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THE LADDER OF ST. AUGUS-TINE.

Saint Augustine! well hast thou said That of our vices we can frame A ladder, if we will but tread Beneath our feet each deed of shame.

All common things, each day's events; That with the hour begin and end, Our pleasures and our discontents, Are rounds by which we may ascend,

The low desire, the base design That makes another's virtues less, The revel of the treacherous wine, And all occasions of success.

The longing for ignoble things: The strife for triumph more truth:

The hardening of the heart, brings Irreverence for the dreams of youth,

All thoughts of ill, all evil deeds, That have their root in thoughts

Whatever hinders or impedes The action of the nobler will.

All these must first be trampled down Beneath our feet, if we would gain, In the bright fields of fair renown, The right of eminent domain.

We have not wings, we cannot soar, But we have feet to scale and climb By slow degrees, by more and more, The cloudy summits of our time.

The mighty pyramids of stone, That wedge-like cleave the desert

When nearer seen and better known, Are but gigantic flights of stairs.

The distant mountains, that uprear Their solid bastions to the skies,
Are crossed by pathways that appear
As we to higher levels rise.

The heights by great men reached and kept,

Were not attained by sudden flight, But they, while their companions

Were toiling upward in the night.

Standing on what too long we bore With shoulders bent and downcast We may discern-unseen before-

A path to higher destinies.

Nor deem the irrevocable past As wholly wasted, wholly vain, If, rising on the wrecks, at last To something nobler we attain. -Longfellow.

### MIXED MARRIAGES.

There is no subject that is more continually coming to the surface in these days than that of mixed marriages. The difficulties they involve may be treated lightly, or they may be disposed of with considerable questions. and only when the reasons of such marriages appear to be insurmountable, that is, when mutual af-fection has gained the mastery to such an extent as to make it out of the question for either side to draw

That there is something to be said for mined marriages would probably be generally admitted, but that the Church reprobates them is shown by the difficulties with which she grants dispensations for them.

We can never forget — for the Scrip-

ture never ceases to remind us of it the high destiny to which we are called, as children of God's Church. "You are the salt of the earth." were our Lord's words to His disciples; and again we read: "Because thou art, a holy people to the Lord thy God; the holy people to the Lord thy God; the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be life peculiar people of all the peoples that are upon the earth \* \* and hath loved you." (Deut. vii, 6, 8).

The Church grants dispensations on these conditions: (1) That the non-Catholic party shall not interfere with the religion of the Catholic; (2) That the marriers exemply shall take place.

the marriage ceremony shall take place in a Catholic Church only; (3) That the children of such marriages (of both sexes) shall be brought up in the

Catholic religion.

This is a great destiny—a noble vocation. Should we not hesitate before we risk anything, who have so much to lose? And risk it we must if we marry out of the Catholic Church. Moreover—as the Bishop of Salford has recently pointed out in a powerful letter on the evils of mixed marriages it is a most prolific source of leakage in the Church, and not only an evil in itself, but leads to others—to iloss of faith, unhappiness in the home, and tepidity and indifference in the discharge of religious duties. It would be only wise for one about to marry a non-Catholic to face certain facts, which, sonner or later, will in all probability force themselves upon him. One is that this is a drawback in life which tends to get more serious as the years advance. Another, that the pundament — or, if this be too severe word, the disadvantages are apt to all more heavily on the children of the marriage than on the parents. present, itself under entirely new conditions to a man or woman who has taken this step? Another may take

Re easily. How can he, if he has any

with with so much at stake? Con-

oversy, at best, but a broken reed, to often piercing the hand that leans

on it, would indeed be fatal between husband and wife Common sense tells us that by one means only can conversions be effected; that is, by earnest, humble, unremitting prayer, accompanied, if possible, by practices of penance, for we know by the words of our Lord that certain crowning graces are obtained only "by prayet

fasting." It is not too much to say that there have been wives and husbands who have devoted their lives to this object, and counted themselves blessed when, at the eleventh hour, the grace has been granted to their prayer. But can a life so spent, in continual stress of mind, in constant watchfulness over self - for does not example rank next in importance to prayer? - can such be reckoned a happy one? addition to the positive drawbacks, there are negative ones which are of no less salient a character.

