EIGHT



If the lay Catholics of this country

would realize this, and respond to the appeal, the next ten years would

see a very remarkable development, for there are a great many people in this country who only need a little inducement a little

inducement, a little encouragement

to take the first step towards the Church. They are held back by

much to clear away. When the would-be convert is once in touch

with a priest, he is certain, of course,

of careful instruction, and a careful

testing of his sincerity, which is altogether as it should be. We need

not concern ourselves with that part of the process. What we have to do

a great multitude—who are astray

in. They are written for the sake of

those who stand as this man stood,

wondering; who turn away as he

who know only that they want some

thing but cannot tell what they want,

in the hope that some at least may be awakened to seek for them and to

gate of this sanctuary .-- M. B. in

THE MASTER OF LIFE AND

DEATH

There is but one-the Christ who

And spake the magic word that con-quered Death.

That word is His alone ! He witnes-

And lo, this tearful life of trem-

Shine out, eternal stars !- Dear Lord,

THE ONE THING

LACKING

Unto the Father's awful majesty,

serve them and bring them to

Denver Catholic Register.

walked the sea

seth

perfectly

bloom.

forgive !

heaven's aglow ! Only the unbeliever seals his doom.

They

an inquirer.

DISCOURAGED IN SEARCH

A CONVERT TELLS HOW SOME OF US MAKE IT HARD TO LEARN OF FAITH

Some time ago I met with a very ignorance and fear, and these are the obstacles which the laity can do interesting person who told me the story of his life, and, indeed, it was interesting in the extreme.

He related how he went to a concert in a certain city at which he knew many Catholics and many priests would be present. He went, he said, because he wished to ask some one a question—a question to which he had been desiring an answer for months. In the interval he got into conversation with a priest, and after a few remarks about the music, he managed to blurt out : "Some one was not a Catholic, and thought that he wanted to be a Catholic. What was he to do?'

for the sake of the Church. They are written also for the sake of those should advise him to pray," said the little priest, and hurried back to the concert room 10 min-utes before he needed have done so. in the wilderness, who are and thirsty and have no city to dwell The man, too, returned to his place, disheartened and sorrowful, ponder ing over the answer. He wanted to be shown the way to the door of the looking wistfully at the Church, and church. He had hoped, he said, that the priest would have told him of turned away time and again. some books that he might read, or that he would tell him to go to some are written, too, for the sake of those one who would tell him how to set about the business. "And he advised me to pray. I am not saying that the advice was not good, but I had not said a prayer in years, and I had even no kind of faith in a God who would hear and answer Of course the priest did not prayer. know that," said the man to me, "but he did not try to find out; he did not even give me a chance to tell him. For months after that I made no attempts to scale the walls to which

my thoughts turned continually." 'You may say," he said, "that this was foolish, and there were plenty of things I could have done. True enough, but I knew nothing of them. I was almost completely ignorant of the whole workings of the church I knew only that it existed, stubborn, stern and uncompromising in a world of change" For a long time it seemed that there was no one to show him the way He had one or two Catholic acquaintances and he tried to drop hints, but they were not encouraging and he was even ad. I knew only that it existed, stubborn, not encouraging and he was even advised on one occasion to let it alone. "I wanted to tell you this story of

my life," he said to me, "because I feel that there are hundreds in the world to day, who, like myself, are held back by shy nervousness which makes it so hard to speak of the secrets of the soul, ignorant as I was ignorant, that day by day this great prayer is rising, 'Intercede for our

eparated brethren.'" He continued : "I want to ask a question which has to be addressed mainly to those who have been Catholics from the beginning. It is just this: Are the Catholics of this land -the ordinary rank and file members of the church — doing what they and intimate relation, I can testify to the marvellous power thus given in the majority of cases to the develop-Our Sunday Visitor. Any of the supernatural character of his majesty the Emperor of all the right conscience, virtuous life, and a reliable character. Pondering these things, we are re minded of the saying of an old Irish daughter of the Faith, whenever the "Aren't they to be pitied, then,— aren't they to be pitied !"—Ave

