hymn was sung, at the beginning of which all were told to "please arise." Before the concert began Mr. Collins spoke for about five minutes, giving a strong and earnest exhortal priest to give the instruction. Sometion to temperance. This gentleman times a Jesuit, sometimes a Paulist,

has been engaged in slum work for some years and he gives it as his opinion that drink is the chief cause New World, Chicago. of the degration and misery of most of those who are habitues of rooming houses. He did not, consequently, spare his hearers, but gave them a vivid address on the necessity of leaving whiskey alone.

Just as he had finished his address all heads were turned towards the street door. Someone had arrived in whom the men were much interested. It was the priest who was to address them. Faces brightened as he came to be known throughout the length up the aisle, and the satisfaction and breadth of France, and echoed that he had come found expression in across seas and into all lands where vigorous hand-clapping.

stout father, with a pleasant smiling scene of his labors will be read with The slum element seemed to interest: take to him immensely. He had evi- To the Editor of the Columbian: dently often paid them a visit. The

hymn was sung, and then the Father This is the second step towards cancert for the evening.

A portable confessional, was immediately set up, and the priest began hearing confessions at once, while Mr. sistants, and by a non-Catholic Collins and his zealous corps of as- named "Geraldine." sistants at the other end of the room were busy urging as many men as possible to go to the father and "straighten up."

to stay till the end. It cost me a part of my night's rest, for the father did not come out of the confessional until 11.45 p.m., and then he absolutely refused to let his name be mentioned in connection with these im pressions, which I told him I was about to give to the New World.

Once, during the evening, the fathe was called out of the confessional by have never seen God so near." Mr. Collins.

"Father, here is a young man who is very nervous. Will you help him? childhood which Jesus loved; there-He seems afraid and yet wants to go fore it is that God is with him." to confession."

then whispering a word or two, he blessings of my life," he said, aftertook his arm and walked him around to the penitent's side of the confessional. In ten or twelve minutes the able to paint them.' young fellow came out and said to Mr. Collins:

"My goodness! I made my confession almost before I knew it. I never felt so fine in my life as I do now. I'm going to keep straight now, Mr. Collins, sure," and then turning to me, he said: "Say, neighbor, you needn't be afraid to go to that fa ther."

The slum chapel is open every night and on Sunday afternoons. In connection therewith there exists a club, the essentials for membership being the supernatural there I have no need that the men shall take the pledge for six months and promise to go to confession and Holy Communion once a month for that period. This is a he does, and do it every day, without very efficacious means of helping many Communion Sunday Mr. Collins always manages to get the men a breakfast at the slum chapel, although frequently the night before he does not know where the means are to come from.

This gentleman, who seems entire by darested to the men as the darested to the persons place on the roll of honor by the Church have been Bishops, martyrs or else members of regular orders. The parish clergy have no one to watch their daily lives. to record their virtues by affective corrected to October, 1903.

ly devoted to the men of the slums out and encourages Catholics and of the huge caravansaries parish priest is going to beatify a which lie south of Van Buren street parish priest! on Clark and in that neighborhood. It was impossible to hide the execu-

The Particular Council of St. Vincent de Paul pays the rent of the store used as a chapel. Difficulty is sometimes experienced in securing a or a priest performs this charitable work.-Edward C. St. Cyr, in the

THE CURE OF ARS.

Humble Peasant Priest Who is Soon to be Beatified.

Catholic Columbian.

Much interest surrounds the coming beatification of the Venerable Cure of Ars whose saintly life made his name holiness is revered. The following com-He was a short, thick-set, rather munication from one who visited the

Sir: In the Catholic World for Febsecret of his popularity with these ruary, 1894, there was an account of a men became evident when he addressed visit which I had the honor and hapthem. In a magnetic, earnest way he piness of making in October, 1880, to spoke and appealed to the men, and the village rendered evermore illusin their own idiom, making an aptrious by the holiness of one of its stant subject of scientific and chemical peal for better and cleaner lives. He parish priests. It is forty-five years appeared to be able to enter into since he went to heaven, and during their lives and their way of thinking, this period his life and virtues have and gradually to lift them to higher been examined with minute and legal aspirations and better things. As the exactness by the Roman Congregaspeaker proceeded I closely watched tions, and it has been decided to recthe faces of many of his auditors and ommend him to the infallible teache saw that emotions had been aroused of the Church as one fitted to be held that must have lain dormant in the up to the faithful as a model in faith breasts of many for long, long years. and morals, and invoked as a special At the close of the instruction a friend of God. He is to be, beatified.

invested several in the scapular. He onization, and when the "peasant" then made an unconventional act of Pope shall have pronounced the sencontrition aloud to which everyone tence authorizing us, we will be alresponded with a hearty "Amen." lowed to erect altars and say Mass in The priest then gave his blessing, at honor of the Blessed John Baptist ter which Mr. Collins, quite uncere Vianney, the "peasant" pastor of Ars, moniously, dismissed the ladies and in whose poor chapel, and at whose gentlemen who had furnished the con wretched confessional, the intellect and blood and beauty of Catholic Europe knelt commingled with simple farmers and laborers of his parish.

The life of the Cure has been written by Father Monnin, one of his as-Both of these works are delightful. Indeed, there is no literature so charming as the lives of those truly great people, the Saints. Let me quote a few sentences from I became interested and determined the article in the magazine referred to.

"We once heard," says Father Monnin, "a distinguished but somewhat skeptical philosopher, exclaim in his enthusiasm, 'I do not believe any thing like this has been seen since the stable at Bethlehem." A celebrated poet was so overcome by the emotion produced by his presence that the words escaped him unawares, other distinguished pilgrim said: "The Cure of Ars is the very model of the

One of the most famous painters of The priest beckoned the young man France stayed about several days trysmiled. For a moment he put ing to get a perfect sketch of his feaboth hands on his shoulders, and tures. "It has been one of the great wards, "to have known the Cure d' Ars. We must have seen saints to be

> "What did I see at Ars?" replied a prominent author to one who inquired of him. "I saw John in the wilderness! I was one of the eighty thousand or so who went there last year. People tell me of marvellous things that go on at Ars. I doubt not the power of God; it is as great in this nineteenth century as in the first days of Christianity. I am convinced that the prayers of the holy priest can ob tain surprising and even miraculou cures, but to recognize the presence

> of all this. The great miracle of Ars is the laborious and penitential life ol its Cure. That a man can do what growing weary or sinking under it, is

and, years and years after their does not confine his work to the death, to press their claims for enrolslum chapel. He is well known in the ment in the list of saints. I do not big rooming houses, where he seeks recall at this writing a parish priest who, without martyrdom, reached this distributes Catholic literature. He temporal honor, just as neither do I The oldest News Agency of Wall Street and Publishers of The Wall Street Journal, personally distributes the "dodgers" recall one from their ranks, who, like early every Wednesday evening in Pius X, attained the Papacy. An ex-

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tive ability of Pius who filled successfully every post from acolyte to patriarch, and so they elected him Ruler of the Universal Church. It was equally impossible to conceal the holiness of the Cure d'Ars, who, for forty years more or less, preached and prayed and heard confessions in a miserable little country chapel from two o'clock in the morning till eleven at night, and so they are going to beatify him. I have already mailed my own contribution towards the expenses of the glorious ceremony which is to take place in Rome on the 8th of January, and will be happy to transmit any others that may be sent me for the same purpose.

REV. EDWARD McSWEENY, Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Films from December 4, 1904.

THE NAKED TRUTH.

(Concocted for the Review.)

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