

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

THREE LESSONS

There are three lessons I would write,
Three words as with a golden pen,
In tracing of eternal light
Upon the hearts of men.

Have hope. Though clouds environ round,
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put thou the shadow from thy brow—
No night but has its morn.
Have faith. Where'er thy bark be driven—
The calm'st disport, the tempest's mirth,
Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven,
The habitants of earth.

Have love. Not love alone for one,
But love as thou thy brother call,
And scatter like the circling sun,
Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these words upon thy soul—
Hope, faith, and love—and thou shalt find
Strength when life's surges maddest roll.
Light when thou else wert blind.

KINDNESS ALWAYS PAYS

A genial member of New York City's police force, employed in traffic duty where the problems are many and patience is often tried, is wearing a smile these days more winning, if possible, than is his usual wont. His concept of duty makes possible the enforcement of law and order without antagonizing the public whose actions he must regulate. And genial kindness is part of his program. Recently he has fallen heir to a gift of \$5,000, provided him in the will of an elderly New York matron to whom he once extended a passing courtesy in the ordinary discharge of his traffic duties. The kindness was remembered, and the officer's three children may now safely continue the schooling which might otherwise have been impossible. Virtue is its own reward, we are told. But there are instances where it merits even further compensation.—America.

WORK AND STUDY

We are all of us familiar with the man of wealth or means who keeps on working although he could well afford to take it easy the rest of his life. His excuse, as a rule, is that he would rather wear out than rust out—a wise conclusion. It is the same with study. Recently the University of Wisconsin had a woman student of eighty years enrolled, and now I read of an eastern woman entering college with her grand daughter. She is going to study again "to keep young," and in that I think she shows her wisdom. An Iowa college graduated a man seventy-six years old this summer.

People who keep thinking are usually happy. It is when a man becomes a drifter and a floater down the stream that he becomes dissatisfied and discouraged. Every human being should keep studying all the time. Not only should you study along some line in which you are interested but you should take up some line or subject about which you know nothing. It is surprising how little any of us know. To tap a new vein of knowledge is like being refreshed with a cup of cold water on a hot day. The entire mind reacts to new discoveries of ideas and bits of knowledge.

Keep studying about the things you are most interested in and they keep adding new interests outside your present work or occupation. Everytime a new set of muscles is developed in your body, every part of the body is benefited. In like manner every time you add to what you already know, all other knowledge becomes enriched.

To keep studying your friends is to improve your friendships. To keep studying books is to come closer to all mankind. It's that "keep studying" that smooths the way and lights up the path for progress. Keep studying. It helps us to meet all the affairs of life gracefully.—Catholic Columbian.

OUR TALENTS

Perhaps you undervalue your own importance in the scheme of things. It is a common failing and a comfortable one. "I do not matter much, either way," says Idleness. "If I work hard, I can accomplish little. If I don't work at all, the loss will never be felt. How dear is sweet tranquillity!" So he sits by and dreams or criticises.

Such a man or woman does dishonor to Almighty God and to human nature. God meant us to be individually insignificant, and to great things together.

Our individual insignificance is precious, because it enables us to co-operate, to supplement and strengthen the work of other men.

It is the common insignificant people who are indispensable in everyday affairs. God meant it so, and whoever is discouraged at his own insignificance or will not use the little which he has, quarrels with the evident plans of God.

Our Lord, who understood perfectly the needs of men, and had all history before His eyes, gives a significant turn to one of His parables. He tells us of some servants whose master was about to leave for a journey, and gave each of them a certain sum of money to traffic with while he was away.

One received five talents, another two, another only one. Now, the significant detail for us just now is this—that the man who received only one talent was the one who lost heart and went off and hid his money in a napkin. The other two traded industriously and pleased their master on his return with gain. But the silly fellow who had only one talent, hid his away—and he was bitterly punished by his angry lord.

Perhaps you have very little influence. Perhaps you see few opportunities of doing any one good. Perhaps you are one of those who have received only a single talent. Then clearly you are in especial danger. You are precisely the one at whom the parable points. Use what you have, do the good you can, join yourself with your neighbors and share in their good works. Never say, "I do not matter." You do matter greatly. The master, who is away on a journey, will return very soon and ask, "Where is the talent which I gave you?"—The Pilot.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

ONE SINGLE SOUL

One single soul, Oh! what is its worth?
His Heart's last drop Who redeemed the earth.
One single soul! Ah! Saints have died
To bring one soul to the Crucified.

