



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER.

Mary Mother, be good to him;
Be kind to him that day—
'Twill be the only Christmas time
That he has been away!

I promised him a world of toys
If he would only stay—
Sure, heaven's full of little boys
That sing and laugh and play.
But you would know the smile of him
Among a thousand more;
His smile will make all else seem dim
When you call him "Ashore."

Sure, you will know him by his eyes,
That are so sweet and blue,
And deep and clear and very wise—
They read the heart of you.
His hair is golden as the sun;
His curls they are so quaint
They mind you of the halo on
An angel or a saint.

I promised him a splendid tree,
With candles, all aglow.
Oh, Mary Mother, you can see
'Twas me that loved him so.
And surely, surely you will see
My boy so sweet and slim—
His eyes are hungering for me
As my eyes are for him.

Mary Mother, be good to him;
Be kind to him that day—
'Twill be the only Christmas time
That he has been away.

—W. D. N.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.

(Western Watchman.)

Chocolate Layer Cake.—Beat one-half a cup of butter to a cream, add gradually one and a half cups of sugar, beat for five minutes; sift in two and a half cups of flour and two teaspoons of baking powder. Pour into the mixtures by degrees a cup of water and, last, add the rich whites of five eggs and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Bake in three layers and put together with the chocolate filling. Put two ounces of chocolate, a tablespoonful of butter, a half cup of cream and a cup of sugar in the double boiler and cook until it forms a soft ball when dropped in cold water. Have ready a half cup of chopped nuts, add to the mixture, flavor with vanilla and spread between the layers of the cake.

Fruit Cake.—Beat one pound of butter to a cream, add one pound of sugar, gradually stirring all the while, then add by degrees twelve eggs, beaten light without separating, add one pound of flour, one-half cup of brandy, two teaspoons of cinnamon and one-half spoonful of cloves; mix well and beat until smooth. Thoroughly flour a pound each of raisins and currants, and a half-pound of chopped citron, add the fruit to the batter, stir it and turn into a greased tin. Bake for four hours in a slow oven.

Lady Cake.—One-quarter of a pound of bitter almonds, three-quarters of a pound of butter, one pound of powdered sugar, four cups of flour and the whites of seventeen eggs. Blanch and pound the almonds to a paste, add a few drops of rose water to prevent them from oiling. Beat the butter and then the almonds and beat until light. Sift the flour, froth the whites of the eggs, and stir into the butter and sugar, alternating the flour and the whites of the eggs. Beat as hard as possible, turn into a greased pan and bake one hour in a moderate oven. When cold ice with lemon icing.

Orange Cake.—Beat a quarter of a pound of butter and a half pound of powdered sugar together, stir in a gill of milk, and add carefully the frothed whites of four eggs. Mix a half pound of flour, a teaspoonful of baking powder and two tablespoons of corn starch, and sift into the cake, beating all the while; add the grated yellow rind and ten bakes.

Filling.—Put a half pound of sugar and a gill of water into a saucepan over the fire, stir until the sugar is dissolved, then boil until it thickens. Beat the white of an egg to a froth and add gradually the hot syrup; flavor with orange juice and stir in a teaspoonful of cream. Spread between the layers of the cake.

Fruit Drops.—Cream one cupful of butter and one and a half of sugar, add three eggs, a pinch of salt, two and a half cups of flour, two teaspoons of soda dissolved in a little water, three-quarters of a pound of dates cut fine, one-quarter of a pound of figs cut fine, one pound and a half of English walnuts, a teaspoonful of cinnamon, a half teaspoonful of allspice. Knead with the hands, roll in little balls, drop on buttered tins and bake in a hot oven.

Punch Cakes.—Eight ounces of flour, half a pound of sugar, a quarter of a pound of butter, one glass of Jamaica rum, four eggs and a few caraway seeds; and lastly the flour with two teaspoons of baking powder. Roll the mass out thin, cut into rounds, brush the top with melted butter, beaten with the whites of an egg. Sprinkle with sugar and bake ten minutes in a quick oven.

"Make a good article and tell the people of its goodness and the people will buy it and continue to buy it." The truth of this statement is proved by the success of "Selada" Tea.

