

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est, Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname).—St. Pacian, 4th Century.

VOLUME XV.

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The Catholic Record.

London, Saturday, Feb. 11, 1893.

On a Head of Christ by Quintin Matsys.

(FIFTEENTH CENTURY.)

A grieving face, adown whose hollow cheek
The bright tears fall from tender, mournful eyes,
Eyes, and with never fading what they seek,
Lips, curved by many weary, wasting sighs.

The tear-drops glisten—frail they seem and slight,
As though a breath would sweep them into air,
And yet four hundred years of day and night
Have passed since first the painter formed them there.

How strange that they should last, those paint-
ed tears,
While kingdoms perish, nations fall and rise,
Strange that through all the stormy rush of years
They be unchanged in those sad grieving eyes.

Does He yet mourn? The world from Him en-
dured
Wandered afar, and will not walk His way,
O patient One! O weary, watching Christ,
Are the tears wet upon Thy face to-day?

—Bessie Chandler, in "The Century."

SERMON BY CARDINAL GIBBONS.

Christ is the Only Enduring Name in History.

His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons preached during the High Mass at St. Matthew's Church, Washington, on Sunday last. The sacred edifice was crowded to its utmost capacity by an immense congregation, including members of the diplomatic corps and many other persons prominent in Washington society. A special musical programme was arranged for the occasion and elicited marked commendation from His Eminence at the conclusion of the service. His Eminence after the Gospel was sung delivered the following sermon:

"Jesus Christ is the only enduring name in history. He is to-day a vital power, and exerts an influence on the moral and social, as well as on the political world, which was never wielded by an earthly ruler. In contrast with Him it may be said of the founders of empires, of religions and of laws, in the language of the text, 'They shall perish; but Thou shalt remain; and all of them shall grow old as a garment, and as a vesture. Thou shalt change them, and they shall be changed; but Thou, O Christ! art the self-same, and Thy years shall not fail.'

"Kings and emperors have sought in various ways to perpetuate their name and fame. But their deeds and their very names have faded away in the lapse of ages, or they have left after them the shadow of a once mighty name which now echoes no enthusiasm and inspires no lofty sentiments.

"The kings of Egypt erected for themselves those mighty pyramids which were to serve as tombs to preserve their mortal remains, and as monuments to immortalize their glorious deeds. The pyramids exist until this day amid the sands of Egypt, after a lapse of five thousand years, and they seemed destined to be as enduring as the mountains. But who are the kings who built them? The researches of historians and antiquarians have left us to more or less conjecture as to the names of the monarchs who erected them.

"Christ, our Lord, built for Himself no tomb. He left no order to His disciples to build one for Him. He, who could say for Himself while living, 'The foxes have holes, the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man hath not where to lay His head,' had no tomb when dead which could be claimed as His own. He was buried in the tomb of a stranger—of Joseph of Arimathea.

"There was no inscription on His tomb, but His name is emblazoned on the pages of history, and is indelibly imprinted on the heart of humanity. And even His tomb is honored as no tomb was ever honored before or since His time. The prophet Isaiah had predicted that 'His tomb shall be glorious, and the prophecy is fulfilled. It is to-day the rendezvous of the nations of the earth. Christians and Mohammedans, Greeks and Latins are contending among themselves which of them shall have the honor of guarding and adorning the tomb of Christ.

"Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ founded a spiritual republic. He conquered not by the material sword, but by the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. He conquered not by brute force, but by an appeal to the conscience and intellect of man. He conquered not by enslaving the bodies of men, but by rescuing their souls from the bondage of sin, and by elevating them to the glorious liberty of children of God. He conquered not by the shedding of the blood of others, but by the shedding of His own blood.

