

a legend on the backs similar to the 'In God We Trust' legend on the silver coins was discussed, and the President was asked what his view was. He replied: "If you are going to put a legend on the greenbacks I would suggest that of Peter and Paul: 'Silver and gold have we none, but what we have that we give you.'"

During the last 15 months nearly 15,000 persons have become converts to the Catholic church in England, this number 2,000 being in the diocese of Westminster alone.

News has been received of the murder of Father David, a Spanish Dominican, by a band of insurgents on the Philippines. He was surprised while taking the sacros of religion to the sick, and his head was cut off and hung on the top of a tree.

It is rumored that Archduchess Marie, widow of the Archduke Louis, who was a brother of the Emperor of Austria and who died last May, intends entering the convent of the Benedictine Sisterhood at Gratz. One of the distinguished members of this community is the Archduchess Marie Beatrice, mother of Don Carlos.

A curious spectacle was witnessed recently in the chapel of the Jesuit College, Rue de Madrid, Paris, when Abbe Courbe celebrated his first mass. The new priest was assisted at the altar by his two eldest sons, who have entered the priesthood, one being a Capuchin. By the marriage contracted before he took orders, the abbe has several children, and all were present at the ceremony attendant on their father's first mass.

The Golden Rose is this year, according to fairly good authority, destined for the Duchess Maria Theresa, wife of Duke Philip, Crown Prince of Wurtemberg. The "Rose" is an artistic work in gold and precious stones, executed by Signor Taufani, the Vatican jeweler. It is blessed by the pope on mid-Lent Sunday, during his own mass.

The London Daily News has it that if the Irish Catholic bishops can arrive at an agreement with the government on a scheme for the foundation of the Irish Catholic university, the government will be prepared to allocate a capital sum of £1,000,000 sterling for its endowment. It is certainly time, as Mr. Lecky said in the commons, for such a measure of justice to be given.

According to a report in Rome the Holy See was considering the question of establishing an archdiocesan see for the north of England. La Vera Roma, in its last issue, says the report is rife that England will soon have a second metropolitan see "to relieve the fatigues and responsibility of the cardinal archbishop of Westminster. Cardinal Vaughan has 14 suffragans, some of them several hundred miles distant. One of the dioceses in the north of England is to be raised to the rank of an archbishopric."

CATHOLIC MISSIONARY UNION.

A New Society For Carrying on Home Missions in the United States.

At the first meeting of the Catholic Missionary union last week, in the archiepiscopal residence in Madison avenue, the following officers were elected: President, Archbishop Corrigan; vice president, the Rev. Patrick John Ryan, Archbishop of Philadelphia; secretary and treasurer, the Rev. Alexander P. Doyle, C. S. P.; executive committee, Archbishop Corrigan, the Rev. Alexander P. Doyle and the Rev. Matthew A. Taylor. The scope of the organization will be national, and, as fast as possible, the work will be extended to every diocese in the land.

The union is incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. According to its character the objects of the union are: "To procure the services of clergymen and laymen of the Roman Catholic church to teach and preach as missionaries of their faith in the United States; to provide for the support and maintenance of such persons while engaged in such work; to lease, take, hold and purchase places, buildings and lands for such teaching and preaching; to publish and distribute books, pamphlets and reading matter in connection with such work, and to aid and assist the archbishops, bishops, and other authorities of the Roman Catholic church in the United States in establishing and carrying on home missions in their various jurisdictions."

The union is at present paying the salaries of missionaries who are working under the direction of the bishops of Wheeling and Richmond, and it is expected that other missionaries will be speedily sent to fields in Mississippi, Florida and Kansas.—New York Sun.

VANITY, VANITY, ALL IS VANITY.

Herbert Spencer has fulfilled the purpose of his life, at least he says he has in his last volume, "The Principles of Sociology." Thirty-six years ago he laid the foundation for his work. Now, in his seventy-seventh year, an old man, shattered in health, and with an empty purse, he says he is content. All his life he has "made great music to a little clan," but if he is satisfied no one else should complain. We admire

this sort of determination. The will to work on against adverse criticism, or into the "sear and yellow leaf," with a broken constitution, and fully conscious that the slowly emptying purse would not be materially replenished by the labor, when completed is a great will.