SELECTING NEW YEAR GIFTS.

In selecting New Year gifts look to the circumstances of the one to receive them. Do not give a priest a necktie case—he has no use for one. Do not lumber his modest parlor with trash. I have seen a ribbon-run broiler, a good broiler too, hanging in a priest's parlor. It was of no earthly use and was far from ornamental. Do not give a smoking set to a man who does not smoke. If a woman works with her hands do not give her a thimble. She probably has several and would prefer something with which she could rest herself—possibly a sofa pillow. A girl may serve you, but do not emphasize it by forever giving her aprons. Let her buy her own aprons or buy them yourself at some other season than this. Put yourself in the place of your friend and give with love, or do not give at all. We hear a great deal about consideration in these days. Be considerate of the

girl who serves you in the store where you buy. Maybe she is pert or cross. You are only one of hundreds she serves in a day. Her day began while you were loitering at the breakfast table; she had a day of exasperating work yesterday, and others before then which are still a weariness. Put yours in her place and keep back the sharp word or the impertinent one. You are sisters, and can not help it, try as you may.

MR. STAYBOLT AS SANTA CLAUS

"Do you know the Christmas presents I'd like to make if I could?" said Mr. Staybolt. "I'd like to give cheerfulness to the down-hearted, courage to the timid, and strength to the weak; the power of self-denial to those who yield too easily and a desire to work to the lazy."

"I have often thought what a pity it is that you can't buy all these things, these helpful qualities, already put up and at such a price as to put them within the reach of all; canned cheerfulness, bottled hopefulness, courage in tablets, and strength, say, in the form of a powder, and so on; or you might, I suppose, put 'em all up canned, for that matter."

"But in the absence of such market preparations and our consequent inability to buy such things and send them as gifts to those whom they might most benefit perhaps you will permit me to offer to each a word of suggestion."

"To the dispirited take a cheerful view. To the down-hearted, don't dwell on the doleful side. To the timid, don't be afraid. To the weak, or those who fancy themselves so, try your strength. You'll be surprised to find how much you've got."

To those who yield too easily, deny yourself once, and again, and feel the joy and strength that will come back to you. To the lazy, get a job with a shovel, in a gang of laborers, under a driving boss; and, if you are not glad to get back to your present job, to do the best you know how at it, I miss my guess."

"I can't send you these things in cans or bottles; but if any one of you will take my advice and stick to it, you'll think that Mr. Staybolt was a very kind Santa Claus."—New York Sun.

HOW TO KNOW A MAD DOG.

Hydrophobia is in reality so rare and so terrifying that its symptoms and treatment are little understood. As a matter of fact, the commonly accepted expression of madness in a dog is often misleading. The real mad dog does not shun water, as it is said. On the contrary, mad dogs often rush to the water and drink eagerly, if they are able to swallow. The mad dog does not froth at the mouth. It does not run amuck, snapping at everything in its path. What, then, are the indications of the mad dog? To those familiar with a given dog, the surest symptom and the one which should excite the closest attention, is a distinct and unaccountable change in the dog's disposition—a staid dog becoming excited and a frisky one dull. That condition does not necessarily mean rabies, but it is suspicious, and if, in addition, the dog has trouble in swallowing—as though it seemed to have a bone in its throat—beware! That dog should be instantly tied up, because if it be rabies, it takes but a day or two for ferocious instincts to develop. The unmistakable evidence, however, of a dog with rabies is the sticky, whitish saliva which covers the teeth and shows on the drawn lips. The eyes glare and are red; the dog has paroxysms of running fury, during which it barks hoarsely which alternate with periods of temporary exhaustion.—Casper Whitney in the Outlook Magazine.

Nearly all children are subject to worms, and many are born with them. Spare them suffering by using Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator, the best remedy of the kind that can be had.

HELP IN CASE OF ACCIDENTS.

Burns and Scalds.—Cover with cooking soda and lay wet cloths over it. Whites of eggs and olive oil. Olive oil or linseed oil, plain, or mixed with chalk or whiting. Sweet or olive oil and lime-water.

Lightning.—Wash cold water over person struck.

