

THE PAROCHIAL CLERGY.

(Continued from First Page.)

himself to the task by the hope of thus exerting a wider influence. With the humbler portion of his flock he generally finds more immediate consolation and nobler examples of Christian fortitude which are a constant source of edification to himself. Nor will he forbear to mingle in the local interests of his village or city, realizing, as he does, how the natural virtues that make for temporal welfare provide a rich soil for the germination of supernatural grace, and how potent for good, even outside of his co-religionists, is the influence of an earnest, prudent and sympathetic priest. His chief care, however, always is to see that the children be trained in thoroughly equipped Catholic schools, to foster among his flock the faithful fulfilment of their religious duties, and to stimulate them to the frequent reception of the Blessed Eucharist by devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and by the practice of the Apostleship of Prayer in its three degrees.

Towards a pastor who gives to his flock such spiritual and even temporal nourishment, mere respect is not enough. The parochial clergy are really the fathers of their parish, and well bred children do not stop at mere reverence for their father; they give him in return their heart's love; it is a pleasure to them to manifest their affectionate gratitude. True Catholics love their pastor all the more because he spends himself for their sakes, because he takes upon himself a charge and a burden, which, however admirable from the view-point of faith, is often, humanly speaking, a very thankless one. Quick to distinguish between sham and real devotion, they recognize the latter in their "Soggarth Aaron," the dear priest, than whom there is no better beloved man in the world.

The country parish priest, with his people scattered thinly over the neighboring district, has long and solitary journeys to take in all sorts of weather. His is a life of continual hardship. But, what comfort he finds in the hearty and loving welcome he receives from Catholics everywhere! There may be only one bed in the house, but that and the best of everything is for the "Father." The Catholics in remote districts may not see the priest more than two or three times a year; but, when they do, they make the most of his presence, they approach the sacraments with unwonted fervor, they are all filled with joy because their pastor is among them.

The town or city priest is the slave of his flock. At all hours of the day and night he is called to minister to the sick and dying. Not one moment can he reserve to himself. Family troubles, business difficulties, advice for soul and body, everything is confided to him as to the guide and friend of the entire parish. For love and respect beget confidence, and assuredly no class of men are so thoroughly trusted as Catholic priests who are worthy of their sublime calling. Could they reveal the secrets of their wonderful experience in the trustfulness of their fellow-men, they would thereby furnish forth an unanswerable argument for the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church of God.

And yet—to come back to the thought with which we began—is there not, as a general rule, much practical ingratitude, or, to say the least, neglect on the part of the laity? Do they not forget to pray for their pastors? They hear their confessor dismiss them with the words, "Go in peace and pray for me;" but, albeit they taste the peace of a shriven soul, they do not pray for him who has been, under God, the instrument of that peace regained. Accepting his ministrations as a matter of course, they seem totally unaware that the life the parochial clergy lead, voluntarily cut off as they are from the comforts and seclusion of home, is an abnormal one which cannot be kept up without that special supernatural assistance technically known as actual grace. Now the streams of actual grace with which the fervent priest's soul must be flooded rise in the mountains of prayer. Doubtless his own prayers may draw them to the surface of his daily life; but why should he be deprived of that additional potency promised to collective prayer in the name of Christ?

"That's all very well for the devout female sex," interjects an active and practical Catholic layman, "they have plenty of time to pray for our clergy, and are used to long prayers. I am not. I prefer to help our priests by working for them and giving them financial aid." To this plausible objection there is one very obvious answer. Such practical co-operation with the parish priest is excellent in its way, but it would be better still if accompanied by prayer. No doubt all the laity should lend a willing hand whenever their pastor invites or suggests their assistance. Deeds are the best proof of love. By all means let every one of us give the priest our moral and substantial support. But why not turn our zeal and activity into irresistible prayer by offering it up to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the spiritual welfare of our clergy? This would not involve any special expenditure of time; it would simply supernaturalize our work and multiply its effects a hundred-fold, while enriching our own souls with the inestimable and everlasting benefits that are inseparably linked with prayers for others. If it be true, as St. James tells us, "that he who causeth a sinner to be converted from the error of his way, shall save his soul from death, and shall cover a multitude of sins,"* how much greater will be the reward of those who obtain by their prayers the sanctification and perseverance of God's chosen ministers, who are the very salt of the earth! It stands to reason that the perfecting of the soul of a parish priest must be one of the noblest possible aims for the unceasing prayers of his congregation. He it is that is ever lifting up his hands for Israel against Amalec, and so long as he keeps his hands aloft, Israel is victorious; but he may be tempted by fatigue to lower them a little, and then it is that his people should be to him as Aaron and Hur were to Moses and hold up his hands on both sides, so that it may come to pass that his hands will not be weary till the sunset of life and the dawn of immortality, till Amalec be put to flight by the edge of the sword of the spirit. †

PRAYER.

O Jesus! through the most pure Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all the prayers, work and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Divine Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in reparation of all sins, and for all requests presented through the Apostleship of Prayer: in particular, for the priests appointed by God to govern our parishes and to teach us the way to Heaven.

