

Erroneous Histories

Dealing With the Popes' Attitude Towards Medical Science.

The Journal of the American Weekly Association has the following editorial on the subject:

"Few things have been more encouraging in recent medical literature than the renewed attention which is being paid all over the world to the history of medicine. Nothing is more chastening than to find how many of the discoveries that are thought to be very modern are only rediscoveries of the principles that were discussed by men many centuries ago, practically applied in their teachings and in their practice and then forgotten because of changes in the theoretic point of view in medicine. Another interesting phase of this subject has been the larger sympathy that has developed for these early workers in medicine and the realization of how much they accomplished and under what apparently discouraging circumstances. Indeed, until recently, when the works of the old masters have been more read, the old-time medical curricula in the universities were so little understood that it was considered that certain phases of scientific medical work were not touched on at all.

"Perhaps the most striking example of this is to be found in the impression conveyed by practically all histories of medicine published in English that during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries there was little or no development of the science of anatomy in Christian Europe because the practice of dissection was under ecclesiastical censure. The supposed decree by which this fatal obstacle of anatomy was created was pointed out very definitely, and it seemed to be clear that it had prevented all dissection. As a matter of fact, however, the history of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries shows a continuous series of anatomic developments of high order, in spite of the supposed papal legislation against it. Further investigation shows that the decree which was supposed to have forbidden dissection really forbade quite a different practice, and on very justifiable grounds. Pope Boniface VIII prohibited the Crusaders from cutting up the bodies of their dead friends in the East and boiling them in order to bring the bones home for burial in Europe. It is easy to understand how many serious evils might follow from this unhygienic practice and how eminently commendable was the promulgation of this law. It seems especially fortunate that it should have been misconstrued into an attempt to prevent the development of the science of anatomy along the only lines in which such a development is really possible—those of actual dissection and practical demonstration.

"An examination of the decree itself brings out these facts very clearly, and the history of anatomy in the centuries immediately following this promulgation shows the rest. Within a few years after the issuance of the decree Mondino did his great work in dissection in Italy and published a text book which was the guide for dissectors for nearly two centuries. A corresponding state of affairs has recently been shown to exist with regard to the false impression that alchemy, the mother science of chemistry, was also forbidden by the ecclesiastical authorities. Investigation shows this second supposed decree hampering the development of the great science to be quite as much misconstrued as that with regard to anatomy.

"Alchemies were forbidden, but it is not clearly stated what chemical processes were intended by the word alchemies. Many of the alchemists pretended to make gold and silver and found a number of dupes who were quite content to give them real gold and silver for the supposed precious metals that they could manufacture. Alchemies of this kind were forbidden, but nothing else. The Pope who issued the decree was one of the most earnest students of chemistry of the time, doing excellent original work, and published a volume in which he demonstrated the impossibility of the transmutation of metals. Professor Allbutt, in his address on the historical relations of medicine and surgery at the Congress of Arts and Science, held at St. Louis in 1904, mentioned a little book on eye diseases written by this same Pope, John XXII, which contained some very practical directions in regard to the treatment of ordinary affections of the eye.

"The general histories of medicine published in English still continue to repeat these erroneous statements with regard to ecclesiastical interference which did not take place. As a matter of fact, the whole attitude of the ecclesiastical of the time was in favor of the development of a scientific teaching of all kinds, and they were prominent in their encouragement of universities. The grateful acknowledgment of what was accomplished within these earlier ages and the recalling of it to modern generations will only make clear how slow is human progress and how much even the best advances are likely to sink into obscurity if they are neglected for some passing favorite theory. This of itself should be enough to bring us to do justice to the grand old men of the olden times who accomplished much with inadequate means, and under often discouraging circumstances, for the development of the sciences whose full fruition was so delayed for so many centuries."

How Is Your Cold?