"And the spiritual empire which He established exists until this day, and has been continually extending its bounds till it has covered the whole earth—kept together not by frowning fortifications and standing armies, but by the overwhelming influence of moral and religious impressions. Jesus Christ, hanging from the cross, has drawn to Himself a mightier host than ever followed the standards of Caesar and Alexander. 'When I am lifted from the earth,' He said, 'I will draw

all things to Myself; I will draw them by the cords of love. Other leaders have captured cities; Jesus has captured the citadel of the heart.

"In contemplating those great men who have been conspicuous in history, the strongest sentiment we feel regarding them is one of admiration. And our admiration increases in proportion as we so often ascend to the pinnacle of fame. But we can hardly be said to love them. They are too far removed from us to be loved. They dazzle us by their splendor, but do not warm our hearts. A man to be loved must come down to our level. We must be on familiar terms with him. Christ, in this respect, differs from all other great men. We not only admire and worship Him, but we love Him. He has come down among us; He has become one of us; He has lowered Himself to our estate; He has shared in our sorrows and infirmities; He has become a Son of man, that we might be made the sons of God; He has been our friend, our brother, our comforter.

The great Christian world loves Him, millions in every age have enrolled themselves under His banner and are ready to die for Him.

"Other sovereigns have signaled their reigns by framing laws for the government of their respective countries. All these laws were most useful in their day and generation. They were justly admired for their wisdom; but these laws were national in their character. They were framed for one particular people and one particular form of government. They grew more or less obsolete in the course of time. The people outgrew them, and a change in the form of government involved a change in the fundamental laws of those countries.

"Jesus Christ has left us a code of laws in the Gospels. These moral precepts are founded on the eternal principles of truth and justice, and therefore they are immutable. They have already stood the test of two thousand years, and they are as vigorous and as much in force to-day as when they came from the lips of their Divine Founder. And they will be binding on the consciences of men as long as human society itself will last. They are adapted to all times, to all places, to all circumstances and conditions of life. They are in force in every form of government—in absolute governments, in constitutional monarchies, and in republics.

"Christ, then, is not merely a man of history like other great men who have appeared on the theatre of life, played their part and disappeared from view. He is not a meteor that has flashed across the firmament of the world, and was suddenly extinguished. No, He is the son of justice, shining on men down the ages, enlightening their minds, warming their hearts, and causing the flowers of joy and gladness to spring up in their souls. He is walking today on the troubled waters of life as He walked of old on the Lake of Gennesareth. Doubting men may say it is all a delusion, as Peter fancied he saw only an apparition. But He is there all the same, lifting up many a sinking soul from the sea of sorrow and tribulation.

"Jesus Christ confronts us at every step. We see Him. We hear His friendly voice. We feel the warm pressure of His hand. His name is on everybody's lips. 'Lives' innumerable are written of Him. Volumes are published commenting on every word that fell from His sacred lips. During these recent days through which we have passed, the Christian celebrated with joy the anniversary of His birth. Both houses of Congress were prostrated, the courts of justice were adjourned, the schools and academies were closed for the season—that all might take part in the festivities. Even those who believe not in His divinity shared in the common joy, like those eaves that admit only the oblique rays of the sun.

"What has Christ done for the civilization of mankind? When He appeared on the stage of life the world was buried in the darkness of idolatry. The human race, with the exception of Palestine, worshipped the sun and moon and stars of heaven. They worshipped every striking object in nature. They worshipped all things except God alone, to whom only divine homage is due. They knew not whence they came, nor whither they were going. Their vision of life was bounded by the horizon of the tomb. Christ banished idolatry. He proclaimed one true and living God to the nations. He taught them their origin and their destiny, and the means of obtaining it.

"When Christ appeared on earth the condition of woman was most deplorable and degraded. She was the slave of man and the victim of his unbridled passions. The wife had no rights which the husband was bound to respect. But, thanks to the blessed influence of Christ's teachings, she is no longer the slave of man, but his peer and equal. She is no longer a tenant at will, but the mistress of her household. She is no longer like Agar, liable to be a cast-away and a wanderer on the face of the earth, but the queen of the domestic kingdom.