LEWIS DRUMMOND, S. J.

La Grippe's Victims.

AFTER EFFECTS MORE DANGEROUS THAN DISEASE.

A Well Known Quebec Farmer Suffered Untold Misery for Three Years Before He Found Relief.

The epidemic of la grippe which has swept over Canada like a scourge this winter, has left thousands of weak and despairing sufferers in all parts of the land. Grippe is a treacherous disease. You think you are cured, yet the slightest cold brings on a relapse. Its victims are left in a weakened condition and fall an easy prey to its manifold complications. The blood is left impure and impoverished; the nerves shattered, and heart trouble and nervous prostration are too often the result.

The following statement made by Mr. Daniel Clossey, a well known farmer living near West Brome, Quebec, indicates the ravages made by the after effects of this scourge. Mr. Clossey says: "Some five years ago I had an attack of la grippe. The earlier symptoms passed away, yet I continued to fail in health, and suffered intense pain in my head. I was subject to attacks of dizziness, and unless I would grasp something would fall. I gradually grew so weak as to be unable to do any work. My legs and feet were as cold as ice even in the summer months. If I attempted the least exertion my heart would beat violently. For three years I was in this helpless condition, and although during that time I was attended by three different doctors, their treatment produced not the slightest benefit. At this time I read the statement of one who had suffered from similar trouble, who was cured by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I decided to try them. The result was simply marvelous. A dozen boxes did what three years of expensive medical treatment failed to accomplish—restored me to full health and vigor, and I am again able to do my work about the farm. I honestly believe Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life, and I am glad to make this statement for the benefit it may bring to others."

After an attack of la grippe Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the only medicine that can promptly restore you to health. They drive every trace of the poisonous germs from the system, build up and enrich the blood

and strengthen the nerves. Sold by all dealers or sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams Medical Co., Brockville, Ont. Always refuse imitations or substitutes.

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SEEDS

Our Descriptive and Priced Catalogue for Spring trade is now ready and will be mailed free to all applicants, and to customers of last year without solicitation. Market Gardeners will find it to their advantage to buy our seeds.

Geo. A. Bruce & Co.
Hamilton, Ont.

I have used Ripans Tablets with so much satisfaction that I can cheerfully recommend them. Have been troubled for about three years with what I called bilious attacks coming on regularly once a week. Was told by different physicians that it was caused by bad teeth, of which I had several. I had the teeth extracted, but the attacks continued. I had seen advertisements of Ripans Tablets in all the papers but had no faith in them, but about six weeks since a friend induced me to try them. Have taken but two of the small boxes of the Tablets and have had no recurrence of the attacks. Have never given a testimonial for anything before, but the great amount of good which I believe has been done me by Ripans Tablets induces me to add mine to the many testimonials you doubtless have in your possession now. A. T. DEWITT.

I have been a great sufferer from constipation for over five years. Nothing gave me any relief. My feet and legs and abdomen were bloated so I could not wear shoes on my feet and only a loose dress. I saw Ripans Tablets advertised in our daily paper, bought some and took them as directed. Have taken them about three weeks and there is such a change! I am not constipated any more and I owe it all to Ripans Tablets. I am thirty-seven years old, have no occupation, only my household duties and nursing my sick husband. He has had the dropsy and I am trying Ripans Tablets for him. He feels some better but it will take some time, he has been sick so long. You may use my letter and name as you like. Mrs. MARY GORMAN CLARKE.

I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a car or go into a crowded place without getting a headache and sick at my stomach. I heard about Ripans Tablets from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found such relief from their use she advised me to take them too, and I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial. Mrs. J. BROCKWAY.

My seven-year-old boy suffered with pains in his head, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he did eat did not agree with him. He was thin and of a sallow color. Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, bowels are in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions. W. W. PRICE.

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The modern standard Family Medicine: Cures the common every-day ill of humanity.

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

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A new style packet containing THE RIPANS TABLETS packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores—50¢ per packet. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (50¢ per dozen) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the BRAMSON CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 12 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (5¢ per carton) will be sent for five cents. RIPANS TABLETS may also be had of some grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at some liquor stores and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.

A New Reading-Room For Small Boys.

The Sisters of Charity of St. Boniface, yielding to repeated requests from various quarters, have determined to undertake the management of a boarding-house for boys between the ages of six and twelve. Special halls will be set apart for them, where, under the care and supervision of the Grey Nuns, they will be prepared for their First Communion, while attending either the Preparatory Department of St. Boniface College or the classes of Provencher Academy. This establishment will be known as "Le Jardin de l'Enfance" (Kindergarten).

The results already attained in similar institutions of the Order give every reason to hope that this arrangement will fill a long felt want.

Board and lodging will cost six dollars a month. For the boys who attend Provencher Academy there will be an additional charge of fifty cents a month; and for those who take music lessons, \$3 a month.

Bedding, mending and washing will be extra. The Sisters are willing to attend to these extras on terms to be arranged with them. The boys who attend the Preparatory Department of St. Boniface College will have to pay the tuition fees of the College.

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