

FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD. "And the Lord commended the unjust steward...

The Gospel which you have just heard, my brethren, is somewhat hard to understand at first...

"And first, we must not make a mistake about the words. We might at first sight easily think that 'the lord' means the Lord Jesus Christ...

You see, my brethren, his employer did not praise the steward for his honesty, or for his faithfulness, but only for his shrewdness...

This is what Jesus Christ means; bad, wicked people put us to shame by the cleverness they show, and the pains they take to win earthly goods...

THE CONVERT.

HOW LIGHTLY THE WORD IS SPOKEN, HOW MUCH IT STANDS FOR.

"The convert! How lightly is that little word spoken, as though signifying merely the passage from one church to another!"

There is an ever-increasing army of souls in this country brought to a deep appreciation of those words, for yearly the number of converts increases.

The tremendous machinery that has been set to work by the Catholic Missionary Union, with its diocesan missionary bands scattered from one end of the country to the other...

And what of these converts? Do born-Catholics appreciate their relation to them, the trials they undergo? Percy Fitzgerald's words are bitterly true.

ber of saints who have been converts, and don't despise them and treat them as if they were half-baked Catholics.

"Before, then, you criticize converts, make perfectly sure that if God had called upon you to do what many of them have to do, you would have done it."

RABID ANTI-ROMANISM REBUKED BY A PRESBYTERIAN PAPER.

For years we have made it a practise to look over the proceedings of the conferences, conventions and assemblies of Protestant denominations, hoping against hope that no uncharitable and un-Christian reference to the Catholic Church would meet our eye.

According to this minister (who presented the report of the "Irish Mission") department to the Assembly the south and west of Ireland, that is the overwhelmingly Catholic part of the country, is in a bad way spiritually and morally.

The report, with all this silly anti-Catholic stuff, was adopted unanimously by the Assembly, but that assembly evidently did not truly reflect Presbyterian opinion.

Into the speech delivered by the Rev. Mr. Pollock in supporting the report we have no intention of entering in detail.

Mr. Pollock is a clergyman for whom we have the highest regard. He is a man of deep religious convictions, and is held in respect by the members of the Church.

Nor is the logic of Mr. Pollock, or for the matter of that of the General Assembly, more fortunate than their language. Mr. Pollock cites the case of Scotland as a country where the Reformation had full sway, and did not perish as it did in Ireland.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD IS EVER NECESSARY.

Life is oftentimes compared to a troubled sea. It is so full of uncertainties and hidden dangers that the comparison is an apt one.

Our Lord one day took the apostles into a little bark and put out to sea. Soon a great storm arose so that shipwreck was imminent, but our Lord had composed Himself to sleep.

This is what life is in this world, though the world does not see it; it is the reality, though so many men ignore it; it is the truth, yet so persistently denied.

The Church is the bark of Peter and our Lord is always with her. He sleeps through the storm, but ever-vigilant eye of God is always watching over His Church.

But not only is the Church God's favored bark, but likewise is each faithful soul, for he is so many fragile barks cast upon the sea of life and Christ our Lord could be to each a guide and Saviour.

But we have had every piece in its place, and the crucifix was complete. But, oh, from that day to this the look from the eyes of that broken crucifix has caused a harvest of ideas to spring up in my soul.

Her voice was choked in her sobs; she could say no more. He too, broke down; he shuddered; he grew pale; he motioned her to leave; he wished to be alone.

Oh, what a mysterious incident. How irresistible the voice of Jesus from the cross. Well has the Scripture expressed it, "The heart of man disposeth his way, but the Lord must direct his steps."

Nourishment

not food merely. Ordinary food sooner or later throws the system of the brain worker out of gear, but he must have nutriment to make good the energy expended in his work.



THE BROKEN CRUCIFIX.

INSPIRES DAUGHTERS OF M. JAURES, FRENCH SOCIALIST LEADER, TO TAKE THE VEIL AS REPARATION FOR SACRILEGE.

Preaching recently at the reception of candidates into the austere order of the Poor Clares Collettines, at St. Clare's Abbey, Carlow, Graigue, Ireland, Father Paul, O. S. F. C., after dwelling upon the triumphs of the cross among savage peoples, said it was not necessary to go into uncivilized parts nor centuries back to find miracles of God's tender mercies.

Who, he asked, in recent times, has not heard of that advanced leader of the Socialist party in France, M. Jaures, a most notorious enemy of the Church and of the crucifix that ever were the cannibals of Brazil.

Suddenly a gentle knock was heard at the door; a graceful hand pushed aside the rich hangings, and there stood before him the tall, slight and handsome form of his daughter.

"Well," he continued, "some one must have led you to this brink of the abyss, and I am anxious to know all about it." "Father," she went on, "it was all this way. About four years ago the governess and myself were out for a walk in the country.

"Secretary Cortelyou was discussing," said a New York broker, "a question of finance during the panic. He broke off to tell a story.

"He said he was reminded of the Irish farmer on the way to the cattle fair. "Where are going, my man?" said an English tourist, stopping this agriculturalist.

"To Waterford fair, yer honor," was the answer. The Englishman looked approvingly at the heifers the other was driving.

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A Good Irish Answer. "Secretary Cortelyou was discussing," said a New York broker, "a question of finance during the panic. He broke off to tell a story.

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