

THE HAND OF GOD.

This is the heading of an article in a French religious newspaper. Readers must draw what conclusions they please from the following facts. M. Desgenetais, one of the newly elected members of the chamber of deputies, is dead. He died before the opening of the chamber. He was mayor of Polbec, a rich man, and an inveterate anti-clerical. His electioneering opponent was the Baron Pierard, a staunch Catholic, who had placed himself under the protection of Our Lady of Lourdes. The exultation of the anti-clericals on M. Desgenetais' election knew no bounds. They gave expression to it by organizing sacrilegious scenes at Polbec, and at a neighboring place, Lillebonne. These took place during the night, and, it is said, with the connivance of the newly-elected deputy. The defeated Catholic candidate, the Baron Pierard, was not burnt in effigy, but buried in effigy, and with circumstances which show that religion haters of the present day are more ignoble in their proceedings than were the sorcerers of old. A coffin, as if containing the remains of the Catholic baron, was borne through the streets in the dead of night, attended by the parody of a religious funeral. The coffin was preceded by a cross-bearer with a crucifix. Then came a mimic priest dressed as a Celebrant, and there was free use made of sham holy water. The place of sepulture reached, the coffin was lowered, not into the earth, but into an open sewer. On the day following, or the one after that two of the men who had been concerned in these midnight saturnalia died suddenly. One had been the cross-bearer, the other had carried the holy water. One clamoured, but in vain, for a priest in his last moments. A third, the one who lowered the coffin into the sewer and who, in order to do so, had had to kneel, had been struck by paralysis. According to *La Verite*, a Catholic journal, this paralysis is of a kind that forbids the sufferer to either lie or sit, but compels him to keep the same kneeling posture in which he was when his impious deed was committed. The fourth, struck as by an invisible hand, and who, there is reason to suppose, was a side actor in the sacrilegious comedy, was M. Desgenetais, the newly elected member of deputies. He died the other day, raving in brain fever.—*Liverpool Catholic Times' Paris correspondent.*

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

There are in the world 462 universities with 10,554 professors and 184,490 students.

In 1552 books on geometry and astronomy were destroyed in England as savoring of magic.

The increase of schools is every country has generally been attended by a decrease of crime.

The world in 1888 had 791,425 schools for elementary instruction, with 50,816,000 pupils.

Newton's application of algebra to theoretical and practical mathematics was made in 1668.

The Universities of St. Petersburg and Moscow were founded by Alexander I. in 1802.

Arithmetical notation by the nine digits and zero was used in Hindostan in the sixth century.

Medieval education comprised the trivium; grammar, dialectics and rhetoric; and the quadrivium: arithmetic, geometry, astronomy and music.

English education dates from Alfred the Great, who ordered that the son of every freeman who could afford it should be taught reading and writing.

In Scandinavia, Switzerland and Germany over 95 per cent. of the population are able to write; in Great Britain, 90; in France, 85; in the United States 92.

The progress of education in Europe since 1840 has been wonderful. The population has increased 88 per cent., and the school attendance 145 per cent.

The academy took its name from that of a shady grove outside the walls of Athens, where Plato and his disciples were accustomed to walk. B. C. 378.

The United States had last year 430 universities and colleges, with 8,472 professors and teachers, 124,684 students, and 4,542,902 volumes in their libraries.

A mouse lately showed great presence of mind on falling into a dish of cream. It swam round and round violently, until it was able to crawl out on the butter.

WENT TO BANFF HOT SPRINGS.

Returned Home Racked with Pain—Lost 43 Pounds—A Wonderful Restoration!



A patient spirit is one of the most important elements in the character of a human being. Many occasions will occur when patience will be the only virtue which will command success.

While we would strongly urge the practice of patience in the labors of everyday life, it would be madness and folly to inculcate its practice when suffering from rheumatism or any of the many troubles that arise from a disordered condition of the nervous system. Patience exercised when suffering from disease, is not a virtue; it is a heinous crime. When the first symptoms of disease are felt we should be up and doing, to rid ourselves of danger and death.

When surrounded in a house by fire we make haste to escape from destruction; in like manner should every sufferer endeavor to free himself or herself from the awful fire of disease.

We implore you to free yourselves at once from those death-fires which result from a diseased condition of the great nervous system. These death fires may be in the form of rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, dyspepsia, liver or kidney troubles.

Thousands in Canada have reason to rejoice and give thanks for almost immediate deliverance from the grasp of such troubles. Owing to the existence of Paine's celery compound, suffering and terrible agony have been avoided when the great medicine was used early.

Mr. James Leverington, of Virden, Manitoba, whose portrait appears above, unfortunately for himself, endured terrible tortures for over a year before he heard of the wonderful curing powers of Paine's celery compound. Medical skill, patent medicines and the virtues of the waters of Banff Hot Springs failed to cure.

After darkness comes sunshine. This indeed was Mr. Leverington's experience. A few bottles of Paine's celery compound sufficed to make him a sound and strong man, and he now is enabled to enjoy life and its pleasures.

