

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN AMUSING CRITICISM

On the Curiousities of the Advertisement.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS.

Sir—People, for the most part, are inclined to skip the advertising columns of their newspaper, thereby losing much instruction. It is really astonishing the amount of instruction and recreation one may get out of the too frequently neglected area of gorgeous headlines.

For instance—glancing over a progressive daily a day or two ago my attention was arrested by the following advertisement in large capitals: "Romanism Unmasked." "Ah," thought I, "here is something to give one a blessed shiver this hot weather," and thereupon proceeded to read what followed.

Letters describing Romanism in its Origin, Character and End, addressed to the Rev. E. C. Fabre, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Montreal, by Marcus. By Marcus—"only that and nothing more," which was tantalizing. Wherefore this modesty, Marcus? Beneath ran the legend: 8 vo. 240 p.p. Paper, 50 cents; cloth, \$1.

Usually an author's estimate of his own work does not appear in the newspaper advertisement of the same; but perhaps curtailment in one direction allows of expansiveness in another; however that may be, Marcus has the cover over to say what he thinks about his book and plunges into prophecy thus: "I shall have much to do in defending my position from infuriated people, who will, no doubt, stand surprised that any one should question what they and thousands of others have long taken for granted. But the Lord rules, and none ever trusted in Him and was confounded." Marcus, Marcus, why didn't your confidence urge you to sign your name!

Next to one's own recommendation of oneself it is good to have the recommendation of one's friends. Evidently Marcus has friends, for lower down I read: "The Rev. Dr. Withrow, an eminent Methodist divine and historian, says: 'It is the most tremendous indictment of Popery I ever read.'" Lower still: "E. W. Bunting, of Mail, Toronto, wrote: 'The author is entitled to much credit for the study, research and labor which the production of these excellent letters has entailed.'" Lastly: "Louis J. A. Papineau writes: 'If Catholics who blindly shut their minds and reason at the dictates of the priesthood would only read such works candidly, they would soon be converted from an idolatrous church to the primitive teachings of Jesus and His apostles.'"

The united authorities of an author, a journalist, a "divine and historian," and a "vert," are surely enough to give one some qualms when these authorities are ranged against one, and I was about to sally forth and expend fifty cents in an effort to find the straight and narrow path trodden by Marcus, when I glanced out the window at the sweltering streets and came to the conclusion that it was too hot; so I stayed at home and contented myself with conning the advertisement over again.

To review a book that one has not read, is a very unsafe proceeding; albeit it has been done with great success by many critics. But they were not ordinary mortals.

Against reviewing a title, however, there can surely be no objection; so let us review, by all means.

In the first place the author might have displayed a little more originality in the title. "Romanism Unmasked" bears with it a "very ancient and fish-like smell."

Something new, crisp, mysterious or delightful, might have caused a run on the "Paper 50c," but really, Marcus, you are much too ponderous, and quite wanting in fine de siècle novelty. With the best of intentions, Marcus, you have spoiled fully twenty-five per cent of possible sales and so kept goodness knows how many unfortunate idolaters like myself in the dark.

Have not the least doubt that your book is quite free from the unpleasant phrases that did so much towards spoiling the good work intended to be done by "Maria Monk," "Fifty Years in the Church of Rome," and a few other classics of the same order; and that it is learned, dignified and choice of language—but the title, dear boy, the title! That alone is sufficient to make the blind shut their eyes tighter. If you want to capture the Romanist mind, Marcus, you really must be a little more cautious. You must let the light in more gradually, so to speak.

And then the address of the "Letters," "To the Rev. E. C. Fabre, Archbishop of Montreal." If Archbishop, why not "His Grace," instead of "Rev.?" A wrong address is liable to cause correspondence to go astray; think of the responsibility you are incurring in running the risk of your important letters not reaching their destination. If the benighted population of this province persevere in idolatry, you will be to blame, Marcus, for not putting a proper address on your letters. Allow me to suggest a little more care in future. Think, too, of the irreparable loss to a Roman Catholic Archbishop of a collection of letters setting forth the Origin, Character and End of the religion he professes to teach. Unkind Marcus! Why did you not send the result of your "study, research and labor" to Rome at once? Of what use is it to snatch the Canadian limb out of the fire if you leave the rest of the tree to be burnt? Take the friendly advice of a benighted Romanist—even folly can be wise at times—and direct your efforts to the root of the evil. Never mind that the roots go deeper into the earth than branches spread high in the air; put your little pick and shovel on your shoulder and take the next ship for Italy.