Maria. POPE GIVES AUDIENCE TO A

DEAD BISHOP SPECIMENS OF CANARDS AGAINST WHICH VATICAN HAS WARNED THE WORLD

Since the beginning of the war, the Pope has repeatedly warned the world against alleged "Vatican" news, most of which is fabricated by

imaginative scribes, generally to discredit the Papacy. A splendid example of this unscrupulous method of fabrication appeared Lead us Thyself, alone we cannot recently in the "Resto del Carlino,"

f Bologna, from the pen of its Vatican correspondent," telling of an audience granted by the Pope to Msgr. Celestine Douais, Bishop of Beauvais. The audience (according to this newspaper) was really mov ing. The Bishop told His Holiness Benedict XV. of the ruin and desolation of his diocese. And then, know-ing there is nothing like document

is to bring the inquirer to the priest, and, if necessary, to awaken him to consciousness of the fact that he is The story of the struggle of this Celestine Douais issued to his people man's conversion, and the reflections added thereto, are written not solely at the moment of his return to his They

are not what they seem," for alas, Msgr. Celestine Douais was not at the audience described by the Bolognese paper for the unanswerable to fabulate !-- Catholic Transcript.

THE FRUITFUL CAUSE

RATIONALISM

He who hath seen and known Him "I am the Life," He still serenely bling woe Bursts into splendor of immortal

mington, Del., as follows : We live and move in Thee. Our ternal organization is being so

about it. Destructive agitators who brat on the road to good for nothings. rest in peace. insist that there is nothing settled in

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

DEAR GOD FORGIVE US

stand.

knee

in Thee

Sunday afternoon in the leper hospi-

sufferer, and a native woman has

consented to remain with her out of

heaven upon our poor missions."

HIS OLD TEACHER

That somebody happens to be the

chief of police for the big city. With

Dear Miss E. I have just learned

Sacred Heart Review.

school ma'am.

like this:

Our foolish blunders and our wasted

days We are so weak. We do not mean to disobey Thy will But oh, it seems we are but children still

With stumbling feet.

hearts To Thy dear love.

But 'tis that sin is strong, and we are — The Canadian Freeman. weak And trusting in ourselves, forget to seek

Strength from above. hand

Thy ways are best.

We wish to come and place our trust And be at rest.

ary evidence, the journalist quotes from a Lenten Pastoral which Bishop of the Gilbert Islands, sends sad news regarding one of his faithful

But, as Bret Hart says, "things reason that he has been dead for the the Gilbertins. She spent every past twelve months. But fabricators will continue to fabricate and fabulists tal, seeming to prefer the patients in the last stage of decay. A little hut has been constructed for the

OF THE SPREAD OF

Last week we reminded our readers of something, of which very few for white lepers on the islands, she catholic or Protestant Christians is obliged to exist in this complete were aware - the vigorous propa-ganda now being waged in behalf of of the disease. Such a life is a real Rationalism. Every large city now has its "Free-Thought Organization," with established headquarters where frequent lectures are given not only in behalf of Rationalism, but in bitter denunciation of all beliefs which Christians hold dear. The very men, who are professedly anti-Catholic lecturers, when speaking in behalf of Rationalism, deliver equally hard blows at Protestantism and its fundamentals. One of the fruitful sources of Rationalism is the lack of harmony in belief among the pro-fessed adherents of Christianity. One day last week the two following newspaper clippings came to us, and will bear out our meaning. Both are from the Philadelphia Record of March 21 ult. The first reports Bishop Neely (Methodist) speaking to

the Preachers' Association at Wil-While the external organization of Methodism remains the same, the in-

changed that if it continues much longer there will be nothing left. "Another thing that is hurting the church are those who have taken the oath to preach the doctrines of Methodism, but preach what they years ago that I was your pupil.

"I have known ministers to get up

or explaining the scriptural stories

they succeed in eradicating whatever

the congregation may already have.

the Russias, I have convoked a con-ference at the Hague, which will be charged to seek means likely to diminish the crushing military Dear God forgive us for our erring ways burdens now prevailing, and to prevent, if possible, wars, or at least to alleviate consequences. I am per-suaded that your Holiness will look with a systematic eye on the hold-ing of this conference, and I shall be most happy if, while giving me the assurance of your sympathy, you will With stumbling feet. give your precious moral support to Dear God forgive us 'tis not that our the great work which, according to the generous designs of the magnan-Prefer the empty joy that sin imparts imous Emperor of all the Russias, will be carried on at my residence

