ZHV. F. P. HICKBY. O. S. B. FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT "Honour thy fatherland thy mother." (Erod.

It is disheartening, my dear brethren, to preach on this Com-mandment. It is so well known, so little observed. Fresh knowledge about it can hardly be imparted; and who can hope to implant respect and reverence for it in the hearts of the

How is this? The very names, father and mother, are high titles indeed. They are the stewards of God. To them He entrusts the immortal souls, as well as the bodies of their children. To have faithfully fulfilled the duties of a good father or mother is indeed a valid

claim to the kingdom of heaven.
But, my dear brethren, how many parents themselves forget their dig-nity and responsibility—lower them-selves, and are themselves answerable for their children's disrespect and disobedience. So this Fourth Commandment regards parents as well as children. Parents must be worthy fathers and mothers, with a an appreticeship, a business has to be learned; but how few young people, when they rush into matrimony, give even a thought as to the responsibility of becoming parents. Young, foolish, not too religious themselves, perhaps getting married in disobedience to their own parents, how are they fitted in the slightest degree to fulfil the duties of good parents?
Their duties are to love their chil-

dren, their souls, far more than their bodies or their worldly happiness; to tend, care, work for them; to educate them; to give them good example and shield them from evil.

Take these one by one, for they are the life work of good parents; if these duties are fulfilled, the children indeed should honour their father

Lovetheir souls. An early baptism is the anxiety of good parents, and the first words for the infant lips to form, "Jesus" and "Mary." Long before school age, the sign of the cross, short prayers, and to do as they are bidden should be taught them. Yes, obedience, even that early in life, and quiet, grave correction, no haste or passion, and the infant mind will soon see who has to be master. What more hateful sight on earth, than a petted

child mastering its own parents!
Their bodies, their health and welfare, require constant unselfish watchfulness on the part of the mother. And the father, by daily toil provides food, clothing, and home for them. A parent's work is indeed a prayer, if done for the love

Education, as the children grow up, is an anxiety for the parents. A Catholic school must be chosen, and regain attendance insisted on to gain lifelong habits of carefulness and industry. Teachers and priests do a great work, but good parents a far greater. What are school hours to the continued influence of Sacraments, are all in the hands of

make the Commandment an impossibility.

But if parents have been faithful to their duties, they can justly claim love, respect and obedience from "over here." love, respect and obedience from their children.

Now, let us look at this Commandment from the children's point of view. It is only human nature to hate to be controlled; and the young have not much idea of doing anything from a spiritual motive. And they are quick, too quick, to see faults even in good parents, and very soon to think they know best—that their parents are too strict and old fashioned. They grumble; others are not treated like that; things have changed since their parents were children. Oh, the devil will fill their minds with specious excuses and arguments, for he hates the young to keep this Fourth Commandment. May they give ear to Now, let us look at this Commandmandment. May they give ear to better counsel, and stand by this Commandmed! To be obedient is to be safe; to be obedient is to be vic-torious in the battle of life; to be obedient is to unite ourselves to, and become like, our Master, Jesus

And is there not gratitude insisting And is there not gratitude insisting on childrento honour their fatherand mother? Gratitude? Yes, they have well earned it! For how many years has each child been a care, an anxiety to its parents? Many a long hour have they sat up, tending you in your ailments and accidents; many a comfort and pleasure have they begrudged themselves to give to you. How have they sought your good and advancement, effacing themselves, that you might get on.

FIVE MINUTE SERMON Beware of ingratitude; it will taint

You will not always have your parents; be kind and loving to them parents; be kind and loving to them whilst they are with you. "Son, support the old age of thy father, and grieve him not in his life. . Have patience with him, and despise him not in thy strength, for the relieving of thy father shall not be forgotten." (Ecclus. iii. 14, 15.) Is it not true that we do not know the value of a mother till we have lest

value of a mother till we have lost her? And then we can only requite her love with a few tardy tears. The graveyard is not the only time or place to show gratitude to your par-

And to encourage us to keep this Commandment, remember it is the Commandment with a promise. For fear we should forget or grow tired fear we should forget or grow tired of keeping it, God tells us what He will do if we fulfil it. "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thou mayest be long lived upon the land, which the Lord thy God will give thee." (Exod. xx. 12.) And again: "that thou mayest live a long time, and it may be well with thee." and it may be well with thee."
(Dsut. v. 16.) And to those who have loved and honoured their father and mother, how consoling these words of the Holy Spirit: "He that honoureth his mother is as one that layeth up a treasure. He that hon-oureth his father shall have joy in

remain to the latter end. . . . In justice thou shalt be built up, and in the day of affiction thou shalt be re-membered: and thy sins shall melt away, as the ice in the fair, warm (Ecclus. iii. 5-17.)

