

POST CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.

Commemoration of birthdays is a custom as innocent as it is natural. The human soul is the noblest work of God; no temple more sacred, no work of art more admirable...

There is one Name, and only one, in all time the anniversary of whose birth-day is commemorated with heartfelt rejoicings down the ages...

On the contrary, He assured them that they would be persecuted for His sake, and He declared that no man was worthy to be His disciple unless he took up his cross and followed Him!

And, according to all human calculation, that, indeed, was the way it then looked. His enemies had triumphed...

Foreseeing what was to happen, He said to His apostles: "Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in Me."

And the nation that delivered Him to death—His own nation—what of it? Its Temple destroyed, its government blotted out...

Who were God hath exalted Him, and hath given Him a Name that is above all names, that in the Name of Jesus every knee shall bend.

Let us go back to the beginning of time; let the heroes and prophets and philosophers and conquerors and reformers—let them all, in all nations and all ages, pass in review before us...

Who among them is to be compared with Him? Who even approaches Him? Why is it that Moses, or Num, or Solomon, or Plato, or Aristotle, or Mahomet, or Homer, or Virgil, or Dante, or Caesar, or Shakespeare, or Alexander, or Napoleon, or Washington—why is it that the personality of no man that ever stood before the world impresses the world as He does?

Napoleon was possessed of a mind as great as he was capacious. He would study everything, and discuss every thing. His six years' prison life on St. Helena gave him time for reflection...

homely merely legislators; but nothing which reveals the Deity. On the contrary, I see numerous relations between them and myself. I make out resemblances, weaknesses and common errors which assimilate them to myself and humanity...

"The nearer I approach Him and the more closely I examine Him the more everything seems above me; everything becomes great with a greatness that crushes me. Christ expects everything from His death."

"I defy you to cite any existence other than that of Christ exempt from the least vacillation, free from all blemishes and changes."

"The existence of Christ, from beginning to end, is entirely a mystery. I admit; but that mystery meets difficulties which are in all existences. Reject it, the world is an enigma; accept it, and we have an admirable solution of the history of man."

"Christ speaks, and henceforth generations belong to Him by bonds more close, more intimate, than those of blood; by a union more sacred, more imperious, than any other union beside."

"These are the reflections of a man of the world; but the fact that he was a man of the world, lacking in religious feeling, all intellect and no sentiment, instead of discounting his reasoning here should rather enhance it."

And, indeed, notwithstanding the waywardness of human nature, this joyous and sympathetic disposition toward our Blessed Saviour seems to be the tendency of men. For what birthday is honored as His? Its celebration (which is not limited to a day, but extends to a season) is covered in space with the civilized world; and from thence when the Name of Jesus was first publicly proclaimed—civilization dates its Calendar, which shall govern Time till Time shall be no more.

Good morning! It is a very simple matter, yet so often neglected, that if any one forgot or neglected this simple act of politeness and token of friendship, now there is One who is always more near to us than any of our friends; One who loves us more dearly than the fondest mother; One who just yearns for that mark of affection, the "Good morning."

There are those that imagine they must make a long address to God; that is to say, recite all the prayers given in their prayer books for the morning greeting. As that is not practicable, they imagine themselves dispensed from talking to God at all, and need not notice Him in any other way.

Whoever wishes to mold the boy's character must take him just as they find him. Save him now from the contagion of the streets, from the pitfalls that you see for him at every corner, and his magnificent manhood will be a more than sufficient return for any labor expended.

The coward sneers at death; the brave live on.—Dr. Geo. Sewall.

you during that day and success in whatever you undertake. Well, this simple Pater Noster, Ave Maria and Credo will insure you against loss better than any insurance company; at least, against real loss, which is damage to your soul.

Moreover, the opinion is well founded that if you punctually persist in this little practice of saying your morning and evening prayers devoutly you will insure your everlasting salvation; that is to say, Almighty God will in return provide you with such much grace in the shape of light and courage that you will work out your salvation without fail.

Don't say: I forget my prayers. Forget to greet your God? Do you ever forget the breakfast? Well, there are those who forget their breakfast, who for the life of them could not forget to talk to their God in the morning before showing themselves to any one else.

Don't say: I have no time. Tut, tut! No time to speak to God, but plenty of it to gossip even before sunrise!

Of course a virtue that, notwithstanding Zita's conscientious devotion to duty, her sweetness of temper and constant anxiety to please, she was allowed by the good Lord, if course for her greater trial and perfection, to be very much misunderstood and even persecuted.

Of course we do not want it understood that this is all a devout Christian should ordinarily address to God at morning or night. A pious soul will have much more to say to the Father in heaven.

OUR BOYS. To the mind of many the average boy carries more cussedness to the square inch than is healthy for himself or good for the community.

Men who claim a harmonized observation with the trend of passing events tell us that the demand of the day is for works, not words. This they tell us is the demand of the hour.

Works and not words has ever been one of her glorious inspirations. She alone it is who teaches that even faith without good works availeth not unto salvation.

Every year gone to make up the centuries since her divine institution marks some monumental accomplishment which even appeals most eloquently to the present. Under her banner all humanity is marshaled in true equality.

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SERVANT-GIRL AND SAINT.

St. Zita, virgin, patroness of those at service, lived at domestic service all her life—sixty years—in one family. She became a great saint, but there was much in her life that furnishes a good example for all who are in a similar position.

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Do Not Treat Drunkenness as a Joke.

A paper contributed to the British Journal of Inebriety by Dr. G. H. R. Dabbs on the treatment of drunkenness in fiction and the drama, may furnish food for thought.

LOOKING FOR THE RESURRECTION.

We are just as much concerned with the life that follows after death, as with this little day that passes and is all too quickly spent.

IMITATION OF CHRIST.

He who has a relish of these will find all things savoury.

Such as these have a relish for God and what good seever is found in creatures, they refer it all to the praise of their Maker.

But great, yea very great is the difference between the relish of the Creator and the creatures of eternity and of time, of Light Uncreated and of light enlightened.

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No. SUBJECT. 1460 Christ's Entry into Jerusalem. 1461 Christ Preaching by the Sea. 1462 Madonna. 1463 Christ Preaching by the Sea. 1464 Sacred Heart of Jesus. 1465 Sacred Heart of Mary. 1466 The Last Supper. 1467 Christ and the Rich Ruler. 1468 Christ Blessing Little Children. 1469 Christ Before Pilate. 1470 Madonna di San Sisto. 1471 St. Joseph. 1472 The Good Shepherd. 1473 Madonna. 1474 Head of Christ. 1475 Madonna. 1476 Christ in Gethsemane. 1477 The Holy Night. 1478 He is Risen. 1479 An Innocent Victim. 1480 Head of Christ at Twelve Years. 1481 Mary Magdalen. 1482 Immaculate Conception. 1483 The Holy Night. 1484 Christ in the Temple. 1485 Christ on the Cross. 1486 Head of Christ (Gethsemane). 1487 Madonna di San Sisto. 1488 Arrival of the Shepherds. 1489 Christ Healing the Sick Child. 1490 Christ Taking Leave of his Mother. 1491 Madonna di San Sisto. 1492 Madonna and Child. 1493 Christ and the Fishermen. 1494 Christ's Entry into Jerusalem.

Consumption

Salt pork is a famous old-fashioned remedy for consumption. "Eat plenty of pork," was the advice to the consumptive 50 and 100 years ago.

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