Cheerz Walls Make A PRAISEWORTHY DISTINCTION

A splendid example for other places Dear God forgive us, take us by the in Rhode Island has been set by the city of Woonsocket, in its observance of Good Friday. A movement inaug urated in 1912 has now assumed city wide proportions and practically all And like to children at their fathers the stores, saloons, theatres and bus iness houses close from 12 noon till 3 p. m., out of respect for the three hours' agony of our Lord. The credit for this magnificent display of -H. F. ILBERY. reverence towards the Passion of our Saviour belongs largely to the St. Charles' Holy Name Society and the NUN STRICKEN WITH LEPROSY generous acceptance of his sugges-tions by the merchants of the city. Monsignor Leray, Vicar Apostolic In the word of Superintendent of Police John F. Murray, Woonsocket has acquired the unique distinction nuns. He says : "Recently the Gov-ernment doctor officially declared of being the only city in New England that rendered a public recog nition and a civic religious observ one of our sisters to be affected with leprosy. This nun has been twenty ance of Good Friday without comyears in the islands and has fallen a pulsion of a State enactment to make victim to her devotion in caring for the spiritual and physical needs of it a holiday.-Providence Visitor.



Father Hull, S. J., quotes in the Bombay Examiner from a French paper the remarkable record of the lesuits in the great European war.

love for her former teacher and The record shows the character of friend. A priest comes once a week and says Mass in a little chapel conthe men which the infidel government of France banished from the soil of their beloved country. They structed near the enclosure where she lives: As there are no asylums are proved patriots to the core, shed-ding their blood without fear or stint for a people who persecuted them. Says the Bombay Jesuit Father:

"A French paper gives some inter-esting numbers in contemporary martyrdom for this active woman but her sufferings can not fail to Jesuit history. According to this record, 760 members of the society bring a precious blessing from were expelled or kept out of France at the 'Separation.' Six hundred and forty-nine—that is all, without exception, physically fit for servicereturned to bear arms, and the older Fathers have offered themselves as chaplains. Thirty-five Jesuit sol-diers have fallen, 60 have been In a big hospital in a big middle west city lies a little, white haired wounded, 17 are prisoners. Of a certain number the fate is unknown. woman in what the doctors say will be her last illness. She is old and very frail. There seems to be no rel-Five have been decorated for distinguished service, 27 mentioned in atives. Friends are very few. But there is a magnificent bunch of fresh dispatches. One Jesuit Father has a flowers always on the little table beside her bed. Somebody, evidentcommission in the artillery, has three French orders, and the Russian Cross of St. George.—True ly, has not forgotten the 1 ttle old

Blessed is he who devotes his life the first box of flowers came a letter to great and noble ends; and who from the chief. It read something forms his well considered plans with deliberate wisdom .- St. Augustine.

DIED

Voice.

POPE.-In Parkhill, Ont., on Thurs day, April 20th, Mr. Frank Pope, in his sixty-fourth year. May his soul was a dirty-faced, irresponsible little

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might towards the conversion of this country, for which we pray? Are they doing their duty to the church, to their fellow countrymen and themselves? I do not think so. Indeed, I fear that the majority do not even realize that such a duty exists.

This duty of helping these outside the church is peculiarly and especially the work for the laity to perform. The priests for many reasons cannot do it. Most of them have enough and more than enough to do already and it is obviously impossible for them to go out in search of the possible convert. Besides the possible convert is shy and very fearful. It he has been reared in the atmosphere of a rigidly Protestant home, he has been brought up on a diet of false statements about the Church which will have made him positively afraid of priests.

"What the possible convert wants," said the subject of the story, is some one in all ways like himself who will answer a few questions. tell the names of a few books, and perhaps take him to church a few times, and eventually tell him how to get in touch with the right priest. Then he can safely leave him, and necessity be general in scope, and it is left to the individual to apply the

to the individual Catholic man or as to the nature, effects and manner woman. Here we are, in a country where the majority do not hold the faith. It is for us to regard the non-which he has been guilty, and the Catholics of our acquaintance as secrets of his conscience which on being, all of them, possible converts, examination it has shown to him-and to act accordingly. It is for all self, then is the favorable moment of us to show that we are not super- for the priest to give specific advice or us to snow that we are not super-stitious idolators or slaves, to show, He and the speaker are alone; and that we have possessions of some-admonition, exhortation, warning, thing better than all their dreams. We have to watch them, to find out where they stand, to keep, so far as we can, a finger on the pulse of action comes, we must act on some such line as I have suggested, to set those wandering footsteps on the path which leads to the Church. We have to watch them, to find out where they stand, to keep, so far as stances. The potentialities of the sacrament for the eradication of evil, the implantation of the seeds of those wandering footsteps on the path which leads to the Church. We have to watch them, to find out where they stand, to keep, so far as stances. The potentialities of the sacrament for the eradication of evil, the implantation of the seeds of those wandering footsteps on the path which leads to the Church. We have to express. After a personal experi-tione of over thirty years in dealing with children in this most sacred We have to watch them, to find out they never could under other circum

