

On the Brink.

Who mourns? Flow on, delicious breeze! Who mourns, though youth and strength go by?

FATHER BURKE.

An Eloquent Discourse on the Feast of St. Thomas of Aquin.

Sunday, March 6, at eleven o'clock, the Dominican Fathers of St. Saviour's Church, Dublin, celebrated the Feast of St. Thomas of Aquin by a High Mass and a sermon preached by the Rev. Thomas Burke, O. P.

Father Burke took for his text the words from the Psalm, "God is wonderful in his saints." The words of Aquinas were revealed in many ways, but his greatness, majesty, and his glory shone forth with peculiar splendor in his saints.

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Having spoken of the mature knowledge of St. Thomas, and his surpassing intellectual acquisitions, the reverend preacher dwelt at some length on the labors of that reading his "Summa" and said that when reading his "Summa" people were sometimes inclined to think that their very faith was gone, that mysteries ceased to exist, so vividly were the divine sciences brought before them.

After St. Thomas was three hundred years in his grave the Catholic Church assembled in the Council of Trent, and on the right of the pontifical chair was the Holy Scriptures, and on the left the Summa of St. Thomas, and those were the only books admitted into the council. But surely, whilst they admired the intellect, they must not lose sight of the heart. It was not St. Thomas's intellectuality that made him a saint. Of what avail would it be unless it was a warning as well as an

illuminating light—unless the heart was filled with love as well as the mind teeming with comprehensive knowledge? Was his heart as great as his intellect? Sometimes if they found a man great in one particular they found him equally deficient in others. And their own age told them that some of the greatest men of their day had left behind them a record that proved that they were most heartless. The great Napoleonic man whom no one could withstand on the field, the man who could handle vast ranges of country—that man could ride over the battle-field, and look with a dry eye and an unmoved heart on the various forms of torture that were exhibited around him.

BACK ON THE OLD PATHS.

Catholic Rites at an old British Cathedral.

The ancient city of Llandaff beheld on the 21st inst., for the first time since the Reformation, a Catholic priest entering its cathedral precincts to perform religious rites. The see of Llandaff is one of the three most ancient English bishoprics now in existence, and is one of the first ever founded in this island.

On Saturday, the 21st of March, the priest of the place, the Rev. George Corcoran, preceded by the cross-bearer, carrying aloft the long-banished processional crucifix, and assisted by surpliced acolytes, in the full light of a bright spring day, appeared slowly descending the steep avenue which leads to the west gate of the cathedral.

PAPAL ENCYCLICAL.

The Osservatore Romano publishes an encyclical, dated March 2, in which his Holiness Leo XIII. proclaims an outrage of ordinary justice, and the outrage of St. Joseph, to be held through the Catholic world, on the 19th of the present month until the 1st of November inclusive in Europe, and until the 31st of December in all places beyond the limits of this Continent.



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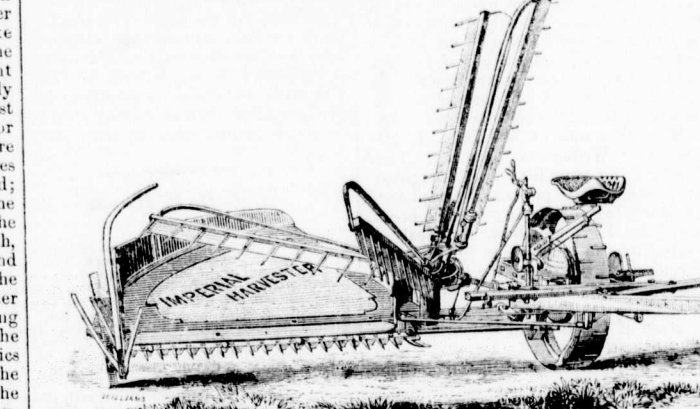
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