

headway in desolation, and destroying its resources. What, that will benefit mankind, is to arise from such a state, the same luminary has neglected to tell us. But force is the very kernel of his religion, and to it Socialism is never opposed except as a matter of expediency.

THE CATHOLIC Church, on the other hand, has ever sought to draw master and workman together by the infusion into each of fundamental Christian principles. There is no intermediary so powerful as religion, and amid the decay of creeds amongst the sects, the Church stands alone as the interpreter and guardian of revelation.

NO CLEARER, stronger, more just or impartial lines, says Father Husslein, have ever been penned in the interest of Labor than those of the encyclical Rerum Novarum: "Instead of widening the gap between class and class, as Socialism aims to do, to the common ruin, the Church ever strives to bridge the chasm and to unite all mankind in that charity which knows no distinction of rich and poor, but sees in the least as in the greatest the fellow-servants of God and brothers of Him Who preferred to the palace of Solomon the lowly workshop of the carpenter."

IN THE crisis, then, that faces us, a clear path of duty lies open to Catholic laymen. Another Jesuit, Father Playter, of Stonyhurst college, has recently been lecturing to English workmen on the progress of their Catholic brethren along true social lines in France, Germany and Italy.

FATHER PLATER described the splendid organization of the Catholics of Germany and the marvellous revival during the last decade in France. Freed from the shackles of the State the French clergy are "going to the people," and the people are finding their way back to the Church.

WHAT CATHOLIC organization has been able to effect in Germany is well known. From the state of oppression that obtained under the Kulturkampf, Catholics have come now to be a power in Germany and a factor in its imperial policy. How this has been brought about was outlined by a well-informed writer in a series of articles in the Dublin Review a year or two ago.

MEANWHILE WE MAY note the death-bed conversion of one of the

most noteworthy leaders of atheistic Socialism in Italy, Andrea Costa, Deputy and Vice-Chairman of the Italian Chamber, and leader of the Socialist party. So violent and extreme had he been in his utterances in the Chamber and in the press that when his conversion was announced, the entire country, says a despatch, sat up and rubbed its eyes.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S, Nfld

MICHAEL FRANCIS

By the Grace of God and Favour of the Apostolic See, Archbishop of St. John's, Nfld.—To all the Faithful, Clergy and Laity of the Archdiocese.—Health and Benediction. Dearly Beloved in Christ:

Once more as the Holy Season of Lent approaches, the duty becomes incumbent on Us of addressing you in the form of a

PASTORAL LETTER

In looking abroad over the face of the world to-day, it is impossible not to be struck with astonishment and wonder at the vast strides that have been made by men in the regions of science and physical enterprise. Man seems to have grasped, and harnessed to his use, the most hidden and powerful forces of Nature. Time and space have been so minimized as to be almost abolished, and the most distant bounds of the world are brought together.

It is now nearly two thousand years since the saving and ennobling doctrine of Christianity was unfolded to the world, and the pure moral stream of the gospel-teaching was poured forth into the seething gulf of pagan depravity which then enveloped the whole human race.

Notwithstanding all the prayers that are being constantly poured forth in the choirs of God's churches, and the cries raised from the thousand cloisters of religious men and women, besieging the throne of mercy, for peace and good-will among men on earth; yet we behold at this present moment whole armies of men arrayed in warlike attitude, bent upon destroying each other and sending down to death in horrid carnage hundreds and thousands of their fellows, even innocent women and children not being spared, in this fiendish carnage.

degrading punishment of "flogging" upon the culprits, for it is acknowledged that such floggings in human shape are impervious to any moral punishment; and the only way to produce an effect on them is to treat them as we do the brute beast—with physical punishment.

In a country like ours where the greater portion of the people are engaged in nautical occupation, and spend the greater part of their time baffling with the dangers of the ocean, few are the firesides which have not ceased to mourn the loss of some loved one, swallowed up by the relentless sea.

Then in the moral life it would seem that all the sweet and chastening teaching of Christ has been forgotten and rejected, and that the world has gone back to a state of filthy and impure paganism. The sacred tie of marriage, of which our Lord spoke in these solemn and awe-inspiring words: "What God has joined together let no man put asunder."

that sacrilegious undoing of the most sacred tie; that impious defiance of God's solemn command, has been now sanctioned legally in many countries which still call themselves Christian.

This fatal dissolution of the only bond which can keep society together, is now so universally sanctioned that all the safeguards of human society are broken down and the population in those countries is in a terrible state of confusion, immorality, and decadence. This curse of divorce is accountable for more desolate and orphaned children which afflict the human race.