You express a conviction that you will have much to do to defend yourself against infuriated people who will stand surprised, etc., etc. Why anticipate danger from people who stand surprised, even if they are at the same time infuriated? Surprised people never do anyone any harm so long as they "stand," and we may humbly hope the fury will have evaporated before they think of putting themselves in motion.

Now that is plump and plain, anyway. As a Romanist I should not mind acquainting myself with the Origin, Character and End of Romanism; but as a Papist I have decided objections to hearing indictments of Popery. One convert lost, Marcus, through the indiscretion of the Reverend Doctor. Even the wisdom of the Press in praising the "excellence" of these remarkable letters cannot induce me now to avail myself of the "study, research and labor" entailed by their production. If it were only one soul cast away, but it will not end with one. No, no! the moment the ignorant, besotted Papist claps his short-sighted eyes on the Doctor's unlucky encomium, that moment will he drop the volume and flee in his "thousands." He will not even wait to become "infuriated."

Alas! through two unlucky expressions—"Romanism Unmasked," and "tremendous indictment of Popery," the "Primitive Teachings" are forever a sealed book to so many idolatrous Christians—if one can be idolatrous and a Christian at the same time. On account of those two small details, the thirst of Marcus for the salvation of so many imperilled souls is doomed never to be satisfied, and he will be compelled to look on helplessly while they shut their minds and reason at the dictates of the priesthood. That baleful priesthood, whose influence is so insidious that one has to beat least twenty-five years removed from it before one can receive the "Primitive Teachings" of Christ and His apostles. The picture is so hopeless that I could weep over it, were it not for a tiny little suspicion that will intrude itself. Perhaps—after all—the letters were meant for a different destination; say the Hon. Clark Wallace or Mr. Dalton McCarthy. With the Manitoba school question yet unsettled, it may happen that these gentlemen run short of ammunition to carry on the fight, and so Marcus patriotically provides a whole magazine full of it. I have not read the book—yet; but I am sure if Messrs. Wallace and McCarthy would provide themselves with a half dozen copies apiece and pelt the French members with them—they can all read English, so there will be no waste of material—we should hear no more of separate schools. No man—no, not even an un-British Frenchman—could learn the origin, character and end of Romanism as intelligently set forth by Marcus—I know it must be intelligent with such credentials as it carries—and still desire modern instead of primitive teaching for his little ones.

Better take up a collection, Marcus, dear boy, and send the book to Ottawa. We, of Quebec, are unworthy of it. AURELIUS.

In any case, you are safe, Marcus, for the cloak of invisibility was never a better safeguard than the non-de-plume of the discreet author. A man cannot be martyred for even a printed declaration of his principles, provided he does not put his name to it.

He is safe from the infuriated people, and from the "thousands of others." That is another little slip, Marcus. A wise general never underrates the enemy.

Surely, with such a backing as the Press, History and Primitive Teaching, you need not fear to face millions. Fifteen, Marcus! Armed with Samson's weapon you should not fear an army of Philistines. The more there are of them the greater will be your glory in wiping them out; but I am afraid you are not ingenious, Marcus, for why wear a visor if assured of invisible protection? Its all very well to trust in God and keep your powder dry in mundane warfare—but in heavenly!—Oh, Marcus, Marcus! Perhaps, after all, it is only bashfulness. If I have wronged you, let not the sun go down upon your wrath. How different from the rank and file is the modest general! Certainly the Reverend representative of History cannot be accused of displaying the better part of valor. Let us hear him again: "It is the most tremendous indictment of Popery I have ever read."

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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND EVOLUTION.

Dr. Zahn Astonishes His Hearers.

(From the Dubuque Daily Telegraph.)