Every place you go you hear the same question asked. Do you know that there is nothing so dangerous as a neglected cold? Do you know that a neglected cold will turn into Chronic Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Disruptive Catarrh and the most deadly of all, the "White Flag," Consumption. Many a life history would read differently if, on the first appearance of a cough, it had been remedied with

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This wonderful cough and cold medicine contains all those very pine principles which make the pine woods so valuable in the treatment of lung affections. Combined with this are Wild Cherry Bark and the soothing, healing and expectorant properties of other peccatorial herbs and barks. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Pain in the Chest, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness or any affection of the Throat or Lungs. You will find a sure cure in Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. Mrs. C. N. Loomer, Berwick, N.S., writes: "I have used Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup for coughs and colds, and have always found it to give instant relief. I also recommended it to one of my neighbors and she was more than pleased with the results."

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Trolley Cars in Jerusalem.

The Sultan of Turkey has been up to now stubbornly opposed to the introduction of electricity in the Ottoman Empire. At last, however, he has yielded, and the whole world will regret to learn that a concession has been granted for electric lights in Jerusalem, and for lines of trolley cars through that city, and from it to Bethlehem, Bethany, and probably to Jericho, although that has not yet been announced and is only conjecture.

Nothing can be done by the public to prevent this invasion of the most sacred place on earth. The railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem was bad enough, from a sentimental point of view, but at the same time it is a great public convenience, and pilgrims can now make the journey in a few hours with great comfort and at a comparatively small expense, instead of toiling up the dust roads to Zion on foot or driving over it in carriages. The introduction of trolley cars in the narrow streets of Jerusalem is, however, not only unnecessary, but it will be a lamentable violation of holy ground. The trolley line to Bethany must cross the Mount of Olives and follow the trail which Jesus so often trod, and the line to Bethlehem will despoil of its sanctity another sacred way.

A Well-Known Banda Man Speaks

A Well-Known J. F. is Cured of Kidney Trouble of Long Standing by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Banda, Ont., May 14.—(Special.)—There is no one more widely known and highly respected in this section of the country than Wm. Bell, Esq., J.P., and the statement he makes below concerning his cure by Dodd's Kidney Pills bears weight and carries conviction with it.

"For more than a year I was a sufferer from kidney trouble," Mr. Bell says. "Always in pain at times the agony would become unbearable and I was practically unable to attend to any of my duties. I doctored with several local physicians and tried every means to get cured, but without success. At last I was induced to give Dodd's Kidney Pills a trial. I have the greatest pleasure in stating that they drove away the pains entirely and restored me to my old-time health and strength. I am sure I owe this entirely to Dodd's Kidney Pills."

The Sign of the Cross Badly Made.

One of the most unpleasant sights which may be seen in our churches, too often, is the irreverent grotesque or ridiculous travesty of that beautiful physical prayer, the Sign of the Cross, as made by so many, thoughtlessly, we feel sure.

Just a little reflection on the depth and importance of that sign, its significance, its meaning and its symbolism ought, we think, to cause one forever after to make it with reverence, dignity and grace. The words which go with it, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen," tell us that haste and carelessness are insulting to the sacred titles so lightly taken.

It is a confession of faith in the Most Holy Trinity, a confession made with the sign of our redemption, an attestation of belief in the efficacy of that sacrifice which has saved the world from degradation and slavery. Without that awful tragedy, the sublime life which saved the world, none of the boasted "rights of man" would have a standing to-day. Outside of the basis given by that sacrifice, all that we claim to-day of modern progress would have no better use than to serve as an adornment to cattle. Man would be a race of helots; his children would be slaves; his days be given to unpaid labor; his end a return to the corruption from which he sprang; his life without hope and his "rights" such as each could keep for himself with his hands and his wits.

Human equality, resent it as we may, has no other foundation than the fact that our Lord died for all men alike, and that each individual must in the end settle his account with the God who made him, and suffer or be rewarded according to the faithfulness with which he has obeyed the laws promulgated by divinity itself.

And the sign of the cross is a reminder and renewal of the agreement we made when the waters of baptism washed us into the company of those who thereby attest their loyalty and their enlistment.

It is, too, a new promise by the individual. We touch our forehead to signify that with our mind we acknowledge, our breast to declare that our heart wills to follow, and our shoulders to offer to bear the yoke and the burden which we are told is "sweet and light." All the faculties of our being, intellect, will and bodily powers are here pledged anew to fight in the only cause for which a fight is worth while—the service of Christ, our Lord.