It is nothing more or less than the trafficking in the virtue and purity and chastity of young girls, who are trapped and sold by human hands for immoral purposes. Thousands upon thousands of innocent girls and young women are annually swallowed up in this dreadful vortex of vice in the large cities of Europe and America.

We sometimes, dear people, are inclined to lament and complain of our isolation here in Newfoundland; our separation from all the excitement and movement in the world, our provincialism and lack of progress; but we should, on the contrary, thank God that we are saved from such contaminations and dangers as those. As far as we know these evils have not yet made their appearance among us, though some rumors have come to our ears that seem to point to the insidious creeping in among us of some of these enemies of virtue.

We intend this collection to be annual, so as to form a permanent fund which we hope in the course of time may enable us to fund an or College for the preliminary education of students. This Seminary will be, at least in its beginnings, of moderate proportions capable of accommodating some ten or twelve students. It will be situated on vacant ground not far from the Cathedral so that the pupils may be able to attend the functions and thus acquire a knowledge of the Sacred Rubrics, which is one of the principal parts of an Ecclesiastical Education.

In England at the present day the most drastic legislation has been passed against the agents, or, as they are called "procurers" of this immoral trade. The law inflicts the

degrading punishment of "flogging" upon the culprits, for it is acknowledged that such floggings in human shape are impervious to any moral punishment; and the only way to produce an effect on them is to treat them as we do the brute beast—with physical punishment.

In a country like ours where the greater portion of the people are engaged in nautical occupation, and spend the greater part of their time baffling with the dangers of the ocean, few are the firesides which have not ceased to mourn the loss of some loved one, swallowed up by the relentless sea.

Then in the moral life it would seem that all the sweet and chastening teaching of Christ has been forgotten and rejected, and that the world has gone back to a state of filthy and impure paganism. The sacred tie of marriage, of which our Lord spoke in these solemn and awe-inspiring words: "What God has joined together let no man put asunder."

that sacrilegious undoing of the most sacred tie; that impious defiance of God's solemn command, has been now sanctioned legally in many countries which still call themselves Christian.

This fatal dissolution of the only bond which can keep society together, is now so universally sanctioned that all the safeguards of human society are broken down and the population in those countries is in a terrible state of confusion, immorality, and decadence. This curse of divorce is accountable for more desolate and orphaned children which afflict the human race.

It is nothing more or less than the trafficking in the virtue and purity and chastity of young girls, who are trapped and sold by human hands for immoral purposes. Thousands upon thousands of innocent girls and young women are annually swallowed up in this dreadful vortex of vice in the large cities of Europe and America.

We sometimes, dear people, are inclined to lament and complain of our isolation here in Newfoundland; our separation from all the excitement and movement in the world, our provincialism and lack of progress; but we should, on the contrary, thank God that we are saved from such contaminations and dangers as those. As far as we know these evils have not yet made their appearance among us, though some rumors have come to our ears that seem to point to the insidious creeping in among us of some of these enemies of virtue.

We intend this collection to be annual, so as to form a permanent fund which we hope in the course of time may enable us to fund an or College for the preliminary education of students. This Seminary will be, at least in its beginnings, of moderate proportions capable of accommodating some ten or twelve students. It will be situated on vacant ground not far from the Cathedral so that the pupils may be able to attend the functions and thus acquire a knowledge of the Sacred Rubrics, which is one of the principal parts of an Ecclesiastical Education.

In England at the present day the most drastic legislation has been passed against the agents, or, as they are called "procurers" of this immoral trade. The law inflicts the

We are happy to be able to announce that during Our stay in Can-

ada last summer We made arrangements for the holding of

during the present Lent, and We have succeeded in securing the services of four of the Redemptorist Fathers to conduct the Mission. It will open in the Cathedral on next Sunday, the first Sunday of Lent, February 9th, and will continue for two weeks till February 23rd.

We exhort you, dear people, to dispose yourself by prayer and fasting and by attendance at the Religious Services, to reap the full benefits of this spiritual harvest. To stir up the Grace of God that is in your souls. Remember that during this time of Mission Almighty God opens up for you all the stores of His boundless mercy. He offers you a full measure of His Divine Love—and lays before the treasures of His Divine Charity. Remember that a great responsibility remains upon every one of you to avail of these gifts and prepare yourselves by the reception of the Holy Sacraments of Penance and the Blessed Eucharist to secure for yourselves the plenitude of God's Mercy and love.

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making a remembrance for you in Our prayers without ceasing." (Eph. I. 2).