Rev. J. A. Zahn, professor of physical sciences at Notre Dame University, Indiana, has for several years been looked upon as being somewhat radical in his views upon matters of science in their relation to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, but the stand he took in his lecture before the Columbian Roman Catholic Summer School at Madison, Wis., last week, was entirely unexpected. His subject was "The Simian Origin of Man." He held that there is nothing in Roman Catholic dogma which precludes the view that man is descended from the ape or some other animal. The statement, it is reported, was the cause of considerable discussion and no little excitement among the many prominent dignitaries of the church present at the lecture. In the course of his lecture Dr. Zahn said:

"Spontaneous generation was never a stumbling block either to the fathers or scholastics, because the creative act was always acknowledged and because God was ever recognized as the author, at least, through second agents, of the divers forms of life which were supposed to originate from inorganic matter. Whether, then, the germ of life was specially created for each individual creature, or whether matter was endowed with the power of evolving what we call life by the proper collocation of the atoms and molecules of which matter is constituted, was, from their point of view, immaterial so far as dogma was concerned. But suppose that some time or other it should be proved that spontaneous generation not only has taken place, but that it actually occurs, here and now? The fact that we have as yet no evidence that it has ever taken place, or that it does not occur now, does not prove that it is impossible. We may not be prepared to affirm with Huxley and Fiske that it must have taken place at some period in the past history, but may we admit the possibility of the occurrence? Should, when such a discovery be made, as is possible and conceivable, should some fortunate investigator some day detect in the great laboratory of nature the transition of inorganic into organic and

animated matter, or should he by some happy chance be able to transmute not living into living matter, would there be in such a discovery aught that would contravene revealed truth or militate against any of the received dogmas of the church? To this question we can at once and without hesitation return an emphatic negative.

"Was the body of the first man, the progenitor of our race, created directly and immediately by God, or was it created indirectly and through the operation of secondary causes? When the Bible tells us that 'the Lord God formed man from the slime of earth,' are we to interpret these words in a rigorously literal sense, and to believe that the Creator actually fashioned Adam from the slime of the earth, as a potter would fashion an object from clay, or as an artist would produce the model of a statue from wax or plaster. Or may we put a different interpretation on the text and regard man as indirectly created, as the last and highest term of a long series of evolutions which extend back to the first advent of life upon earth? In other words, is man, as to his body, the direct and special work of the Creator's hands, or is he the descendant of some animal, some ape or some 'missing link' of which naturalists have as yet discovered no trace?"

"We have already learned that as matter of fact no positive evidence has been adduced in support of the simian origin of man. Since the publication of Darwin's 'Origin of Species' naturalists have been exploring every portion of the globe for some trace of the missing link between man and the highest known mammal, a link which they said must exist somewhere if the hypothesis of the evolution of man be true. But, granting that the search for the link connecting man with the ape has so far been futile, admitting with Virchow, that 'the future discovery of this proanthropos is highly improbable,' may we not, nevertheless, believe, as a matter of theory, that there has been such a link, and that corporally man is genetically descended from some unknown species of ape or monkey? Analogy and scientific consistency would seem to require us to admit that man's bodily frame has been subject to the same law of evolution, if evolution there has been, as has obtained for the inferior animals. There is nothing in biological science that would necessarily exempt man's corporal structure from the action of this law. Is there, then, anything in dogma or sound metaphysics which would make it impossible for us to hold a view which has found such favor with the great majority of contemporary evolutionists?"

"Whatever may be the final verdict of science in respect of man's body, it cannot be at variance with Roman Catholic dogma. Granting that future researches shall demonstrate beyond doubt that man is genetically related to the inferior animals, there will not be, even in such an impossible event, the slightest ground for imagining that the conclusions of science are hopelessly at variance with the declarations of the sacred text or the authorized teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. We should be obliged to revise the interpretation that has usually been given to the words of Scripture, which refer to the formation of Adam's body, and read these words in the sense which evolution demands—a sense which, as we have seen, may be attributed to the words of the inspired record without either distorting the meaning of terms or in any way doing violence to the text."

The National Society of Sculpture, No. 104 St. Lawrence street, Montreal. Drawing every Wednesday. Lots valued from \$100 to \$1500. Tickets, 10 cents.

CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB. Another Most Successful Entertainment. On last Thursday evening another of the regular weekly entertainments at the Catholic Sailors' Club was given. The week previous there was a splendid concert, a report of which was handed to us, and which in some unaccountable way entirely disappeared. We make this remark in case it might be supposed that there has been any interruption in the regular weekly concerts, on account of the omission in our last issue.

