

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS.

Second Sunday after Pentecost.

INGRATITUDE.

A certain man made a great supper, and invited many. . . . And they began all at once to make excuses.

You know, my dear brethren, the parable given by our Divine Lord in the Gospel of today. The principal point of it is in the words which you have just heard.

You know this parable, and I think you also know well its meaning. As our Saviour uttered it the coldness and ingratitude of those whom He had come to save rose up before Him.

And, in particular, He foresaw that the crowing gift which He had in store for His rebellious and ungrateful children—His own Body and Blood, which He was to leave them in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, and in which He was to remain with them even after His work was done and the time come for Him to return to His Father—would be rejected by the greater part even of Christians with the same indifference with which His other sacrifices were to be met.

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Alas! my dear brethren, children of this God and Father who has done so much for us, I fear that some even of you who hear My words have once more thus grievously His heart and despised His love. In all this long time of Lent and Easter which has just gone by you have missed the duty to which the most sacred and solemn of all the laws of the Church has called you. But still our Lord has not yet treated you as you have treated Him. He has not yet said to you, as the host said in the parable: "None of you that were invited shall taste of my supper."

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OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

My Daily Cross.

If souls could know the priceless worth of every daily cross. The crosses sent by Providence To cleanse the gold from dross.

If they could feel with every pang, A Father's gentle Hand, That soothes the irritated wound, And holds the healing band.

If they could see, when terrors chill And stormy clouds o'erspread, A Father's eye directing all, A Father's smile o'erhead.

In every harsh, unkindly voice, If they could learn to hear A Father's accents whispering low, "My child, am I not near?"

In every hard, distasteful task, To recognize His will, And bravely kiss the proffered cross, And sing their "Fiat" still.

To all but sin their "Fiat" cry, To all their will resign, Who then, but God, could count their wealth Their treasury divine?

A little while and even here God's grace, His presence and His love— To these they would be heirs.

Courage, my soul! attempt the height, Can ought be counted ill, That comes through God's dear Providence, Is sent by His sweet will?

The Knight of Hapsburg.

Twam morning, clear and cold, the sun shone brightly on the lofty peaks of the Alps, bathing their glistening heads in its light. On the side of the mountain a noble stag was resting. Suddenly the silence on the mountain-side was broken by the baying of hounds.

He found on his return that his quick-witted fellow-townsmen, perceiving that the bombs were falling where they did the least harm, and fearing that if the enemy saw no result they would seek and find a more destructive line of fire, had hastily heaped huge bonfires and lighted them within range of the guns.

Some by one the sands are flowing, Some at the moments are passing, Some are coming, some are going: Do not strive to grasp them all. Do by one thy duties wait thee, Let thy whole strength go to each: Love no future dream, but love the day. Learn then first what these can teach.

MAY THOUGHTS.

Seated on my door-step this balmy evening I gaze at the beautiful sky all aglow with colors caught from the setting sun; soft cloudlets tinged with crimson are floating high up in the ocean of blue.

How the Town was Saved. Browning is not usually a favorite with young people; nevertheless, there are many hundred ardent young admirers of his spirited ballad of Herve Riel, the pilot who saved the remnant of the French fleet in its hour of disaster, and asked no reward but a day's holiday.

Another old story of a patriotic sailor of France has recently been recalled, which, if a little less striking, yet forms no unfitting mate to that related by the English poet. In 1696, the last period of the war against the League of Augsburg, the allied English and Dutch fleet of more than a hundred sail, under the command of Admiral Russel, appeared before the town of Sables d'Olonne, on the shore of the Bay of Biscay, with the intention of bombarding the place.

ALPLAUDED IN CHURCH.

All Soul's church, Chicago, was not large enough to accommodate the throng that came to hear Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, last Sunday. Mr. Jones spoke on "Contributions of the Catholic Church to Our Civilization" and applied his arguments and deductions to the A. P. A. agitators.

The Catholic Church has tried to throw its encircling arm around all classes, from pauper to emperor. It has sought to rear the crucifix in every latitude and in all longitudes. Its dream is as comprehensive in time as it is in space.

But he was a poor, ignorant fellow, who appeared greatly terrified at their threats, and they did not believe he would dare attempt to mislead them. He pointed without the least hesitation at a cluster of buildings near the wharves, telling them that behind these lay concealed the greater part of the town.

In a short time smoke and flame arose, and increased so rapidly in volume that the triumphant enemy was assured they had caused a terrible conflagration; but if they were delighted Daniel Fricand was astonished.

He had not for a moment entertained the idea of giving over his native place to destruction, and had pointed out a quarter in which he knew there were but a few boat-houses, sail-lofts, and fishermen's huts, not all of which burning at once would cause such a blaze as he beheld.

It is easy to imagine that the bones of Cotton Mather, and the other worthies in old Copp's Hill burying-ground, must be rattling in futile indignation at the strange going on in that stronghold of Protestantism, Harvard University. For the first time in its history a Catholic priest has preached in Appleton Chapel; and what is more, received most earnest attention and reverent appreciation from students and faculty, without regard to creed or lack of creed.

And this is not all. When the Legislature of Massachusetts did away with that hollow mockery, and annual Fast-Day, it took the opportunity to elevate the 19th of April to a holiday, in which persons may go fishing if they choose without incurring the displeasure of the authorities, their employers, or their own stern New England consciences. So the day on which the historic shot heard 'round the world,

was fired has an official distinction, to celebrate which the Harvard boys this year duly enacted the "Phormio" of Terence. For the unlearned a libretto was readily enough prepared. To illustrate it suitably was more difficult. The Vatican manuscript, on which their hearts were set, was apparently inaccessible. But they were kind friends at court, and through them twenty-six of the illustrations of the "Phormio" made in the tenth century were placed at the disposal of the enthusiastic actors, who promptly photographed and returned the precious manuscripts.

The Pope and the Cardinal Librarian of the Vatican are duly thanked in the preface of the libretto by the grateful wearers of the crimson—Ave Maria. It is not what its proprietors say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story of its merit. Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures, Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

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