And how many souls may be thine,
May be thine,
And a throne like that where the Seraphs shine:
While angels in wonder and envy see
The glorious mission God gives to thee.

And if there are times when the human heart
Is tempted to wish for an easier part
God's life-giving grace forever will be
Sustaining, supporting, enlightening thee.

And thy burning work for the souls of men
Will win them, will save them
Again yet again:
Though the Lord of the harvest
Would take for thy toil
The life-work that brought thee one single soul.

—The Missionary

MONTH OF THE HOLY DEAD

November belongs to the dead by time-honored Catholic tradition and practice. We call this the month of the holy souls, or of the poor souls; and these tender terms remind us of the teaching of our faith regarding the souls detained in purgatory and of our duty and a blessed mercy it is to help these souls by our prayers and good works.

We Catholics do not "mourn" as those who have no hope for the dear loved ones whose going has left us lonely and sorrowful. We do not seek relief in ouija boards or spiritistic mediums, or other occult agencies. The doctrine of the Communion of Saints gives sufficient comfort for our aching hearts.

We believe so intensely in the life beyond that for us death does not make the huge difference that others would have us suppose. Those who have crossed over to that other life are themselves alive. We call it life, and a real life we believe it to be. We ask the prayers of those whom we know to be beloved of God, nor does it much matter whether they be alive or dead, since we suppose them always to remain human enough to be interested in human beings. Hence it is that the Catholic Church has always advocated prayers to the saints; just because the saints are dead, why should we cease to beg their intercession? So, again, is it with those who are in purgatory. I prayed for them when they were alive; in their troubles, in their day of trial, I remembered them before God, why now that they are still in a state of trial should I put aside their claims on me.

By our prayers we can help our friends that are dead; and more, it is not prayers only, but everything borne patiently for the dead can be offered up for them that their time of purgation may be shortened.

Faith, affection, gratitude, loyalty to the dead, all move us to remember this month, in repeated prayers, the souls of those who have gone before us only a little while to that silent country from which none shall return. Masses, Communion, alms and good works are all efficacious means by which we can help the souls in purgatory.—The Sentinel of The Blessed Sacrament.

TEXT TO SUIT OCCASION

A colored preacher in Alabama had at one time served a short jail sentence and was fearful lest his congregation discover the fact, as in his later years he had been a model of rectitude. One Sunday, rising to begin his sermon, his heart sank to see a former cell-mate sitting in the front row. Quick thinking was necessary. Fixing his eye on the unwelcome guest, the preacher announced solemnly: "Ah takes mah text dis mornin' from de sixty-fifth chapter and fo' hundredth verse of de book of Job, which says: 'Dem as sees and knows me, and says nothin', dem will Ah see later.'"

THE POLITE CAB DRIVER

The other day, in a downtown district of Pittsburgh, two Sisters stepped up to a taxicab which was

standing at the curb and spoke to the driver, who immediately removed his cap and stepped out of his machine. The Sisters asked how to get to a certain address, whereupon the driver volunteered to take them where they wanted to go. The gentlemanly manner of the driver impressed itself on several who saw the occurrence. A day or so later the same driver was hailed by a traveling man, who asked if he knew the way to St. Paul's Orphan Asylum.

"I'd ought to," replied the driver, "I was raised there."—Catholic Observer.

EXTENSION SOCIETY PRAISED BY POPE

By Mgr. Evaristo Poenl
(Rome Correspondent, N. O. W. C.)

The pilgrimage brought to Rome by Mgr. W. D. O'Brien, director of the Catholic Extension Society, was one of the most successful and interesting of the American pilgrimages coming to Rome this Holy Year.

The Holy Father, in the welcome which he gave to the pilgrims, showed he held the organization in high consideration. On the morning of the audience, the pilgrims waited for His Holiness in the Ducal Hall, while Mgr. W. D. O'Brien, with Mgr. J. M. O'Brien and Mgr. Dini, Rector of the Pontifical College of Propaganda Fide, awaited him in the Hall of the Sacraments.