On Thursday evening Mr. Giroux occupied the chair and proved a most popular and efficient presiding officer. There was not a vacant seat in the hall, and the programme was equal to the best of the season. Miss M. A. Lawlor's skilful playing on the piano gave evidence of careful training, and was highly appreciated. The following gentlemen kindly took part and generously lent their talents to the good cause of the sailors: Messrs. Hall, Lawlor, Geo. Parks, Durth Brothers, W. Davies, Baird, McCarthy, R. B. Milloy, McKay, J. Welsh, M. Pichette, Parizeau, Carpenter, Read, Green and Burk.

We would again draw attention to the request made for literature for the club. Any person having Catholic magazines, publications, books, etc., that they can dispense with, would confer a great favor by informing the secretary of the fact and the club will gladly send for them.

The Ladies of the congregation of Notre Dame have commenced the erection of a handsome convent in the parish of St. Louis de France, Montreal. The new institution is situated at the corner of Cadieux and Roy streets. The ground is one hundred and twenty feet by one hundred and ten. The foundations are of stone, while the remainder of the structure is of brick. It will be a two-storey high building, with mansard roof and

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For Indigestion Horsford's Acid Phosphate Helps digest the food.

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Cash Carriers.

"LAMSON"

Is the Pioneer Name in Cash Carrying devices. Twenty different styles manufactured. The only route to wealth: Send your cash via a genuine

Lamson Device. They are in use all over the world. Imitation is sine-rest flattery. Correspondence invited.

E. ST. AMOUR, TEMPLE BUILDING, Montreal.

basement. All the partitions between the rooms will be of brick, thus reducing the chances of a conflagration spreading from one apartment into another. The portico will be a handsome one with stone steps. The building complete is expected to cost \$42,000.

DID YOU EVER THINK That you cannot be well unless you have pure rich blood? If you are weak, tired, languid and all run down, it is because your blood is impoverished and lacks vitality. These troubles may be overcome by Hood's Sarsaparilla, because Hood's Sarsaparilla makes pure rich blood. It is, in truth, the great blood purifier.

Hood's Pills cure liver ills, constipation, biliousness, jaundice, sick headache, indigestion.

Little Dot: Folks say there is people on the planet Mars. Little Dick: There isn't. Little Dot: Why isn't there? Little Dick triumphantly: How could they get up there?

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It is a slow baby that does not know which of its relatives is most easily imposed upon.

Why is sherry so good for a cold? Because it's a Spanish liquor.

Damp Days often bring coughs and colds, while

PYNY-PECTORAL brings quick relief. Cures all inflammation of the bronchial tubes, throat, chest. No uncertainty. Relieves, soothes, heals promptly.

A Large Bottle for 25 Cents. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., LTD. MONTREAL.

Notre Dame College, COTE DES NEIGES. This well known and popular institution will re-open on Monday, the 2nd day of September next.

The Electric cars from Bleury street, by way of Outremont, run out to the College every half hour.

The parents are requested to send the pupils as early as possible.

BOURGET COLLEGE, RIGAUD, P. Q. (Near the Ottawa River.) Classical Course and English Commercial Course.

Banking and Practical Business Departments—best modern text-books are taught by non-resident professors. Short-hand, type-writing, telegraphy, music, etc. Diplomas awarded. Communications are convenient by rail or water. Board, Tuition, Bed and Washing \$120 per annum. Studies will be renewed on September 4th. For prospectus or information address to Rev. Jos. CHARLEBOIS, C.S.V., President.

Is the largest, best equipped, and most thorough Commercial College in Canada. Send for the Souvenir Prospectus containing a description of the subjects taught, methods of individual instruction, and photographic views of the departments in which the Theoretical and Practical Courses are taught by nine expert teachers. The Staff has been re-organized and strengthened for the coming year by the addition of three trained teachers with business experience. Studies will be resumed on September 3rd.

TEACHER WANTED. Wanted, at St. Columban, County of Two Mountains, a young lady school-teacher. Salary \$150. Address, for particulars, J. A. C. ETHIER, Secretary-Treasurer, Ste. Scholastique, County of Two Mountains, P.Q.