M. F. HOWLEY
Archbishop of St. John's
Given at St. John's, this Quinquagesima Sunday, February 2nd, 1918

PROTESTANT PROTEST AGAINST CHARGE OF INTOLERANCE

A meeting of the Irish Protestants was held in Dublin recently, which affords a striking reply to the charges of intolerance which have been flung against Irish Catholics. Colonel Nugent Everard, H. M. L., who presided, described himself as a Communicant of the Church of Ireland. "This meeting," he explained, "has been convened for the purpose of giving Irish Protestants, irrespective of party, an opportunity of recording an emphatic protest against the reckless charges of religious intolerance levied against our Roman Catholic countrymen on English and Irish platforms, and also to protest against the introduction of religious differences into politics by either party."

At the Orphanage, Mount Cashel under the energetic management of Brother Ennis and his assistants, the new wing, (a magnificent building in concrete) has been completed, as also a large and commodious Boiler-House.

At LITTLEDALE ACADEMY the splendid new Convent has been erected and is now in occupancy by the nuns. This is one of the most beautiful buildings in the vicinity of St. John's and the most perfect in all its equipments. Standing as it does in the midst of the Waterford Valley, on the margin of the rippling stream, and surrounded by wooded hills and pastoral fields, it would be difficult to find a more pleasing prospect, and our people may rest confident that within its walls their children will receive a most satisfactory training morally and intellectually.

There are at present some fifteen or sixteen Newfoundland students in various foreign institutions studying for the Priesthood. Of these eleven are for the Archdiocese of St. John's. As there is no special fund for this purpose the burden upon the Archbishop becomes very heavy. It is Our intention then to call upon all members of the flock to help Us in this most necessary work.

We request every Parish-Priest to establish a Collection for this purpose. We leave it to the discretion of the Parish-Priests to select the day for making the collection in their parishes, but we desire that it be done as soon as possible, as a very large sum has been paid during the past year on this head.

We are happy to be able to announce that during Our stay in Can-

SAYS MOVING PICTURE HABIT SPELLS RUIN

BALTIMORE PASTOR WARNS OF EVIL OF UNRESTRAINED INDULGENCE OF CHILDREN

Preaching in St. John's Church, Baltimore, of which he is pastor, Right Rev. Mgr. George W. Devine impressed upon the parents of the congregation the imperative need of restraining their children in the matter of attendance at moving picture shows.

"The prevailing laxity in the matter of the censorship of such pictures," said Monsignor Devine, "has already reaped its fruit, but the worst is yet to come. It was hard enough in days gone by to shield the young and the innocent from the poison of impurity and the tendency to dishonesty and other vices that was instilled into them by some glaring, fascinating pictures that engulged vice. But what are we to say when such vices have the added attraction of action, when they are become more real, so to speak, and are clothed in such a way as to more easily lure too susceptible boys and girls?"

"The very cheapness of this amusement makes it all the more terrible and the harder to check. Immorality that has a heavy price attached to it is often beyond the reach of those whom it might most easily hurt. The child with his nickel and his dime, however, finds ready admittance to these breeding places of immorality, conducted by avaricious men who are willing to trade away the innocence of the young for the sake of the dollar.

Not only do the suggestive pictures that are thrown upon the screen warp and degrade the mind of the child, but they foster in the heart dishonesty and unbridled desires. Often unable to obtain the necessary money, the child steals the price of admission and thus begins in early life to sow the seeds that will have bitter fruit in after years.

"There, too, is a tendency on the part of the young, and even of the elders who need the money, to run about from one moving-picture parlor to another, squandering their nickels and their dimes, when they should be saving them to make the dollars that should help to beautify their homes and prepare them for a rainy day.

"The home training is of prime importance. If children are allowed to run around unrestrained; if they are not guided wisely as to the choice of amusements, then their sins will not only be upon their heads, but will visit with fearful consequences the parents who are morally responsible for the spiritual development of those under their care.

MY ROAD TO THE TRUE CHURCH

The need of a trustworthy and authoritative guide for oneself and for one's children, in facing the daily problems of life in all its relations, led me, at first by slow, unconscious degrees, but later by rapid strides, to the following conclusions, writes Mrs. E. Scott Stokes, in Truth.

The Catholic Church has the longest and widest experience in philosophical and practical dealing with every problem of human life, public and private. To briefly substantiate this assertion it needs only to be pointed out that the theologians of the Church have for centuries been occupied with the philosophical aspects of faith and unbelief, of holiness and sin, as they affect the intellect and as they influence the heart.