With a heart full of gratitude Mr. Leverington writes as follows:—

"I think it my duty, without solicitation from any one, to write in the interests of other sufferers, and give you a testimonial in favor of your (to me) almost miraculous remedy, Paine's celery compound. For more than a year I was suffering from the agonizing pains of sciatica; and after trying all that medical skill could devise, and using many remedies, patent and otherwise, I concluded to try the Hot Springs of Banff, under the able superintendence of Dr. Brett. I took the treatment thoroughly and carefully for six weeks, and came home at the end of that time racked with pain and weighing 43 pounds less. At this juncture, when hope had almost fled, I heard of Paine's celery compound. It seemed suited to my case, and I sent to my druggist, Mr. J. W. Higginbotham, of this place, and asked about it. He recommended it to me, and I took a bottle. I soon began to feel better, and after taking the second bottle I was a cured man and threw away my crutches.

I keep a bottle on hand in case of any return of the complaint. I am now 53 years old, and feel as spry and healthy and free from pain as I ever did in my life. I was born in Norfolk, England and came to Canada when only three years. I was brought up in the township of Cornwall, Ontario, and came to Manitoba eight years ago. Have always been a farmer, and am as able to do hard work as ever I was.

With a heart full of gratitude for the benefits derived from the use of your remedy, and a wish to influence others who may suffer, I gladly and freely indite this letter.

Rev. Mr. Talbot, Methodist Minister, of Elkhorn, can confirm my statements, and will do so if written to."

Mr. J. W. Higginbotham, the successful and extremely popular druggist of Virden, vouches for Mr. Leverington's statements, as follows:—

"I have known Mr. Leverington for years or more, and can confirm what he says in regard to his cure by Paine's celery compound. Ever since his cure he has been sounding its praises, and he is a perfect enthusiast on the subject of Paine's celery compound. I believe him to be thoroughly reliable."

CHINA.

A Living Martyr.

This morning one of our staff (writes the Ceylon Catholic Messenger), had the privilege of an interview with two gallant French missionaries on their way from China, where they have been on he mission, one for 20 and the other for 15 years. Both are completely broken down in health, the elder by such a long uninterrupted term of noble work performed amid the greatest privations, and the younger—a priest of about 40 years—owing to his having been the victim of the satanic cruelty of the Chinese. At two different times they had determined on taking his life. On the first occasion he managed to escape unharmed, but about a year ago a mob surprised him in his retreat, and set about putting him to a slow martyrdom in their usual demonic fashion. He was pierced with knives in fifteen different places in his body, the skin was taken from his forehead, his nails torn off, both wrists broken and the sinews cut, and finally having stabbed, as his executioners thought, in the heart, he was left for dead. In this state his body was furiously taken away by some pious Christians, and their endeavours to restore life to the saintly priest were successful, the knife aimed at his heart having been intercepted in its course by a bone. In due time he was brought to Hongkong where he underwent severe different operations under English doctors, after one of which, so weak had he become that it took one and a half hours to revive him from the effects of the chloroform administered to him. This was only done even then by igniting brandy into his arm. The wound over his heart has as yet resisted all the power of medicine to heal. It is still open and dreadful to look at and causes the good priest the most dreadful agony whenever he is subjected to jolting or shaking. Both his hands are powerless and he is unable to say Mass, in fact he looks more dead than alive. Withal, within his shattered frame there is a noble spirit. He is most cheerful and entertaining, and his only object in going to Europe is to endeavour to recover sufficient health to enable him to devote himself longer to the salvation of the souls of the Chinese. We fear, however, that the remainder of his days will be for him a slow martyrdom, and that he will never again see the land of his adoption—that land whose sons have repaid him so cruelly for the disinterested love he bore them and the sacrifices he made for them. The age of martyrs is not dead, for there is scarce a year that many priests and faithful are not sent to their doom in China by some such cruelty as that of which this valiant young missionary has been the victim. This morning after a short stay at the Pettok Mission-house they went on board the steamer which sailed away soon after.—*Illustrated Catholic Missions.*

Turkey is on the point of abandoning the Arabic and also the Greek calendar and adopting instead what is called the financial calendar. This is in reality the Gregorian, which is used in all the western nations.

The jury in the Young murder case at St. Thomas, after being locked up for more than eight hours, failed to agree, so that the prisoner will be tried again at the Spring Assizes.

Millions of roubles and several lives have been lost in the recent fires that devastated the crown lands of Russia. Immense forests in the town of Gori, in Transcaucasia, have been almost consumed.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Diseases and casualties incidental to youth may be safely treated by the use of these excellent Medicaments according to the printed directions folded round each pot and box. Nor is this Ointment alone applicable to external ailments; conjointly with the Pills it exercises the most salutary influence in checking inflammations situated in the interior of the body; when rubbed upon the back and chest it gives the most sensible relief in asthma, bronchitis, pleurisy, and threatening consumption. Holloway's remedies are especially serviceable in liver and stomach complaints. For the cure of bad legs, all sorts of wounds, sores, and likewise scrofula and scorbutic affections, this Ointment produces a cooling and soothing feeling most acceptable to the sufferer.