While giving due credit to Mr. Spencer for his many parts, and a fair share of admiration for his philosophic mind and steadfast purpose, we cannot refrain from thinking that his life might have been spent for a better purpose, that his great talents, if differently directed, might have been used more profitably for himself and for humanity.

He started out to tear down some of the old and well established beliefs, and he has had his labors for his pains. He is now an old man, on the verge of the grave, in a few years, perhaps in less time, he will be numbered with the great majority, but the ideas he assailed still exist, and will continue to exist, when he and his works will be remembered only in a schoolboy's theme. How much better is the world because of his existence? A great mind should leave some lasting benefit. Of what avail is all

GIRL LIFE IN MEXICO.

She Has Considerable Freedom, But It Is of the Right Kind.

(FROM THE BOSTON HERALD.)

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 2.—Mexican home life is unique; it differs very essentially from the domestic life of the Anglo-Saxon race, for it is founded on respect for parents. The influence of the Catholic church is powerful in maintaining a high grade of family behavior. There is a sweetness and a charm about a well ordered Mexican home which is a revelation to Northern people who have imbibed a false idea of matters here. The women of the best Mexican families are naturally of a gentle disposition, but they command obedience and rarely spoil their sons, whom they idolize. There are exceptions, but they are not enough to break down the general social discipline.

As for the girls, no reputable Mexican father or mother would allow for a moment the thought of permitting a girl of any age to be on the streets after dark unless accompanied by an older person, a trusted servant or elder brother. So, even among girls of the humbler class, there is no street strolling in the evening. They may, in warm weather, go to the alameda, or public park, when there is a band concert, but always under escort. They may go to a tertulia or evening party, but with some competent person. They may dance, mildly flirt, on such occasions, but they are always under the watchful eye of a relative. There is plenty of proper freedom for young girls, and a larger liberty in the cities than formerly, but they are not allowed to run about without escort, and a very careful eye is kept upon them by parents and relatives, even to the distant male cousins. Such a thing as a young girl, or young woman, of any character or family, being upon the street at night, alone and unattended, is unknown. Your daughter goes to visit a friend in the afternoon and stays for tea; then the gentleman and lady of the house, the gentleman alone, or any servant brings her home. So the streets of this big town are never the scene of foolish, flighty girls being followed and "picked up" by strangers.

And as for men who insult young girls and women, the remedy is usually a sudden and fatal one. In milder cases the newspapers give minute descriptions of the "satyr" who has insulted a lady, and the public is asked to take warning. One fellow, who in an interior city, made an insulting remark about a lady standing at a window, was conducted to the alameda, and, in view of the chief part of the town's best society, was held down to a stone bench and caned until he yelled for mercy, and was then ordered out of town on the next train. He went. In another city, a male teacher, who was "too fresh" in his conduct toward young girls, was deputed on by a deputation of gentlemen and asked to favor the city by his permanent absence. He, too, went.

The etiquette regarding the protection of women from molestation and insult is such as prevails in the Southern States of the American Union. There is no fooling on the streets, in the theaters and public places with respectable women. There is something left here of the old Spanish idea of the sacredness of womanhood, and the line is sharply drawn between honest women and the other kind.

NOT MUCH COERCION THERE.

Mme. Cotescu, wife of a Roumanian court councillor at Bucharest, has brought suit for 100,000 franc damages, against a boarding school mistress of Boulogne sur Seine for the loss of two daughters. Mme. Cotescu had placed four daughters in a convent school where one became a convert from the Greek orthodox faith to Roman Catholicism, and later fled from her home to become a nun. To prevent the conversion of the two younger girls the mother put them in the Boulogne school, on the teacher's engag-

ing to keep them away from the nuns. The girls fled from the school, however, and are now believed to be nuns in some convent. The mother's suit for damages is complicated by the fact that her daughters have come of age and have intervened in the suit, through their lawyer, with the assertion that they acted of their own free will in what they did.

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