MARY, HELP THEM

Much has been said by way of admiration of the power of organiza-tion, and of the general efficiency of one of the great nations now at war. The world wonders as if this were something new. On the contrary, the idea or principle is as old as the world itself. Our friends, the enemy, have simply carried out this old, old idea in its entirety. For over nine-teen hundred years it has been employed by Holy Mother Church to further her mission on earth. It has been part of her daily life: foreseeing and providing for every emerg-ency and exigency; utilizing all the ency and exigency; utilizing all the means at her command, yet always conserving; each active member cooperating with the main body, all coordinating their efforts to the great central aim: the glory of God and the good of souls. Great is the German war machine; great is the machinery of the Catholic Church, whether in war or peace. Wer finds whether in war or peace. War finds her prepared, organized, with all her members at their posts to fulfill their well-defined sacred duties. How strikingly is this fact brought

in behalf of our soldiers. To hear the little children sing this powerful petition, one must feel that even Catholic school must be chosen, and regular attendance insisted on to and a most important bit in this time of universal duty. Just as strongly as chaplains are needed "over there," prayers and petitions are needed over here. That is the work for all atbhome; men, women home? The good of the school is paralyzed by a bad home, but strengthened and formed into habits our Sisterhoods and their charges. by a good one. Daily prayers, And even now, echoes from the Sunday's Mass, frequenting the distant shores tell them that their Sacraments, are all in the hands of he parents.

Good example to be given calls for ers in the ranks are turning regcontinued watchfulness on the part ularly to their God to seek strength of the parents. Children are so and consolation through the minquick to pick up evil, and yet istry of their chaplains. They turn. thoughtless parents talk of matters not to an unknown God, not to a before them, that children should vague, invisible Power beyond reach never hear mentioned. And what about parents who quarrel, use bad they may have neglected or deserted language, are drunk before their for a time, but who is ever ready to children? Of parents, who miss Mass and are out of the Church? They how to reach. The fire of Faith in

So the work of the great Catholic Church goes on in time of war.

A MINISTER'S TRIBUTE TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

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and held Him to thy breast-mother, who taught the feet of the Intant Son of God to walk—mother, the first word that the lips of the Babe, that was God and Man, learned to lisp—mother, who guided the foot-steps of the Son of God, and the son of man, through a spotless youth to a spotless manhood—mother, who followed the Son of God, thy Son, bone of thy bone, and flesh of thy flesh, to the cross, to ignominious death—mother, the first of all the earth to give to the Savior Jesus, loving ministry as He nestled on thy bosom—mother, the last of all the earth in the thought of the Saviour, Son of God, and Son of Mary, as He hung upon the cross and died—mother, who, to this sin darkened world gave the Infant Jesus, God and Man, who, to heaven gave the Lamb of God, Man and God, who is the light of heaven-mother, standing not beneath the shadow of the cross, but beneath the glory of the throne of God and of the Lamb, that throne now resplendent with the glory with which thy Son has en-shrouded it, one and all, we rise and call thee blessed and place upon thy brow our richest diadem. We crown thee queen of our hearts—we give thee the first place in all God's crea -St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A SALE OF SOULS?