Cups and Saucers given away with every pound of our 40c Tea. There are many other presents given away on delivery of every second pound. THE ORIENTAL, 415 St. James street, opp. Little Craig. J. W. DONOHUE, Prop.

GURRAN, GRENIER & CURRAN ADVOCATES, BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS, 99 St. James Street, MONTREAL. Hon. J. J. CURRAN, Q.C., LL.D., A. W. GRENIER, Q.C., F. J. CURRAN, B.C.L.

WILLIAM H. COX, B.A. B.C.L., Notary and Commissioner. Office: Room No. 4, 1st Floor, Temple Building. TELEPHONE 2808. MONTREAL, P.Q.

DOHERTY, SICOTTE & BARNARD, (Formerly DOHERTY & DOHERTY.) Advocates and Barristers, 180 ST. JAMES STREET, City and District Bank Building. Hon. M. Doherty, of Counsel.

Good Morning! Have you purchased your Summer Suit yet? If not, you can't do without it any longer. Old Sol is blazing his fiery rays upon us, and

Light-weight Clothing is now an absolute necessity. I have just received a large assortment of French, English and Scotch Tweeds, in all the latest patterns, suitable for this weather, and I guarantee a perfect fit and thorough satisfaction to my patrons—in quality, style and price. GIVE ME A CALL.

MATT WILLOCK, Late of EDWARDS, DAVIDSON & Co., Glasgow, Scotland. MERCHANT TAILOR, No. 141a Bleury Street. (Opposite Jesuit Church.)

Have Your SLATE, METAL OR GRAVEL ROOFING, ASPHALT FLOORING, ETC. DONE BY GEO. W. REED, 783 and 785 Craig Street.

ST. LEON Perfects the organism and preserves life. "Is invaluable," says Dr. Walsh, Toronto. A yearlong just received direct from Springs in P.Q. Get supplied at once. A trial will convince the most sceptical. St. Leon Mineral Water Depot, 54 Victoria Sq.

LACHINE CANAL. SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Cribwork at Montreal," will be received at this office until noon on Monday, nineteenth day of August, 1895, for the construction of about 200 feet in length of cribwork in connection with the canal enlargement. Plans and specifications of the work can be seen at the offices of the Chief Engineer of Railways and Canals at Ottawa, and of the Superintending Engineer of the Lachine Canal, Montreal, where tenders can be obtained on and after 8th August, 1895.

In case of firms there must be attached the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same, and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$200 must accompany the tender; this accepted cheque must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the work at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted. The accepted cheque thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

JNO. H. BALDERSON, Secretary, Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, 28th July, 1895.

F. P. HORAN, E. BARRY. F. P. HORAN & CO., Grocers & Provision Merchants, 2793 St. Catherine Street, MONTREAL.

Special attention given to stock of Tea, Coffee, Butter, Etc. ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. Telephone No. 3810.

RENFREW Creamery. BUTTER, CREAM, and MILK. Finest in the Market. M. McCormick, PROPRIETOR, 2318 St. Catherine Street, Wellington Terrace, MONTREAL.

Cups and Saucers given away with every pound of our 40c Tea. There are many other presents given away on delivery of every second pound. THE ORIENTAL, 415 St. James street, opp. Little Craig. J. W. DONOHUE, Prop.

THE FASHIONABLE WEST END Boot and Shoe Store, 2244 St. Catherine Street.

We keep the largest and best assorted stock of Footwear in town, at prices which defy competition. Quality is also a prominent feature with us. The public is cordially invited to inspect our stock. W. L. COLE, Proprietor.

CASTOR FLUID Registered a de-lightfully refreshing PREPARATION for the Hair. It should be used daily. Keeps the scalp healthy, prevents dandruff, promotes the growth of a perfect hair dressing for the family. 25 cents per bottle. HENRY R. GRAY, Chemist, 122 St. Lawrence Street.

J. K. MACDONALD, Practical ROUSE and STEAMBOAT Belt-hanger, Special MACHINERY, Blacksmith, Locksmith, etc. Electric Lighting, Bells, Warehouse Telephones, etc. Carpenters' and Builders' Work to order, and Red Cedar Shingles, west of Victoria Street, MONTREAL. Bell Telephone 322.