The beautiful picture drawn for us Tertullion shows what married life is between two of the same faith. It is, in love, peace, and perfect sympathy, a foretaste of heaven. How much this would be wanting when husband and wife dare not speak, except in general terms, which means so little, on the thoughts which must, or should, lie nearest to both their hearts! Besides the question of happiness, there is the still more important one of duty, especially as if affects the lives for which parents are responsible to God, namely, the children born of such marriages. It is difficult to exthe children born of aggerate the importance of oneness of faith in the parents as a factor in the hringing up and development of spiritual life of the children.

It is a delusion, though not an uncommon one, that children are born good. On the contrary, they have the germs of much evil in them. Their natural inclination is to resist good impressions; to assimilate the evil they come across rather than the good. The "broadway" our Lord speaks of is no less attractive to the child, as far as he knows it, than to the man. But it is here that the influence of parents comes in. They have

the first chance with their children, they only knew how to make use of A Christian mother seizes her inlant's first thoughts and actions, and dedicates them to God. She does not leave this to servants, thought if she has a pious substitute in the nursery a matter indeed of vital importance
 the work of training a child is carried on there also. She takes her child to church, into the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, so that he may not only derive benefit from that di-vine presence from his earliest youth, but his first conscious impressions may go back to it and be associated with it. She is careful not to overdo prayer and spiritual exercises, so as to connect religion in a child's mind (which otherwise would inevitably be the case) with tedium; on the con-trary, following the Church's exam-ple, she seeks to invest it with what appeals to its heart and imagination. There are a hundred ways in which mother can interest her children in subjects which have to do with God and His service; for the Catholic Church puts such means without num-ber into her hands \* \* the crib at Christmas, the crucidx, Bible history, the stories of the saints and martyrs, all of which are infinitely attractive to children if properly treated. — From the Catholic Church from With-

### CONFIDENCE.

Ark thou one of those who borrow Sadness by forecasting sorrow? When God sends them joy and cheer Are the roses which are given From the flushing brows of Heaven Blanched and withered by thy fear?

Why thus brood on future sorrow! Why not trust in God above? In His beart He nolds thy love.

In distress and sore affliction, In your pain and dereliction,
Trust in Him whose child thou art,
With kind favors He will bless you,

With great joy He will caress you, Pillowed on His sacred heart. He can level mountain sorrow,

Blaze with light the darkest way; Trust in Him for joy to-morrow If in pain or grief to-day.

Teach thy children thus to know Him, Their sweet confidence to show Him, Leaning on His cross Divine; He their little feet will strengthen, He their days and joys will lengthen, With far greater love than thine.

Life is not for gloom or sadness, Fretted mad with anxious fears; God made us for sunny gladness, Joy that lives beyond the years

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

How can a Catholic wife, for instance, who is earnest about her re-ligion be really happy with a husband who can not attach any importance to, or see any sense in her practices of devotion; to whom holy Mass, Benediction, the Sauraments, the Vencration of the Saints and Angels, and many other things which are her great; helps and consolations in life, are mere idle mummeries and supersti-

her observance of Lent, of Fridays all the teachings and laws of the Church an imposition and a fraud, to be done away with at far as possible, who, in short, either looks forward to nothing at all beyond this life, or, if he hopes for heaven, has a different one from hers, and seeks for it in a different way? The only plan that can peace and agreement is to bring down the Catholic religion to its lowest level, to make out that it is not so very different from Protestantism after all, to be content with Mass Sundays; to eat meat on Fridays whenever it is more convenient, let the Pope and Church generally get on as best they can, and to say more about them than can be helped. Yes, this mixture even in the Catholic party of Catholic and Protestant too likely to be the result of a mixed marriage .- St. Xavier's Cal-