The uncompromising morality of the Catholic Church, encompassed and pervaded at all costs by the broadest and humblest charity, appears to the spirit and teaching of Christ in the gospel than that of any other Christian communion.

The truest war with sin, the lifelong endurance, shown perhaps more often in sustaining a dread siege against temptation from without and within, than in pitched and eager battles against the invigorating foe—this on the one hand, and the meekness of charity to sinners, well-nigh beyond and against all reason, on the other—these are characteristics of the men who have the cure of Catholic morals which can hardly be known till the convert has spent some time

under their rule. But these become sufficiently discernible to make a mother recognize that the hearts and minds of little children may here best find both grace and discipline. And so it is. The joy of Christians, the glory of Easter, the wonders of the Incarnation, the unbounded generosity of the Passion—imprinted by the use of the rosary and by the habitual practice of other devotions flowing straight from the fountain-head of faith—evidently stir and expand many a childheart with quiet and simple enthusiasm which outlasts the changes and chances of life, and is often only brightened by the fires of temptation.

Nor is this all. The foundations of the family life, and its very existence, depend upon its fidelity to the teachings of Christ Himself.

Many among those who are not Catholics cling, thank God, no less firmly than ourselves to Christ's doctrine. But they cannot make a lasting and effectual stand (neither can any save the infallible Church) against such infringements of God's law as man by custom or enactment chooses to sanction. For the children's sake and for our own, it is good to embrace and to hold fast by that religion which ennobles and sanctifies love in every relation, and which raises aloft the standard of modesty, simplicity and charity. The Catholic Church holds the estate of virginity to be holier and higher than the estate of marriage; but none the less she holds the estate of marriage holier and holier than do any outside her communion who profess and call themselves Christians, or who aim at ethical perfection—Catholic Bulletin.

DISLOYAL

The Liverpool Catholic Times, commenting on the disloyalty of some Protestant persons to the cause of Ireland, says:

"The attitude of the Protestant Episcopal church in Ireland at present is in keeping with its whole history. There have been Irish Protestants who were patriots, but if they had yielded to the influence of that Church, their hands would have been raised against their country instead of for it. The prelates and clergy of the Church under the Union regime which was brought about by bribery and fraud, flourished. Amongst the privileged who secured spoils purchased by the earnings of the Catholic workers they have been the most privileged. The price paid for this has been the conversion of what is nominally a religious body into a time-serving political organization. Whenever the Tory drum has sounded the bishops and parsons of the Irish Protestant church have been on the alert to render service against Ireland. They are now the faithful camp followers of the boys-lawyers and lords—who act as leaders of the Unionist forces. When the Unionist ruffians are maiming humble workers with bolts and bricks but they are dumb. They have not enough of the Christian spirit to condemn the barbarism, but when the playboy generals, the lawyers and lords; wished in the interests of their political tactics to pose as warriors, Dr. Crozier, the Protestant Primat, drew up a formal appeal to the Almighty to help them in the game, and a recent Sunday was fixed as a day of intercession" on which a special collect was used for the same purpose. What fearful blasphemy—to call upon God to aid the Unionists in a piece of artificial political dodgery, the object of which is to preserve their privileges for a favored class and to defeat the legitimate aspirations of the people of Ireland."

Two clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the vicinity of New York, have recently left that communion and entered the Catholic church. One was the Rev. Edmund S. Middleton, for the last seven and one half years master of Greek in Trinity School for Boys, in West Ninety-first street. He is now a Catholic layman.

CONVERT MINISTERS

Both Mr. Middleton and Mr. Jurney were instructed in the Catholic faith and baptised by the Very Rev. John J. Hughes, pastor of the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Columbus avenue and Sixtieth street, and Superior General of the Paulists Fathers. Both went to Father Hughes of their own free will and asked for instruction, and when they had qualified they requested him to baptize them.

Mr. Middleton was formerly deposed from the ministry of the Episcopal Church by Bishop Greer on October 25 last, at the Diocesan house, 416 Lafayette street, in the presence of Canon George F. Nelson and the Rev. Dr. George Alexander Strong, rector of Christ Church. The official notice of Bishop Greer's action, which has just been mailed to every bishop of the Episcopal Church, states that the deposition of Mr. Middleton was "made at his own request and for causes not affecting his moral character."

Mr. Middleton is fifty years old. He was born in New York City and was graduated from Harvard in 1885 and from the General Episcopal Theological Seminary, in 1889. He resigned his position in Trinity school last spring.—The Missionary.