More than a year ago a correspondent in America called attention to the fact that money was being solicited for the education of the French children whose fathers had fallen in stars. the War. The appeal had the semblance of purest charity and many of our people, Catholics as well as republic of Washington and Lincoln, others, were beguiled into contribut-ing generously. The writer in Amer-that Tom Watson was spilling baring generously. The writer in America, however, pointed out that in reality the scheme was a subtle attack on religion. The reasons he adduced to prove his contention were convincing. The personnel of the organization was distinctly Masonic, which in France is synonymous with being antagonistic to the Church; the champions of it were professed enemies of religion; the French Bishops had warned their people to have ops had warned their people to have | Catholic soldiers are fighting on

was extremely likely that any contributions made to it would be used to rob French children of the Faith. Catholics were told to put no trust in assurances that the religious belief of the beneficiaries would be respected. Execution was taken to respected. Exception was taken to the letter, but events have proved that the writer was correct.

The organization, having completed its collecting, is now actively at work. The money, which was contributed under the promise that the children would be brought up in the religion of the father, is being used as a bait to lure them into the ecole as a bait to lure them into the ccole laique, the character of which was well described in the words of the French Academician when he said that one enters the ccole laique a Christian, but leaves it an atheist. Aid is offered destitute French mothers, but on the condition that they withdraw their children from the schools where they are being inthe schools where they are being in-structed and trained in the knowl-edge and practice of the Faith, and enter them in the ecole laigue.
When the mothers protest the sum of 129 francs a year is dangled before their eyes, and not all of them have the courage to resist. Those who wish to see Low the details of the system are worked out need but consult La Croix, of Paris, for December

The mask of philanthropy is odious enough when it is assumed to make personal profit out of public calamities; we are not unfamiliar with such abominations in the United States. But the abomination is the more detestable when it is made the cover for religious persecution, nor does the subtlety of the methods employed mitigate any of its hideous-ness. Catholics who would not be warned, must face the fact that they have contributed toward a scheme of robbing French children of their faith. It is to be hoped that they will no longer be misled by the sheep's clothing, but will recognize the French Freemason for the wolf he undoubtedly is.—America.

CATHOLIC INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM

In my reply to Tom Watson, I not only answered his arguments against Catholicity, but met every charge he advanced against the integrity and patriotism of the Catholic citi-

But it remained for the great world war to absolutely vindicate the editor of the "Iconoclast."

While Catholics comprise less than 20 per cent. of our population, the records show that about 40 per cent. of our soldiers in training for the battlefields of Europe are Catholics. I call attention to this fact, not to belittle the patriotism of other church members, for the loyalty of Protestants has never been questioned by the fact of the control of the tioned, but to emphasize the devotion of Catholics whose patriotism has been attacked so often by Watson, Walker and the bigoted organs of the Guardians of "Liberty."

In the hour of trial and peril the Catholic young men of the nation have more than justified my defence of their loyalty. Many of the Knights of Columbus took the fourth degree obligation, but it has not prevented them from rallying to the support of Old Glory. Lieutenant W. T. Fitzsimmons, a member of the order from Kansas City, was the first American soldier killed in our war with Germany. Corporal Haggerty, a young Catholic of Pittsburgh, degree obligation, but it has not pre was the first to fall at Vera Cruz in our scrap with Mexico. Patriots,

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both sides of this war, and dying on every battlefield for the flag of the country in which they live. This goes to prove that Catholicity never interferes with the patriotism of its adherents and that all Catholics may be loyal to the land of their citizenship. The blood test of loyalty re-

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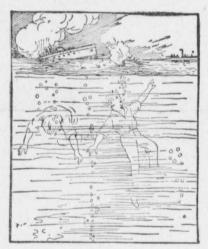
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Yet from the few words you read, you

must picture scores of scenes like the illustration. 15,000 men of this service, not officially recognized by the governments, have suffered death in order that soldiers, munitions and food may cross the ocean. Remember their widows and orphans, dependent for life itself on your

Let Your Donation Be An Appreciation of This Sacrifice!

As each day sees new victims of the U-Boat, more and more mouths wait to be fed-widows and orphans, who cannot look to governments for relief.

"They shall not want!" Say this in the only way that counts—by your contribution.

WE MUST listen to the call that comes from the deep-"Remember the Lusitania! Remember Captain Fryatt! Remember the 176 vessels lost, together with all trace of crew and cargo! Remember the 15,000 men of the Merchant Marine, who have already made the supreme sacrifice! Remember the widows and orphans!"

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