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LEO XIII. ON LABOR.

Interesting and Foreible Letter to a

Below we give a letter which the Holy Father has addressed to M. Gas-pard Decurtius, a distinguished Swiss Catholic, on the subject of labor. This letter probably gave rise to the rumor that Leo XIII. was engaged on an encyclical on labor, and also to the bogus encyclical which was recently printed in many American papers. The Pope's letter was as follows:

DEAR Son-Greeting and apostolic benediction. We have no more earnest desire than to get the opportunity of fully expressing our sympathy and our solicitude for the working classes, for we are anxious to ameliorate their unhappy condition, render it worthy of civilized nations, and place it under the protection of justice and charity, the beneficient reign of which Christianity has established on earth and will extend more and more. For one of the objects of our ministry induces us to make our presence and our aid felt wherever the afflicted expect consolation, the weak support, and the unfortunate solace for their troubles. Penetrated with the consciousness of this sublime mission, and remembering the teachings of our Divine Saviour to the human race, we addressed to the Catholic world in our encyclical, "Rerum Novarum," words of love and peace. In studying the condition of the workers we have sought to put an end to that sad conflict which torments and menaces human society, over which hangs, like a mass of dark clouds, the fury of popular passions, announcing by alarming discharges of lightning the unchaining of a tempest fraught with shipwrecks. We have not failed to deal with the cause of the working classes before the leading authorities of civil society, wishful that a multitude so great and of such importance should not be abandoned without defence to an exploitation which converts into fortunes for some the misery of a large number. Accordingly we have learned with satisfaction, dear son, that at the recent congress of Bienne in Switzerland delegates representing

and their religious creed. APPROVED OUR ENCYCLICAL and received it with acclamaion; they recognized of themselves that it contains the most precious elements for the defence of their legitimate rights and for the preparation so much desired of solid foundations on which may be elevated an order of things which will be conformable to justice, and which will insure peace in human society by destroying the old distrust between

countries separated by their opinions

employers and employed.

The power of the Catholic Church's action for the success of such an undertaking is shown by the experience of all times and all countries, and even they who declare themselves opposed to its teaching are not ignorant of this. By its nature and its institutions the Church deserves in a particular man-ner the name of the mother and nurse of peoples. It has at its disposal admirable resources to aid men associated in a right spirit for the purpose of in-creasing the happiness of their existence without injury to mankind or to the sanctities of life. The Church, then, cannot refrain from laboring with maternal affection and generosity in solacing misery and alleviating all misfortunes. It is comforting to see

ity,
THE BEST METHOD TO FOLLOW is to seek to imprint deeply in men's minds the precepts of Christianity and to cause the gospel doctrine to be accepted as at once a gentle and a strong rule of conduct. Wherefore we consider happy and as practical as strong rule of conduct.

we consider happy and as practical as the until God withuran.

then unt of these principals, drawn from the sacred writings of the Church, men will be convinced that their legitimate aspirations will be realized not by the inconsiderable disturbance of social order, but under the powerful, salutary and holy direction of the spirit of wisdom that Jesus Christ, our Lord, caused to descend from heaven upon earth for the purpose of guiding man

kind. We have likewise learned with satisfaction that the congress of Bienne has considered the best method of soon calling a fresh and still more important workingmen's congress; its object is to draw the attention of the civil authorities to the necessity of everywhere passing just laws for the protection of women and children against excessive we have given in our encyclical. For if the public authorities have a serious generation, and it is upon them the nation must in a large measure count

the different cities; for since goods from different quarters often come for

sale to the same place.
IT IS CERTAIN
that the rules and regulations imposed on the workmen in one place would tend to results favorable to one nation

and detrimental to another.

These difficulties, and others of the same kind, cannot be surmounted solely by the power of human legislation. They can only be if the rule of conduct laid down by Christianity is understood and held in honor and if men conform their conduct to the teaching of the Church. On these conditions the general good will find a powerful auxiliary in the conciliating wisdom of the laws and in the concurrence of all the force at the disposal of

We have wished to give you, dear son, who devote with such ardent zeal all the resources of your mind and your intelligent activity to such a noble end, a public testimony of our good will. We are quite confident that you will courageously advance in the way upon which you have entered; you will strive to daily disseminate more, and cause to be still better understood, the doctrines unfolded in the letters which have emanated from the Apostolic See for the solace of the unfortunate and the strengthening of

social order.