Sunstroke.—Loosen clothing. Get patient into shade and apply ice-cold water to head. Keep head in elevated position.

Mad Dog or Snake Bite. Tie cord tight above wound. Suck the wound and cauterize with caustic or white hot iron at once, or cut out adjoining parts with a sharp knife. Give stimulants, as whiskey, brandy, etc.

Stings of Venomous Insects. etc.—Apply weak ammonia, oil, salt water or iodine.

Fainting.—Place flat on back; allow fresh air, and sprinkle with water. Place head lower than rest of body.

Cinder in the Eye.—Roll soft paper up like a lamp lighter, and wet the tip to remove, or use a medicine dropper to draw it out. Rub the other eye.

Fire in One's Clothing.—Don't run, especially not down stairs or out-of-doors. Roll on carpet, or wrap in woollen rug or blanket. Keep the head down, so as not to inhale flame.

Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is agreeable to the taste, and is a certain relief for irritation of the throat that causes hacking coughs. If used according to directions it will break the most persistent cold, and restore the air passages to their normal healthy condition. There is no need to recommend it to those familiar with it, but to those who seek a sure remedy and are in doubt what to use, the advice is—try Bickle's Syrup.

VALUE OF BUTTERMILK.

Buttermilk as a remedial agent can not be praised too highly. The lactic acid, the sour of the buttermilk, attacks and dissolves every sort of earthly deposit in the blood vessels. Thus it keeps the veins and arteries

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so supple and free running there can be no clogging up; hence no deposit of irritating calcareous matter around the points, nor of poisonous waste in the muscles. It is the stiffening and narrowing of the blood vessels which bring on senile decay. Buttermilk is likely to postpone it ten or twenty years, if freely drunk. A quart a day should be the minimum according to taste and opportunity. Inasmuch as gouty difficulties arise from sluggish excretion, buttermilk is a blessing to all gouty subjects. It gently stimulates all the excretories—liver, skin, and kidneys. It also tones the stomach, and furnishes it with the material from which to make rich, red, healthy blood.

Church Education

There is an alarming tendency, says Rt. Rev. Mgr. M. J. Lavelle, in an article among Catholics who have attained wealth and superior position to send their children to non-Catholic colleges and academies, partly through a notion as unfounded as that exploited above, that these give a superior secular education, but much more than from what are called social and business reasons—the hope that in these institutions their children will form friendships which will be very advantageous to them in after life. These parents, in many cases, are people who owe a debt of gratitude to the loyalty and confidence of their Catholic friends and the Catholic public at large. As far as the recognition and friendship of those outside the Church are concerned, for which they kick away the ladder by which they rose, they and their children generally meet with ostracism and contempt. What really happens is disrespect of the children for their parents and for the Church, and mixed marriages—with almost certain loss of the Faith, sometimes in the first, frequently in the second or third generation.

In Memoriam

Lines suggested by the death, on the 6th of November last, of Mrs. McGillicuddy, relict of the late John McGillicuddy of Kenilworth, Township of Arthur.

Had I but the skill of a painter or poet,

To sketch model lives were to me a delight;

Unpossessed of those gifts—all too well do I know it,

I'm sorely perplexed while I venture to write.

To write, too, of one who, as wife and as mother,

Combined all the virtues of her noble race;

Whose life seem'd one precept—to love one another—

Too deeply engrav'd for e'en death to efface.

To her family and friends, so devoted so many,

Is tendered this tribute their sadness to cheer;

Nor among all such garlands e'er woven doth any

Transcend it in merit by being more sincere.

As backward my thoughts fly to days of sweet childhood—

Again I behold her, a charming young bride,

With her fond, loving mate, carving from the then wildwood

A bright happy home, hand in hand, side by side.

Thus was her life spent, always faithful to duty—

In her circle of friends ever courteous and kind—

'Till death, so regardless of wealth, worth or beauty,

Came and left in that circle a sad void behind.

Yet why should we be ever fill'd with repining

When thus ends a life, fruitful, calm and serene,

'Tis but a cloud passing that dims a bright lining

Too dazzling to be by weak, mortal eyes seen.

28 St. Joseph St., —M. C. O'Donnell

Toronto, Dec. 13, 1908.

