

IN OLD ST. PETER'S.

OBSERVATIONS OF A MAN WHO STEPPED INTO THE QUIET CHURCH OUT OF THE HOT STREET.

The following sympathetic sketch from the New York Sun might have been written of almost any Catholic church, which might well bear the title given to Our Lady in the Litany of Loretto, "Comforter of the Afflicted."

"About 4 o'clock this afternoon," said a man to his friend across the downtown restaurant table at which they were dining, "I had half an hour to get through, and I could think of absolutely nothing I wanted to do. The sidewalks were red hot and the atmosphere was stifling."

"I turned down Barclay street in sheer idleness. As I passed St. Peter's church I noticed the doors were open, and, do you know, it looked so cool and quiet that I just went up the steps and went in."

"The light was so subdued that at first I could hardly see anything. I sat down in one of the back pews and at first I just gave way to the restlessness of the place."

"Then my eyes began to get accustomed to the gloom, and I began to take in the surroundings. A couple of priests were hearing confessions and there were little gatherings of twenty people or so near their confessionals, and every once in a while some one would come out of the box and another would noiselessly glide in. But these groups did not interest me anything like as much as the isolated figures that dotted here and there over the church."

"Standing by the holy water font, just inside the door as I went in, was a tall, middle-aged man. As I made out the details of his figure, I saw that he had all the appearance of a prosperous business man."

"He stood with his face bent on the floor. His lips moved constantly and at intervals of a minute or so he slipped his fingers in the font and crossed himself."

"After about five minutes, his devotions ended, he seemed to come back to the world. He mechanically adjusted his collar, flicked a particle of dust from his coat, threw a glance at the occupants of the church and its occupants, bent his knee in the customary way, and stepped out with the confident step of a man who is sure of himself."

"Then, next, I noticed a couple of nuns, Sisters, who knelt in front of the altar and kissed it before passing into the pew to pray. A young woman across the aisle from me was praying fervently, the tears streaming down her face at first without her even taking the trouble to stop them from dropping on her dress."

"While I watched her two priests came in. They wore beards and looked like Germans. First they went direct to the altar rail and knelt there a minute or two. Then they passed around to the far side of the church from me and sat down in a pew."

"One of them produced two little books from a bag he carried. They seemed to find a place and began some office together. I noticed they sat and knelt and crossed themselves simultaneously."

"They concluded their devotions together. The one who had the bag slung it over his shoulder and they went out, exchanging a word and a smile."

"When my attention came back to the young woman, she was drying her tears and composing her hair. She stopped praying and sat back in her pew for a short time. Then she knelt again and prayed, but this time with composure."

"When she got up to go out there was no trace of a frown, elderly man came in. He might have been a truck driver. He knelt in the girl's place and prayed long and earnestly, so long, indeed, that I left him behind me."

"Perhaps the figure that excited my interest most of all was a young man who sat in front of me. His attitude caught my attention to such a degree that I stood up and moved over to the other side of the aisle to watch him."

"He was a neatly dressed, attractive looking young man, about twenty-three or twenty-four years, a clerk or salesman, I would say on a guess. But I never in my life saw anything like the dejection of his face and pose."

THE SACRAMENTS.

Because of its grave importance, it was our purpose to add a few further remarks on the sixth precept of the Church. As we have concluded, however, to take up consideration of the sacraments next, what we had intended to say will find better illustration under our review of the Sacrament of Matrimony. For this reason we shall postpone those suggestions until we reach that subject.

A sacrament, as all have learned, is a visible sign of an invisible grace instituted by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for our sanctification. Its first visible sign because its matter is perceptible by our senses. It is, secondly, an invisible sign of grace, which is perceived not by the senses but by divine faith.

The sacraments instituted by our Lord are seven in number. They supply all the necessities of the soul and correspond with like needs of the body.

This fact becomes quite apparent by comparison. As to corporal necessities, the first requisite is that we be born into the world. If we would attain physical perfection there must be growth and strength. In the third place to sustain life we must have food. Fourthly, when overtaken by sickness or injury, we require remedies for our restoration. Fifthly, we must have antidotes against the agencies of death. Sixthly, to maintain order and preserve justice, we are in need of laws and rules. And finally, lawful marriage is required for the perpetuation of the human family.

These may be termed the seven corporal necessities. Corresponding with them we have the seven sacraments, or necessities of the soul. In the sacrament of Baptism we are born anew to God. In the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are made perfect soldiers of Christ. In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we receive the Bread of Eternal Life. By the Sacrament of Extreme Unction we are fortified at death against the assaults of Satan. By the Sacrament of Holy Orders we are given spiritual superiors for the guidance of our souls. By the Sacrament of Matrimony the marital relation is sanctified and its fruits educated in a proper knowledge of God.