As a pledge of the heavenly favor which we invoke upon your efforts, we affectionately grant you and yours the Apostolic Benediction.

Given at Rome, near St. Peter's Aug. 6, 1893, of our pontificate the sixteenth. LEO XIII., Pope.

HINTS FOR FEMALES AFTER MARRIAGE, BY A LADY.

As our first duties, in every sphere of life, are those to our Creator, so the first great object after marriage is to establish a regular course of religious action, without which we cannot secure our soul's salvation nor obtain God's blessing on our establishment. Let not the young wife blush to bend her knee to the God of her youth nor neg-lect the devotion used in her maidenhood. O my dear sisters, have you no more favors to ask, no more sins to atone for, no more perils to guard against, now that your lot in life is settled? What will give your character the stability and modesty of the Christian matron? Religion alone. What will ennoble you in the eyes of your husband and household but the dignified consciousness of rectitude which invariably follows a faithful discharge of religious duties. If your husband is a good Christian, fail not to thank God for the same. You will find the sweetest moments of your existence those that you spend together at the throne of grace. If he is not religious, your example may be the means appointed by God to enkindle His divine love in his bosom. How heavenly the task could you thus repay your husband's affection! Be firm then; neglect no religious duty from shame, convenience or any motive; but at the same time remember that the active life you have entered upon is quite incompatible with the devotion of the recluse. You nce without injury to man.

nce without when our theaven or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or by mail at 60c. a box, or 6 boxes for all dealers or have chosen your part and must forego all lengthened meditations, retreats source whence it all springs? Our marriage has not been a mere civil contract: the choicest graces of the Church have been given to us to enlighten our path; the blessings of heaven will follow the faithful dis-

> under its banner we are safe. -Sulor ac Suicirtap. MOCKING BLINDNESS.

consideration in our establishment

Earnest Words by Philip O'Neil.

HOW FEW THINK OF DEATH. In every walk of life death is pres The whole world is a tomb and we with thoughts bent only on life, draw the attention of the civil authorities to the necessity of everywhere passing just laws for the protection of women and children against excessive labor, and of applying the counsels which we have given in our encyclical. For if the public authorities have a serious rights of workingmen, the interest is greater and more serious when there is a question of coming to the aid of weak women and children. They are the beginning, the hope, of the coming of life. This we know, that life is get-ting shorter every second. O, my friends, how many seconds are yet for us? We know, too, that our days are PUBLIC AND PEIVATE BUILDINGE for its future prosperity. On the numbered, and the day is steadily other hand, it is very evident that the approaching us on which our grave workingmen can never find an efficaction out like a candle fickering in its

socket. We are bewitched by the world. Friends, why live for this world when we must go to another? Why strive

only to secure the things that perish? NOW IS THE TIME. When these lines bring up the mem ory of your sins, what will you do? You have the example of tears, in Peter. You may cry aloud persistently like blind Bartimeus, "Jesus, Son

of David, have mercy on me." You can murmur with humility the words You of the publican, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner." Or you may show a sense of your abasement by saying with the prodigal, "Father I have sinned and am no longer worthy to be called thy son." Will you have the hardihood to insult that awful Being by remaining indifferent? The whole concourse of the angels are watching you with singular interest, for our Saviour said: "There shall be joy before the angels of God upon one sinner doing penance." The recording angel waits with thrilling expectancy for one tear of sorrow from you

to blot out your offences. THE HORROR OF SIN. We have all read of our Saviour's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, in which He sweat blood at the contemplation of our sins. He had taken Peter, James and John to be witnesses of His anguish, although He went ward a little from them before He fell upon the ground. He said to them: "My soul is exceeding sorrowful even unto death." Thus we must be exceeding sorrowful for our sins, and it is most certain that if we could see the enormity of our sins, and the endless consequences of each shocking crime set forth, and then turn in our fear to

look upon the frown of the living God, we too would sweat blood from each particular pore, and our hair would raise on end, and the face would become fear-stricken and pallid with a strange look of fright, and we would cry in an agonizing wail, My God! what will become of me? Good friends, this moment that you read this is an important occasion: either you will put off preparation as usual, or you will commence a course of devotion, so earnest, so zealous, so devout, so remarkable, that it will be an example to the whole congregation. Let us repent! Let us take hold unto eternal