"Let Christ Jesus then be the centre of your thoughts and the foundation of your hopes. If you aspire to glory, let it be the substantial glory that is

reflected from Him. He will be your light in darkness, your companion in solitude, your rest in weariness, your consolation in affliction, your joy in sorrow. He will be your physician to heal the unseen wounds of your heart. He will be your life in death, your reward in eternity. 'His who followeth Me walketh not in darkness, but shall have the light of life.'—*Baltimore Mirror.*

CATHOLIC PRESS.

Chicago New World.

The best-known member of the English aristocracy, the Marquis of Queensbury to wit,—he whose "rules" are appealed to in prize-fighting circles—has undertaken a new role. Besides being an authority on prize-fighting, this English "noblemen" has become a moral reformer, a moral teacher, an agent in the work of Christian civilization. He began his new role one night last week by the delivery of a lecture in which he stated that it was necessary for men to have many wives, and that it should be made lawful for a man to have as many wives as he could afford. But, he was careful to say, it should not be lawful for women to have as many husbands as they may wish,—the woman who, for instance, was one of a polygamist's many wives, should not be allowed to have as many husbands as she pleased. This seems to us neither consistent nor just,—and for this reason, if there were no others, the noble marquis's suggestion will fail of general approval.

Catholic Union and Times.

Father Lambert, whose boyhood's home in Brownsville, Pa., was quite near the Blaines, tells this story of Mr. Blaine's father. It appears that on one occasion when Ephraim Blaine was running for office, his enemies tried to arouse anti-Catholic feeling against him. It was well known that his wife was an ardent Catholic. But his opponents did not stop at this. They charged that he himself had become a "Romanist." In his trouble, the old gentleman had recourse to the priest of the locality—quite a character in his day. Mr. Blaine explained the cause of his distress, and thus appealed to the priest: "Now, Father, you know I am not a Catholic. But my enemies say I am. Would you have any objection to give me a written statement to that effect?" "O, certainly," replied Father. "I'll do so with pleasure." This is what the priest wrote: "I hereby certify that Ephraim Blaine is not a Catholic, and, in my opinion, is not worthy to be a member of any Christian denomination." Old Mr. Blaine published the document, and, needless to say, was elected. We may add, however, that Ephraim became a Catholic years before his death.

Ave Maria.

A model and venerable Socialist of the Blessed Virgin, Mr. Charles Blount, recently died at Somerset, England. He was a student at Stonyhurst in 1810, and the practice of the daily reciting the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin acquired in college he continued throughout a life that comprised ninety-one years. "Up to the advanced age of eighty-eight," says the *Stonyhurst Magazine*, "he could be met with every morning, between 7 and 8 o'clock, traversing on foot the half mile of road which footed his house at Clevedon from the church, on his way to the 8 o'clock Mass. There his venerable figure, always either kneeling uncomplainingly erect or standing (he disdained to sit), and his wonderfully clear and distinct responses to the public prayers, were an edifying example to all the congregation.

Cleveland Universe.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon a consideration that is of so much importance to a majority of American boys, as the advantages of learning a trade. The everyday observations of any intelligent person are all that could be needed to convince the average mind of the great folly that induces parents of boys, and boys themselves, to look askance at the mechanical trades in choosing a means of livelihood. We all know the prevalent tendency in this country that prefers "gentility" to certainty in the matter of an occupation of our sons, though we do not acknowledge that one of the potent causes of this shortsighted and foolish course is due to the spirit and character of "education" received by a majority of American youths of the present and previous generations in the Public Schools. The half-education acquired in these establishments by pupils who enter the higher forms of the grammar school grades and High schools, is calculated to unfit any boy, unless he possess exceptional talent or common sense in an uncommon degree, for any useful or congenial career. He has neither the solid foundation to back his natural talents and adaptability, in a quick race for professional success, nor the necessary time and mental balance to serve an apprenticeship at a skilled trade.