churches, are 'tearing things up by excellent spired the holding of the Religious Educational Convention in Chicago recently; and, merely as a sign of awareness that there exists a need which the advectional conventional conventing conventional conventional conventional c ciation in Philadelphia as follows : which the educational system does not supply, it is a hopeful sign. It before a congregation, and instead of

-CAROLINE D. SWAN

was to be expected that deliberation speaking on some scriptural text, on that need and the means to satisfy have spent their eloquence in airing their own personal doubts regarding it should result in strange theorizing, for the most part also futile. There the very fundamental truths of religion. Instead of strengthening is the greater satisfaction, accordingly, to come upon the same and safe presentation of Catholic principles which was made by Mgr. McDevitt, of Philadelphia. It is only when one has noted the vain babblings of the 'eugenists' and kindred faddists that The work of such preachers is dethe full force of such a passage as the following is felt:

structive, for they imprint a deep materialism in the people which is subversive of the Christian faith. One of the earliest and assuredly Such ministers practically acknowlone of the strongest forces for the edge that because some of the scrip-tural truths are hard to understand, development of character, the uprooting of vice, the inculcation and it is wise to accept as few of them as preservation of virtue in Catholic possible, and in a convenient manner

children, is the sacrament of penance, ordinarily known under the term "Confession." From the Sunday to suit their own ideas." The speaker denounced in the strongest terms the effort made by ministers to use the pulpit to further pulpit and in the class-room instruction, the priest and the teacher may personal or political schemes. expound the principles of right living, pulpit, he contended, was for the preaching of the Gospel, the pure and may warn against vice and strive to make virtue attractive; yet it is entire Gospel, and any other use clear that such instruction must of it was a desecration and an indignity to the ministry.

Rev. B. M. Gemmill sharply critipeat the performance with another is fert to the individual rate to himself. But when a child, after being properly instructed the new style skeptical preacher, who changes doctrine, of the that the Pope is to be excluded from the Peace Conference at the manipulates the interpretation of the war, it is interesting to ture altogether, when need be to suit and instruction reach the soul as

except to shoo me away and threaten

de. All that I am, and all that I ever pe to be, is your work. I have had pe to be, is your work. I have had that I am, and all that I ever pe to be, is your work. I have had that I am, and all that I ever pertore the second to Veneer work. A chance for foremaship, Give refer-ence. Apply Box F. CATHOLIC RECORD, London, 19892 hope to be, is your work. I have had other teachers. I have learned from them much that was good. But it was you who found the spark of was you who found the spark of worth-whileness in me and taught it to raise its head and live. You put the sustaining support under my soul, and it is you I have to thank for my the sustaining support under my soul, and it is you I have to thank for my self-respect and the respect of others.

religious convictions the members of God bless you. Willie R-The little teacher cried over that letter. She keeps it tucked under her pillow, and many times a day she feels for it and thanks God. She loves the flowers, too, but she loves the letter more.

I wonder if there are not more of us who could send some such mes-sage to some tired old teacher who labored long and conscientiously over us-some soul growing discouraged in the last lap of life's journey. -The Casket.

POPE WAS INVITED TO HAGUE CONFERENCE

The

FAMOUS LETTER OF HOLLAND'S QUEEN

manipulates the interpretation of from the Peace Conference at the Scripture, and even eliminates Scrip- end of the war, it is interesting to recall the now historical letter sent the emergency of the times, or his own individual notions. His sub-years ago to Leo XIII., inviting him ject was "Ideals of the Ministry," and he deplored the number of men in the pulpit who take the liberty of teaching any doctrine they choose, treating the gospels as if they were fanciful fiction, and the truths of "As Your Holiness," ran the

religion as though they were super-ficial matters to be accepted or not, has ever been raised so authorita-

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