### Chats With Young Men

A TASTE FOR READING. Every young man should cultivate a taste for reading. With the great facilities provided through means of within the reach of all. While it is not necessary to be pouring over a book all the time, a great many young men go to the other extreme and do not take the least interest in reading, or if they do read, it is only literature of the trashiest kind that has any attraction for them. This is what Emerson has to say on the sub-

Consider what you have in smallest chosen library. A company of the wisest and wittiest men could be picked out of all civilized countries, in a thousand years, have set in best order the results of their learning and wisdom The men themselves were hid and inaccessible, soli tary, impatient of interruption, fenced by etiquetie; but the thought which they did not uncover to their bosom friend is here written out in transparent words to us, the stranger of

another age.
We owe to books those general bene fits which come from high intellectual action. They impart sympathetic activity to the moral power.

THE WORLD AND RELIGION.

The world considers that all men are pretty much on a level, or that, differ though they may, they differ by such fine shades from each other, that it is impossible, because it would be untrue and unjust, to divide them into two bodies, or to divide them at all Each man is like himself and no one else, each man has his own opinions, his own rule of faith and con-duct, his own worship; if a number ioin together in a religious form, this ience: for each is complete in himself; religion is simply a personal con-cern; there is no such thing really as a common and joint religion. • • • All men are in God's favor, except so far as, and while they commit acts of sin; but when the sin is over they get back into His favor again, naturally and as a thing of course, no one knows how, owing to God's indulg-ence, unless, indeed, they persevere and die in a course of sin, and perhans even then. There is no such place

external. Predestination, election,

grace, perseverance, sanctity, unbelief, and reprobation are strange ideas and, as they think, very false ones This is the east of opinion of men in general, in proportion as they exer-cise their minds on the subject of religion, and think for themselves; and ligion, and think for themselves; and if in any respect they depart from the easy, cheerful and tranquil temper of mind which it expresses, it is when they are led to think of those who presume to take the contrary that is, who take the view set forth by Christ and His Apostles On these they are commonly severe, that is on the very persons whom God acknowl edges as His and is training Heaven ward - on Catholics who are the wit nesses and preachers of those awful doctrines of grace which condemn the world, and which the world cannot endure. - Newman.

THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1902

Always keep your promises employer will never ask you to do more than is possible. Remember that an unfulfilled promise is as bad as a lownright untruth. Live within your Never let a month pass that you do not put something in the bank. Saving is the first great basic principle in the foundation of success Dress neatly and plainly, for an em ployer marks a man as a fool who ap-parels himself with extravagance and glaring colors. Never try to win the favor of your employer by slandering your fellow workers Slander always Show kindness to your fellow employes, but do not let it be forced kindness, for that deserves no thanks Resolve slowis, and act quickly. Remember, it is better to be alone than in bad company, that you cannot give your employer or yourself a night of dissipation, that silence, like cleanliness, is akin to godliness, and that a clear conscience gives sound sleep and good digestion, and clothes one in an impregnable coat of

HAMILTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD.

The Hamilton Separate School Board held its inaugural meeting, at which Mr. James Blake was re-elected chairman Rev. Kather Holden was appointed secretary and superintendent, and Mr. P. Ronau treasurer. Messrs F. J. Harris and Thomas Williamson were appointed auditors. Mr. John Ronan was reappointed representative on the High School Board, and Mr. J. M. Brown representative on the Library Board. The following committees were struck: Finance, Trustees Thomas (chairman), Kavanigh, Costie, Arland, Ronan, Lovering, O'Dowd; Internal Management, Tustees Galvin (chairman), Kavanagh, Dougherty, Lawlor, Connolly, McIntyre, Bateman.

Free and easy expectoration imme diately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phiegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all af-fections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Con-sumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given undounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

Troubles of a Society Woman.