Don't trifle with your faith, and allow the rank weeds of sin and in-difference to choke it to death. Faith is a divine gift.

life! Let us strive to save our souls

Men should often renew their good resolutions, and not lose heart because they are tempted against them .- St. Philip Neri.

No person should travel without a box of Ayer's Pills. As a safe and speedy remedy for constipation and all irregularities of the stomach and bowels, they have no equal, and, being skilfully sugar-coated, are pleasant to take, and long retain their

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After Mard Study.

Etwood, No., March 6, 1891.

I used Pastor Koshig's Nerve Tome for nervous and residess nights after hard study; it gave me refreshing sleep and great relief. I also ordered it for another person who suffered from nervousness and it did him much good.

EARLING, Ia, May 14, '89.

I was troubled with nervous headache for a long time, especially on Sundays after service. Two boides had the desired effect. Fines full confidence that it is all its name implies, a "Merva Tonic."

REV. FATHER J. B. HUMMERT.

ET. MARY'S, EY., Oct. 7, '20.

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ness. REV. FATHER POL. FERMONT.

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A MARK OF THE CHURCH.

Towards the end of last year a young man, porter of one of the largest hotels, came to see one of the Catholic pastors of a great city and asked to be received into the Catholic Church. The pastor, wishing to prove the sincerity of the young man's in tention, although his exterior was far from moving his suspicion, after hav ing put some questions to him, dis-missed him, saying he intended to consider the matter more at leisure, since it would be dangerous to use the Rev. Father O'Connor, of San haste in so momentous an affair. Some time afterwards the young man came back and made known once more his desire. But he was again sent away, the pastor not yet being resolved upon granting his request.

The young man came back a third time, and the pastor asked him what it was that, above all else, drew him towards the Chuhrch, whereupon the

"Years ago I used to read every day in my New Testament, and it so happened that I was struck that Christ predicted to His Church, to His disciples and followers suffering and perecutions for His doctrine's sake. Now, I said to myself, Well, it is, then, by this work that I must discover the true Church. But who is it that is thus persecuted for Christ sake? Is it Jews? No. The Freemasons? the Catholics? No, no. But it is the Catholic priests, the religious orders, the Bishops, the Pope. They are, then, the disciples of Christ, and it are, then that the true Church is to be The Old Catholics? No, no. But it is found.

The pastor no longer doubted the sincerity of the young man, but in-structed him in the doctrines of the Catholic Church, and received him some time after. A true mark of the Catholic Church are these sufferings and persecutions, though there is nothing about this to be found in the Creed, but the history of the Catholic Church assures us of it on each page.

A Touching Incident.

The destruction by fire, a few weeks ago, of the Cold Storage Building on the World's Fair grounds, when seventeen brave men, amid the flames, sacrificed their lives to duty, was most appalling. The sad facts are well known; but a touching, consoling incident occurred at the time, unobserved by most of the bystanders, which has been made public for the edification of all. With the crowd present at that terrible scene Francisco. dered frantic through horror at the sight, he looked steadily upward. He saw that no earthly help could reach the doomed men; and as they were forced, one after another, to drop down into the flery furnace, Father O'Connor raised his hand, and, pronouncing the formula of conditional towards the Chuhrch, whereupon the absolution gave to each, in so far as young man gave the following answer: he was capable of receiving it, the remission of sins through the sacra-ment of penance. The thought of this must give much consolation to the families of the departed heroes.

In that supreme moment eternity opens before it, the Christian soul longs for reconciliation with the God, before whom it is called, desiring that, by His grace and mercy, the it may be disposed to receive the No. benefits of the sacrament through which the stains of sin committed after Church, whose mission upon earth is to seek after souls and lead them to the feet of their Heavenly Father .-Ave Maria.

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