Our Lord's purpose in instituting these sacraments was that our souls might be sanctified and made pleasing to God. From the passion and death of our Lord they have their efficacy, which is applied to our souls through the sacraments. This at once establishes their importance to the human family and makes them deserving of particular study.—Church Progress.

Cardinal Vannutelli on Ireland's Faith.

I am deeply touched by the terms of the address with which I received my first welcome to Ireland. The devotion of the Irish Nation to the Catholic Faith and its attachment to the Holy See, on which you have so eloquently touched, and which have from times immemorial entitled Ireland to be called the Island of Saints, constitute a bond with Rome which is to day as close as it has been in the past. Of this my presence among you is a new proof, coming, as I do, as the representative of the Supreme Pontiff, who has sent me to bring to you, and to you only, the expression of his paternal affection on the inauguration of the new Cathedral of the Primate of all Ireland.

ST. JOSEPH'S GRADUATION.

On Thursday evening, Aug. 19, a very pleasant event took place at St. Joseph's Hospital, it being the occasion of the closing exercises of the graduating class of 1904.

The fair young graduates were five in number: Misses Elizabeth Kerr, Sarnia; Josephine Langman, Darrell; Ella Cowan, of this city; Genevieve, of London; and Esther Thompson, Wallacestown.

These amiable young ladies, who during the weary watchings and anxious nights of a three years' course of training in hospital work, evinced rare talent and a depth of womanly tenderness not frequently to be met with, are to-day congratulated on being made the happy recipients of the artistic diploma and handsome gold medal of merit.

The nurses' apartments were tastefully decorated for the occasion in pink and white, and presented a charming scene as the happy graduates, in their dainty white uniforms, together with their glad companions, filed into their dining hall, where, as the happy graduates awaited them, and where, judging by the merry trills of laughter that floated through the hall, a joyous hour was spent.

The completion of the evening's enjoyment was a high class and refined musical concert, tendered to the nurses by Mrs. George Cowan, at their beautiful home on King Street west.

While regretting to lose from the staff these estimable nurses, yet the ladies in charge take much pleasure in recommending them to all who might require their services, as kind, conscientious and efficient nurses. Although about to sever their associations with the hospital, yet they go abroad to their various fields of labor with the assurance of the good-will and kindly wishes of all who have been so deeply concerned in their welfare.

The Mother Superior and the Sisters of the hospital are delighted to take advantage of this favorable opportunity, and publicly expressing their heartfelt appreciation of the deep interest and kindly co-operation evinced by the gentlemen of the medical and nursing staff in the education and training of the nurses. They would also express their gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. George Cowan, and the ladies who so kindly contributed to the entertainment of the nurses on the occasion of their graduation.

MARRIED.

MARQUAY-AMBER. In St. Alphonsus Church, W. Jeter, by Rev. Father McGuire, Mr. John B. Marquay to Miss Catherine Amber.

DIED. At St. Joseph's Hospital, London, on July 23, Cecelia, wife of Mr. John Sullivan, aged twenty three years. May she rest in peace!

MULLIGAN. At Coruna, on the 7th inst., Thomas Mulligan, aged eighty five years. His funeral took place from St. Joseph's church, Tuesday, Aug. 9th. Solemn High Mass was sung by Rev. M. J. Brady, of Wallaceburg, assisted by Rev. John Brennan as deacon and Rev. Francis Stanley, of the Cathedral, London, assisted in the sanctuary.

MARKET REPORTS.

London, Aug. 18.—Grain, per cental.—Wheat per cental, \$1.80, corn, 80c to \$1.00; barley, 75c to \$1.00; oats, 60c to \$1.00; rye, 75c to \$1.00; clover, 10c to \$1.00; chick-wheat, 90c to \$1.00.

FAREWELL TO FATHER HARTIGAN. On Sunday last, Aug. 7, after the celebration of Mass, the Rev. Father Hartigan, on the occasion of his last visit to Chippewa, to bid his people farewell, and to bid his people farewell, was escorted by a large number of the parish of Napanee and Deseronto, where he has recently been appointed, to the residence of his family in London, Ontario.

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Pandora Range advertisement featuring an illustration of a woman in a kitchen and text describing the range's features and availability.

Church Furnishings advertisement listing various items like Carpets, COCOA MATTINGS, and LINOLEUMS, along with contact information for A. Screamton & Co.

Brockville Business College advertisement highlighting 25 years of continued success and offering various educational programs.

Advertisement for a male teacher for industrial school and a teacher for separate school, both in the Brockville area.

Advertisement for John M. Daly, a coal merchant, offering various grades of coal and contact information.

Large advertisement for Darch & Hunter, featuring a list of 29 Grand Varieties Vegetables & 6 Packets Flower Seeds, with prices and contact details.

Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, including 'VOLU...', 'The C...', 'LONDON, SA...', and various fragments of text from other pages.