The Rusty Catholic

"When the rust of inaction comes over a Catholic," says the Philippine Catholic, "he usually goes from bad to worse in the neglect of prayer and of prayerful thought, of the sacraments, of the Mass, in a word, of all those practices that denote the active, fervent Catholic. As a man's conduct is never better than his habitual thoughts and consciousness, and is fully in keeping with them, so the rusty Catholic's course of life faithfully portrays his oblivion and disuse of the principles of Gospel living. There can be found men known as Catholics—and sometimes thought to be pretty good ones—whose thoughts, words, and deeds are conventionally correct enough, but have no more of a Catholic motive and spirit than if they were the thoughts, words, and deeds of a Turk."

O, Holy, Holy, Happy Morn!

O, Holy, Holy, happy morn!
When Christ our Lord, our King,
Was born,

While Angels sang their joyful hymn,
Peace, peace on earth! Good will to men.

In lowly cot he chose to be,
To teach us sweet humility:
(Repeat).

O, Holy, Holy, happy morn!

When He, the world's true Light,
Did dawn
To be our Guide to life and love,
Eternally with God above,
See! there in Mary's arms He lies,
The Ruler of the earth and skies:

O, Holy, Holy, happy morn!
Once more, with joy, to thee we turn;

To Jesus, through Whose Sacred Heart
Is made of us Himself a part,

In heaven, on earth, the altar shrine,
Each holy, sweet Communion time:

O, Holy, Holy, happy morn!
For which the ages long did yearn,
Bring peace and joy to every hearth,
On this sweet day of Jesus' birth,
While Angels glad Hosannas sing,
To Him, our Lord, our Saviour King:

—Peter Ryan.

Dundas St., Toronto, 1908.

Trial Is Inexpensive.—To those who suffer from dyspepsia, indigestion, rheumatism, or any ailment arising from derangement of the digestive system, a trial of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is recommended, should the sufferer be unacquainted with them. The trial will be inexpensive and the result will be another customer for this excellent medicine. So effective is their action that many cures can certainly be traced to their use where other pills have proved ineffective.

Monument To Bishop MacDonell

A massive monument, twelve feet high of Canadian granite, of beautiful rustic design, and weighing about five tons, was recently placed in St. Fintin's Cemetery at Alexandria, Ont., at the head of the grave where rest in peace the remains of the late lamented Right Rev. Alexander MacDonell, first Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria. The monument is an imposing one, says the Kingston Freeman, and is a fitting tribute to the departed prelate, who had endeared himself to a grateful people. May his soul rest in peace.

The Dominion Parliament is to open on January 20th.

"We rejoice to hear," says the Casket, "that a selection of the valuable historical papers which the Rev. Chas. C. Starbuck has been contributing for several years to the Sacred Heart Review is being prepared by him for publication. It should have an immense sale." Several others of our esteemed Catholic contemporaries have made editorial remarks to the same effect.

The degree of doctor of philosophy has been conferred by the University of Chicago upon one of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth's College at Convent Station, New Jersey. The conferring of the degree followed the work of the Sister as fellow in biology at Chicago, which she has just completed. She is the first of her order, that of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, to hold a fellowship at the university, and the award was the only one for original research in biology.

Hail Mary Immaculate

(Bishop Colton.)

Is it in the spotless snow,
Or in the waters bright,
Is it in the sunbeams' tints,
Or in fair Luna's light,
God's fairest work is found?

Is it on the great, broad plain,
Or on the mountain high,
Is it on the ocean main,
Or where the valleys lie,
God's greatest boon is found?

O no, 'tis not from Nature's realm,
Fairest, greatest recond—
But in us men, to His image made,
God's greatest works are found—
To man we must repair!

Then ask who, of men the fairest was,
Who greatest of the great?
And heaven and earth with one acclaim
Say Mary Immaculate!
To her then be our prayer!

She is full of grace and full of love,
Virgin Mother is she
Of God, and all her Son redeemed
For best eternity—
Happy is man's estate!

Be pure that we her loved children prove,
And God we'll always see,
Until freed from this, our exile here,
We rest in eternity—
Hail, Mary Immaculate!

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