

YOUTHS DEPARTMENT.

THE STORY OF OMAR.

Long centuries ago, three Persian boys, thinking upon their hopes of future joys, Between them—Omar, Abdul, and Hassan— A lasting compact made, and thus it ran—

Abdul and Omar and Hassan. These three Sobol mates and friends do solemnly agree That to whichever one success may come Honor or Wealth—the hand of Allah from, This one to each companion dear shall make Some worthy offering for Friendship's sake.

The years slipped by, and when good fortune came, It brought to Abdul honor, wealth and fame; Vizier the Sultan made him, 'twas then He thought of Omar and Hassan again, And they, 'tis said, remembering the old Agreement, came, their wishes to unfold.

First spoke Hassan: "Of thee, O Friend, my heart Would crave of power to have some goodly part."

But Omar said to Abdul, "I were well With me, O Friend, if I might ever dwell Within the shadow of thy happiness, And from Life's grape the wine of Wisdom press!"

To each was granted that for which he prayed; The work fulfilled, the promised debt was paid.

But soon Hassan, grown greedier, forgot His love for Abdul, and began to plot, Against the Sultan and the kind Vizier, Whose hand had helped him to his high career;

And at his bidding did a rascal's knife Undo the thread of gracious life.

Now Omar, he in peace and comfort sought Wisdom—a school-boy still by Allah taught; Studied the course of planets and of stars, And for his Sultan made the Calendar; But most he loved, as the propitious time His gathered wisdom to record in rhyme.

To day, of all these three 'tis he alone Whose name is honored and whose work is known; Modest he was, and being modest, wise Therein the moral of his story lies.

—Frank Dempster Sherman, in Harper's Young People.

A FORGOTTEN IRISH HERO.

It is somewhat strange that in the recent "revived remembrance" of the noble Six Hundred no mention has been made of the brave soldier who, undismayed by the fatigues of the campaign, led on the Cavalry, led on the gallant troopers at the word of command—

"Into the jaws of death, Into the mouth of hell."

Captain Edward Nolan belonged to the old Milesian clan of O'Nolan, whose territory in the bygone time was in that part of Leitrim which is now the county of Carlow. Like many Irishmen, he began his career in the Austrian service in one of those Hussar regiments for which that army has always had a reputation. He subsequently entered the British army, in which his father held a commission. The book on cavalry reform, which Captain Nolan published, showed how disgusted he was with the arrangements presided over by the old women warriors at Whitehall many of whom had little practical knowledge of campaigning.

Captain Nolan received the fatal order from Lord Raglan. Of course, Lord Raglan, in hastily writing the order, made a mistake, for he could not mean that a few squadrons of horse should dash at the batteries of the Russian army in something like the line of battle. And the able veteran officer who bore that order from him, of course saw that there was a mistake; but it seemed to him that, under existing circumstances, it would be a far greater mistake not to avail of the order, and literally carry it out. The branch of the service in which he was an enthusiast had been slighted, and with something of exultation he carried the message to the ornamental head of the Light Brigade.

When Lord Cardigan received the "blundering" message from Lord Raglan he read the order and stared about him. "Where is the enemy I am told to attack?" "There, sir," replied Nolan, scornfully, and pointing to the batteries in front—"there is our enemy." But to make sure that the movement would be the right one, he would pioneer it himself. Then it is related that, getting off his horse's back, he lightened the girl, and some sixteen yards in advance, heading the charging squadrons, until the Russian batteries opened fire and the brave flow was torn from his saddle by a cannon ball. England is justly proud of the exploits of her army at Alma, at Inkermann and at Balaclava, but the exploit of which she is most proud is the "Charge of the Six Hundred," which Capt. Nolan brought about. Yet the name of that Irish soldier of guiding head and hand is now almost unmentioned, and poet and critic conjoin him with the Raglans and Cardigans in the dreary statement that "somebody blundered."

TWO LITERARY PUZZLES.

Here is a curious combination of words: SATOR AREPO TENET OPERA ROTAS

Observe they read across, down and up, commencing at the last letter of the last word and backward.

Sometimes the following combination of figures is offered to the unsophisticating

1 1 1 3 3 3 5 5 5 7 7 7 9 9 9

and you are asked to pick out a combination of any six of the figures and to make a total of 21. The result is long effort and failure, for the simple reason that as the figures stand, such a result is impossible. But the way to do it is by turning the figures upside down. The three fives and sevens become mere meaningless marks, but the ones remain and the nines becomes sixes. So there are then three sixes and three ones making in all the required 21.

A TIGER STORY.