Ave Maria.

Dr. Phillips Brooks, the Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Boston, whose death took place last week, is reported to have said, after reading Bishop Spalding's recent letter against exhibiting obscene pictures and allowing

improper amusements during the World's Fair: "This is a great article, a grand work, that ought to be memorized and preached by every minister throughout the land. Dr. Brooks was a man of broad religious sympathies, and his influence was powerful and pervasive. A renowned pulpit orator and an able writer, the Episcopal denomination in this country has lost in him one of its most conspicuous ornaments.

London Catholic News.

Cases in which Catholic children have had to be protected against the attacks of proselytism seem to have been sadly common in Ireland lately. One of the latest took place on Monday, when, in the Queen's Bench Division, the aunt of a girl named Bridget Summers sued for a writ of *habeas corpus* to compel Miss Ellen Smyly, in whose custody the child is, to produce her in court. The judges had heard the case, and made the absolute order for the issue of the writ, which was returnable on Monday. Owing to some informality, however, the writ was not served, and the case will have to be brought up again. The aunt, in her excitement, made a frontal dart at the child to speak to her, but was prevented, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment for contempt of court. Miss Smyly is a branch of the stem so notorious for its audacious and disreputable attempts at proselytism in Dublin. The name is one of anything but pleasant odour in that city, and, as is their wont, the ballad singers have not been idle with it. One racy effort has for chorus:

"Then come out to Merrion square,
And as sure as my name is Kelly,
I'll pray for you, I'll get my own and beef
I'll pray for you, I'll get my own and beef."

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL.

HONORABLE ST. PATRICK'S T. A. B. SOCIETY.—PRESENTED WITH AN ADDRESS AND CONGRATULATED BY FATHER McALLAN AND SENATOR MURPHY.

A largely-attended special meeting of the St. Patrick's T. A. B. society was held at St. Patrick's hall, St. Alexander street, Sunday afternoon. Rev. J. A. McCallan, S.S., rev. president, occupied the chair, and was supported by Hon. Senator Murphy, Hon. Senator Conroy, Hon. Senator James Connaughton, A. Brogan, Thos. Latimer, Jas. Tierney, P. Reynolds, James Milroy, John Howley, Francis Collins, Mr. Sharkey, J. H. Feeley, J. H. Kelly, John Walsh, John P. Curran, John Gearty, L. J. Quinn, M. Durcan, W. Selby, W. P. O'Connell, K. W. Lyons and about one hundred others.

The rev. gentleman opened the proceedings after the applause with which Mr. Curran's presence was greeted, with the following remarks: "We are gathered together, gentlemen, to give to the Hon. J. A. Curran, honorary president of St. Patrick's T. A. B. Society, a slight token of our esteem and respect on the occasion of his elevation to the position of Solicitor-General. Though I think it appropriate that I should leave to his life-long friend, Hon. Senator Murphy, the privilege of presenting our testimonial, yet as the Rev. president of this society I desire likewise to offer my congratulations. It is a great honor to be elevated to the position of Solicitor-General, and it is a privilege to be a member of our country, and to your fatherland, to serve your country's best interests and advance its prosperity." (Great applause.)

Hon. Senator Murphy, in a few well-chosen remarks, congratulated his life-long friend, and requested the secretary to read the resolution of the society, which was engrossed in the following terms:

Resolved, That we, the members of the St. Patrick's T. A. B. Society, do hereby congratulate you on your elevation to the position of Solicitor-General, and we trust that you will be able to discharge the duties of your office with the same ability and energy which you have always shown in the discharge of your public and private duties.

Moved by Hon. Senator Murphy, seconded by James Connaughton, that the society do hereby congratulate you on your elevation to the position of Solicitor-General, and we trust that you will be able to discharge the duties of your office with the same ability and energy which you have always shown in the discharge of your public and private duties.

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