Why not, then, remembering our dignity as souls enlisted for the war with evil, salute our colors with joy and reverence, with grace and devotion, while declaring our faith, our hope and our love for the One who has given us the glory of our manhood, our soulship and our brotherhood with the eternal, and our confidence as Christians in the never-ending future reward?—The Pilot.

A cough is often the forerunner of serious pulmonary afflictions, yet there is a simple cure within the reach of all in Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, an old-time and widely-recognized remedy, which, if resorted to at the inception of a cold, will invariably give relief, and by overcoming the trouble, guard the system from any serious consequences. Price 25 cents, at all dealers.

Customs of Holy Land.

Official Warden of Palestine's Sacred Places.

The Right Rev. Robert Razzoli, O.F.M., Provincial of the Franciscan Province of Florence, Italy, has been appointed Custos of the Holy Land. Father Razzoli is 43 years old. His official title is Warden of Mount Zion and Custodian of the entire Holy Land. He is so called because on Mt. Zion was the first foundation and the mother house of the order in Palestine, whence it spread later on over the entire Holy Land. But the Mohammedans expelled the Franciscans from Mt. Zion and turned the Church of the Cenacle into a Turkish mosque. His headquarters are now at the Convent of San Salvador, Jerusalem.

The term of office is six years, after which he can be re-elected, but the responsibilities are so great that every custus looks anxiously forward to his release. According to a Pontifical Bull of Benedict XIV., the Custos of the Holy Land must always be an Italian. He is assisted by a French Vicar, a Spanish Procurator and a council of four, taken

from various nationalities, an Italian, a Spaniard, a Frenchman and a German, this being necessary on account of the international character of the custody.

In his capacity as Warden of the Holy Shrines his position is of the greatest diplomatic importance, for he is in continual official relations with the Turkish Government, with the consuls of the various European nations in Jerusalem, and with the representatives of the diverse Oriental churches in Palestine. As the questions arising touch mostly on the Holy Shrines and are of international importance, his position is an extremely difficult and delicate one, for he must watch with unceasing vigilance all the political movements that might in any way affect the status quo of the country.

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Their Saint is a Dog.

We take the following from the Catholic Sun, Syracuse:

For years certain of our Presbyterian friends have been claiming that St. Patrick belonged to them. Catholics have never believed this assertion in view of the fact that, so far as the Christian history of Ireland extends, the Irish have invariably been found members of our faith, yet now it must be admitted that the Church of Knox seems getting in a position to set up a startling claim.

In the New York Sun of Monday there is a significant despatch. It is a correct statement of fact it is little less than amazing. It may be that no irreverence was intended by the alleged minister; nevertheless it can not fail to shock many. Here is the clipping mentioned: Washington, April 29.—The Southern Railway Company has granted clergymen's half-rate privileges to "St. Patrick the Presbyterian," a dog owned by Rev. A. W. Pitzer, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church South of this city. The dog is known among Mr. Pitzer's parishioners as the "assistant pastor."

So the Presbyterian St. Patrick is a dog! Very interesting discovery certainly. Few people possessed of ordinary intelligence ever imagined that he was a man. Possibly we shall learn later that the Baptist St. Patrick is a mule, and the Methodist St. Patrick a monkey. Since the Catholic Church will always retain the saint himself our friends must accept whatever substitute is obtainable.

But think of the shocking irreverence which prompted a Protestant minister, here in twentieth century America, to name his dog after a saint of God. Think also of the indecent levity of a great railroad corporation which gives a clergyman's half-rate privilege to a common cur! When the Greeks lost faith in their gods they bestowed their names on oxen, and it may be that Rev. Pitzer and the railroad are irreverent owing to a similar reason.

The Crick in the Back.—"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin," sings the poet. But what about the touch of rheumatism and lumbago, which is so common now? There is no poetry in that touch, for it renders life miserable. Yet how delightful is the sense of relief when an application of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil drives pain away. There is nothing equals it.