Was Very Nervous-Could Not Get Rest or Sleep-Had

No Appetite - Suffered Much from Headache

and Pains in the Back.

largely in the hands of every woman to be beautiful in form and figure, and

in the gracefulness and elasticity which health alone can give. If to brighten

the eye, to give a glow of health to the cheek, to round the form and to fill

the body with the charm of vigor and strength is to make woman beautiful

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

Is nost remarkable as, a restorative for persons who are weak and run

down, and who lack nerve force. It is especially valuable to women. 50c a

box, 6 boxes for \$2.50. At all dealers or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

-then Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is a beautifier of woman.

While nature does not bless all with perfect features, she has left it

A wrinkled, tired and worn looking face tells immediately of nervous-ness, worry and many accompanying ills and irre-

gularities. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food fills the shrivel-

led arteries with new, rich blood, strengthens and

rekindles the vitality of the nerves and gives a

well rounded form and clear healthy complexion

to all who use it. The pale and emaciated become

plump and rosy; the weak and worn grow daily

stronger and health and beauty develop hand in

hand when the great restorative is used regularly.

Mrs. E. H. Young, of 214 Greenwood Ave., Jackson, Mich, is a leader among the "Lady Maccabees," "Lady Forcaters" and other fraternal societies, and for the beneat of her suffering sisters makes the following

statement:-"My social and other duties in connection with several ladies' fraternal societies had drawn so much upon my strength that I found my

fratorial societies had grawn so much upon my strength that I found mymelf ell run down in health; I was very nervous, had no appetite, could
get no real rest or sleep and suffered much from pains in head and back.
I triod many tonics, but could get no permanent relief; finally I purchased Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, took two boxes as directed, and found its
perfect cure for my trouble. Its action was mild and effective, and I be
lieve it to be the best treatment in the world for nervous troubles and
for building up the system."

# HAS HARD TIME

Stricken and Helpless with Work to be Done-Deprived of the Power to Work.

Pierra Lussier of Lac Weedon was Indeed in an Unfortunate Plight —He Expresses His Thanks for a Complete Restoration to Health and Strength.

Lac Weedon, Quebec, Jan 20.-(Special). - Pierre Lussier is a farmer who like every other husbandn in has much work which must be ione in its season. Many of a farmer's duties will not admit of a postponement, they have to be attended to promptly, and poor Mons. Lussier had not the strength to do these toilsome tasks. He had no children to help him on the farm, and as vigorous and trained arms are necessary, he was feeling very downcast on account of his inability and weakness.

He had one of the worst forms Kidney Disease, and this reduced his strength to that of a mere child The nain he had to bear was very great and always seemed to come on him worse just at the time that he had some important work to do

He had suffered in this way for over

twenty years, sometimes better, some times worse, but always sick and suffering and constantly growing worse, till for the last two years he was unable to do anything.

He decided to try a treatment of Dodd's Kidney Pills, and from the very first dose he began to improve After he had used eight boxes he was well enough to work again but he kept on using the Pills till now he is well and strong

years be could not walk a quarter of a mile without assistance but recently he walken eight miles without resting. He says:

"I owe it all to Dodd's Kidney Pills which have done wonderful things for me." This cure of such a severe case of over twenty years standing is regard-ed by our people here who know the facts as little short of a miracle.

A COMPLIMENTARY SPEECH.

A certain very pretty lady hired car from the centre of Dublin to the outskirts, says an English paper. It was obvious from her speech that she was not a native. However, she chat-ted gaily to the jarvey, and he pointed out the various places of interest as they passed. At length they reach ed the end of the journey, and the lady asked her fare. "Five shillin" lady asked her fare. "Five shillin', ma'am," was the reply, "but it will be exthry for goin' back." "Now, that is nonsense, you know, for it will not be so heavy a burden on your ani-mal." "Thrue, ma'am, thrue — but 't will be a lonely journey for us, ma'am."

A LINIMENT FOR THE LOGGER. -Loggers lead a life which exposes them to many perils. Wounds, cuts and bruises cannot be altogether avoided in preparing timber for the drive and in river work, where wet and cold combined, are of daily experience, coughs and colds and muscular pains cannot but ensue. Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil when applied to the injured or administered to the ailing, works wonders.

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