; the succession of Bishops in the See of St. Peter the Apostle to whom our Lord after His resurrection committed His sheep to be fed, down to the present Bishop, keeps me there. Finally, the very name of Catholic, which, among so many heresies, this Church alone possesses, keeps me there." (St. Aug., A. D. 430, contra Epist. Fundam. c. 4.) E. A. SELLEY, O. S. A. Hythe, Kent.

A Profession.

Two Spanish young ladies, the daughters of the late Marquis San Carlos, who died suddenly some months ago, were so greatly impressed by their father's death, a Paris correspondent of the Daily News says, as to renounce the brilliant life they were leading in society and to enter the Order of the Sacred Heart. The eldest daughter has a beautiful voice, often heard at Queen Isabella's concerts and in other Spanish drawing-rooms. For humility's sake, the sisters elected to take the veil in a country convent at Confans, and in the presence only of a small number of intimate friends, one of whom was the ex-Queen. The ceremony took place on Sunday. The Bishop of Orleans received the vows of the two novices. The ceremony of the reception over, where she sang the solo parts of the Mass and joined in the "Te Deum" to celebrate the opening of both of a conventual life. There was much weeping as she sang.

Devotion to St. Joseph.

St. Teresa writes in her autobiography: "I took the glorious St. Joseph for my patron and intercessor. I recommended myself to him and have recognized then and since that in all matters concerning my honor and salvation this great saint gave me both prompt and useful aid. I cannot recollect having ever asked him for anything on his feast day which I did not obtain, and I cannot think without astonishment and gratitude of the graces which God has given me, and of the dangers from which he has delivered through the intercession of St. Joseph. It seems to me that God wishes to show us that, even as He was subject to him on earth as to him who took the place of His Father, and whose name He bore, He can now refuse him nothing in Heaven. I wish all Christians a great devotion to him, for I have never known anyone invoke him with fervor who did not feel the effects of his protection and advance in piety."

"I have used Ayer's Pills for the past 30 years, and am satisfied I should not be alive to day if it had not been for them. They cured me of dyspepsia when all other remedies failed."—T. P. Bonnor, Chester, Pa. Ayer's Pills are sold by all druggists.

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Prof. Huxley and Miracles.

One of the most beautiful as well as one of the most significant miracles wrought by our divine Lord, was the multiplication of the loaves and fishes as related in the Gospels. This miracle appears to the great Agnostic, Prof. Huxley, a stumbling-block over which there is no possibility of stepping. Huxley and others of his school are trying hard to explain some miracles by natural causes, but the one above mentioned puts a complete stop to the powers of the Agnostic school. It was not so much the feeling of the multitude that vexes the heart of the great Agnostic but that the remnants were greater than the original quantity. The power that created the world could surely multiply the loaves and fishes. But here lies the difficulty with Huxley and his deluded followers. They deny the divinity of Christ; hence the denial of the miracles which He worked to prove His divinity.

As all Catholics know, the miracle of the loaves and fishes was a prefigurement of the Adorable Sacrament of the Altar. The people who were miraculously fed had come from afar, they were tired, and weak, and hungry. Look at the significance of this great miracle, its divine charity, its God-like tenderness and thoughtfulness and wisdom. Look at its application. We are travellers through life, journeying afar, tired, weak and hungry; and, after being fed with the Bread of Life, not only is there no diminution but it becomes greater day by day.

To reasonable minds it would appear that the miracles of our divine Lord are no more difficult of belief than the ordinary mysteries of life and nature.

Bahold a few little particles shrivelled and black, dropping like dust from the sarcophagus of an Egyptian mummy, which we know by proof must be at least three or four thousand years old. These were ears of wheat. Put them in the ground, they rot, and from their rottenness springs forth the germ of life, they sprout forth, and grow again, and bear ears of wheat like unto what they once had been.

Can our great scientists explain this? Can they tell us what is the substance of wheat? They know the substance is there but they dare not touch this mystery of nature.—Catholic Columbian.

A Sister of Mercy, resident of one of the Providence, R. I., convents of her order, has written a drama, dealing with the great event, the four-hundredth anniversary of which is to be celebrated next year with such eclat, and her production has evoked warm praises from competent critics who had heard it. It is to be produced at Chicago during the World's Fair by the pupils of the Catholic schools of that city.

Some fancy the charms of a lily-white maid. Of ethereal form and languishing eye. Who falls in the sunshine and droops in the shade. And is always "just ready to die."

But give me the girl of the sun-bright maid. The blood in whose veins courses healthy and free. With the vigor of youth in her movements of grace. Oh that is the maiden for me! She is the girl to "tie to" for life. The sickly, complaining woman may be an object of love and pity, but she cannot be a "thing of beauty" worn down by female weakness and disorders, subject to hysteria and a martyr to bearing-down pains. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a sure cure for these distressing complaints, and transform the feeble, drooping sufferer into a healthy, happy, blooming woman. Guaranteed to give satisfaction in every case, or money paid for it refunded.

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