Worthy of Study.

The Lamp, organ of the extreme high wing of the Episcopal church, quotes the following from Truth: "A most striking fact in testimony of the truth of Catholic faith is that a Catholic never leaves the Catholic Church on his deathbed, or when the

SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY—Established March 6th, 1856; incorporated 1884; revised 1890. Meets in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, first Monday of the month. Committee meets last Wednesday. Officers: Rev. Director, Rev. M. Callaghan, F.F.; President, Mr. F. J. Curran; 1st Vice-President, W. F. Kearney; 2nd Vice, M. J. Quinn; Treasurer, W. Durack; Corresponding Secretary, W. J. Crowe; Recording Secretary, T. F. Tansy.

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certainty of immediate death stares him in the face. And, on the contrary, the reader will find that very many Protestants and others, when about to face the judgment seat of God, when the shackles of this world have fallen practically from them, embrace the Catholic faith and become members of the Catholic Church.

The reader will be astonished if he will note, in the execution of criminals, how many turn to the Catholic Church in their last hour; how many sick at our hospital do likewise, and how often the priest is called in to attend the deathbeds of non-Catholics. It has been said that other religions are better to live in, but the Catholic religion is better to die in. What is this but saying that the Catholic religion is the true religion? Even Philip Melancthon, one of the chief of the great reformers, advised his dear mother to die in the Catholic religion, not Protestantism.

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Entry may be made personally at the local land office for the district in which the land is situated, or if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, or the local agent receive authority for some one to make entry for him.

The homesteader is required to perform the conditions connected therewith under one of the following plans:

- (1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land each year for three years. (2) If the father (or mother, if the father is deceased) of the homesteader resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered for the requirements as to residence may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother. (3) If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon the said land.

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W. W. CORY, Deputy Minister of the Interior.

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"Sir," said the squire faintly, "do I not to say 'behav' to'm? The gentleman in so doubtful a way did not know how to conclude that his not insulting. The squire's face was a stranger, and his appearance that he felt a coming wide nostrils began to foggy expression was it seemed to the squire clothes began to bristling interesting crisis the approaching train brought to his senses. "Late," he said, and blushed like a school-gardless of appearance the depot with all speed stranger to stare in corner him. There were a number of citizens gathered at another time watch approach of a sail-boat pennant—a privilege as to those who had call on their fishing Rougevin was there, a the squire. "Who's the lucky the paw to the squire. "I rather think it is he replied, "but he'd fly a rag in honor of over the big fish. I caught more muskallouther man on the river know him to put up to a queer fellow, but a "He ought to take on a fishin'-trip," said dry laugh. The pere inquiringly, and the time could not make ing. "Oh! you mean the he ought to get a callonge and have him with the idea of a wh "You are speaking sian," said Pere Iman with the peculiar pale and red-haired "Russian or Prussia it doesn't matter; but a pretty hard bit of he can have no good ground this place. him tripping I'll an months in jail for him "And he's a Russian repeating the word m if it surprised or "Who'd think so to A man might be a -country, and ye could his face where he was "He seems to have in the town," said the -ening people; and -tells me he is very w pays as he goes. A blame for his face, I "It's the hermit," s as the boat approach and the red beard an eyes came into view; boat isn't his. He's in toe, and there's so ed with a blanket. here is an accident, a mer." The crowd wished to sail-boat swung int but Scott stopped it; ture, and the loud rquire sent a thrill -one. They gathered the hermit as he ste -dock and displayed nearly four feet long. "It's not mine," h "The men who caught 'There's one of 'em' blanket in the boat at the bottom of Eel their fish and their bo The first fish and th of the season! The sly removed the blank present took a look a man, a young fellow ing; but no one knew vessel was tied up, carried, at the hermit the hotel. Then Scot in his canoe and pre turn to the island; people came running a dead body, and am stranger walked cold, as one who goes to be muner was in contr the hurried steps, pal sympathetic looks of he was visited at on sent attention. "There he comes," whisper to the age So easy, too, and i there's something we