The Pope arrived accompanied by the prelates and chamberlains of his Noble Anti-camera, and escorted by the Noble Guard and the Swiss Guard, Mgr. O'Brien, kneeling before His Holiness, was the first to receive the Papal Blessing and then presented the offering of the pilgrims. The Holy Father received it with thanks in the name of the poor of the whole world and of those who turned from all parts of the world to the charity of their common Father. After having greeted and blessed the other Monsignori, the Pope passed out to the rows of pilgrims along the wall who greeted him with loud cheers.

His Holiness, smiling, commenced the round of the hall, giving his hand to each of the pilgrims to kiss, and distributing commemorative medals of the Holy Jubilee, while Mgr. W. D. O'Brien beside him gave the necessary information and explanation regarding the various groups represented in the pilgrimage.

THE POPE'S WELCOME

The tour of the hall completed, His Holiness mounted the throne and delivered a speech in which he welcomed with all the affection of his paternal heart, the children come from the distant America to gain the spiritual gifts of the Holy Year and to ask for the benediction of the common Father.

"Never as in this year," said the Holy Father, "have we felt so strongly the sense of universal fatherhood which came to us direct from the Heart of God when, by a secret disposition of Providence, we were called to occupy this Seat of Truth. Never have we felt it so profoundly as when every day we see the unity and universality of the Church become a tangible reality in the coming of all peoples from every part of the world, even the most distant, uniting in sentiments of faith and piety at the tombs of the Apostles, here within the Vicariate of Jesus Christ."

"You have come to take a worthy place in this magnificent manifestation of unity, a place which belongs to those who contribute to such a fine and useful undertaking for the good of the Church, as the worthy Catholic Church Extension Society in the United States, that great country which gives us so much consolation and in which we have so much hope."

"And as we give the Benediction to all and every one of you, to your families, all your dear ones, to your country, your work, your intentions."

BLESSING FOR ALL AMERICANS

"Returning to your country you will say that the common Father has love for all your people and to all he sends his blessing which comes from the depths of his soul. From the paternal house the heart of the Father follows the hearts of the sons and accompanies them in thought and with his prayers, and begs God to give them all good things, a wealth of spiritual treasures and all material prosperity."

Then His Holiness declared all the articles of devotion that the pilgrims had brought with them blessed, and gave to the priests of the Pilgrimage not only the power, but the charge to impart in his name, with the consent of their respective Bishops, the Apostolic Blessing to the faithful entrusted to their care. His Holiness pointed out that the medals which had been distributed should not only be considered by the recipients as souvenirs of the Holy Jubilee and of this audience, but above all as a remembrance of the resolutions which the pilgrims had made, as a result of the Jubilee, for the guidance of their future Christian lives.

In conclusion, His Holiness asked that the Rev. Father McCabe, a young priest of the College of Propaganda, should translate it into English, and then he gave the Apostolic Blessing. Having received this the pilgrims loudly applauded the Pope, while he moved out of the hall, smiling and giving his blessing.

Before going out, however, His Holiness again paused beside Mgr. W. D. O'Brien, and very benevolently spoke to him, congratulating him on the work he is doing as director of the Extension Society, and again blessing all those who take part in any way in this great and worthy work.

The following morning the pilgrims had the consolation of hearing the Pope's Mass and taking Holy Communion in the Pauline Chapel, which is the seat of the Pontifical Palace Parish.

ST. PETER'S BAY RE-VISITED

Little waves flecked with foam kissing sand-drifts
That blush crimson with wantoning glee:

Far away sounds the boom of the ocean,
A lone curlew wings in from the sea.

From field on a hill gazing sea-ward
Floats the fragrance of clover and musk:

On a breeze wafts the echo of children
Singing songs in a garden at dusk.

Through a twilight silvering to wait for His Holiness in the Ducal Hall, while Mgr. W. D. O'Brien, with Mgr. J. M. O'Brien and Mgr. Dini, Rector of the Pontifical College of Propaganda Fide, awaited him in the Hall of the Sacraments.

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When thou art troubled and afflicted, then is the time to gain merit. Thou must pass through fire and water before thou comest to refreshment.—Thomas a Kempis.

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1 teaspoon Soda 1 pint Buttermilk 1 cup Molasses

Sift dry ingredients together. Add Crown Brand Syrup and beaten egg to buttermilk and mix quickly with dry ingredients. Cut in the Molasses last. Bake in gem pans oiled with Moline.



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