A correspondent sends the Rangoon Gazette the following tiger story, for the truth of which he vouches:—"About 20 days ago Barman, living at Meda, was out onting grass in the jungle with the usual agricultural dab. While stepping to rest himself for a moment, he discovered that a tiger had stalked him, and was just springing at him. He immediately gave a back-handed stroke with all his force, and caught the tiger right across the eyes. The tiger sprang on him and seized him by the back of the head and neck, when the plucky Barman planted his dab twice in the brute's belly. Mr. Stripes let go, and the Barman hit him over the head again, and he faded. On recovering consciousness he found the tiger had gone, and he managed to crawl toward his village, till some people met him and carried

him home and on to the police hospital at Thabektyin. Although he has some chafed wounds, the doctor hopes to pull him through. He was doing well when I passed through. The tiger, a full-grown one, was found dead two days after by the villagers, and its skin and head were shown to the police officer at Thabektyin."

THE LICENSE LAWS.

Father McCallen's Third Lecture

On the Proposed Amendments to the Provincial Laws Governing Licenses.

In his third lecture on the proposed amendments to the Quebec License Law, Rev. J. A. McCallen discussed last Tuesday in St. Patrick's hall, before a large audience, the means that should be taken for the enforcement of the present liquor laws and of those which may hereafter be passed by the Legislature. The reverend father began by laying down as a first principle, that every law of a serious nature should be rigorously enforced. He explained at some length the difficulties now to be met with in the enforcement of the liquor laws. The saloon was admitted by all to be here, as everywhere else, a potent factor in politics. Too many men, slaves of drink, did not hesitate to barter their votes for a glass or two of liquor. Being frequenters of the saloon, these men naturally came under the influence of the saloon-keepers, who no less naturally used their influence in favor of the candidate, who, if elected, might be relied on, if not to vote in the interests of the liquor trade, at least not to antagonize these interests. There were, of course, some few saloon keepers who would not descend to such base means of controlling votes as to purchase them for liquor. There was also the well known danger that those who in the halls of legislation gave their vote for better license laws might be made to feel at a future election the resentment of the liquor sellers. The reverend lecturer believed that the majority of our legislators, rising to the height of their honorable position, would without fear or favor pass such laws as in conscience they believed to be for the best interest, not of the few, but of the many. As every voter, on election day, should

cast his vote intelligently, and in the full possession of his mental faculties, it was important that all saloons should be closed from 6 p.m. on the eve of election till 6 a.m. on the day after election. Every citizen should, on election day, use his influence to keep his friends sober, so that they might cast their votes conscientiously and as men fulfilling one of the most solemn and important duties of citizenship. The enforcement of the liquor laws by increased fines was found to be practically of little avail. Men who did a good business could afford to go on as usual defying the law. In Baltimore, before the high license law went into effect, a saloon-keeper who did a thriving business every Sunday with opened doors entered the Mayor's office every Monday morning with a cheque of \$50 (the amount of the fine), paid the money, and did not wait to have his case tried. A saloon-keeper in Montreal not quite so generous kept his Sunday saloon open in the same way, and on conviction paid \$50 during a single year. Fines being of no avail, some people suggest imprisonment. Imprisonment for a first offence might be found odious. But are not repeated infractions of less serious laws often punished by imprisonment? How ever leniently our courts are disposed to treat a first infraction of the law, do not their records go to show that men who persist in breaking the law are finally sentenced to imprisonment? Thus the noisy individual, the street brawler, the common scold, the pugnacious character, even when he does not break any one's bones, are first fined, then warned, and finally served with a free pass to Montreal's jail? How often is not liquor the cause of these faults? The man who tumbles out of a saloon drunk on Sunday—the husband who leaves the saloon to vent

his drunken rage on an unfeeling wife—the minor, who gets into a Sunday quarrel because his crazed brain makes him pugnacious—are often found in the Recorder's court on Monday morning, and after repeated warnings, not heeded, are marched or carried to the penitentiary. Sometimes, the saloon-keeper who breaks the Sunday law, the law in regard to selling to minors, pays his fine (seldom, indeed, is he asked to do that much), and with the unholy profits of his Sunday sales, prepares to lay in a new stock of intoxicating drink for the orgies of the coming Sunday. Let the police of this city on a given Sunday be directed to visit the saloons and numerous groceries—make no arrests, but report under oath what their eyes behold—and there would be a revelation in Monday's papers which would make every citizen blush to think that such desecration of the Lord's day is tolerated.

I don't know how long Montreal is going to put up with this state of things. I don't know whether we are ever to have a Sunday law strictly enforced, but if increased fines are not sufficient to make the saloon-keeper, like every other business man, give up deserting the Lord's day, by all means let him be sent to prison. For there he will find time to meditate a little on his sins, and on the majesty of Canadian law. The police, I believe, are supposed to enforce the Sunday and other liquor laws. A most gratuitous supposition! Perhaps they are not aware that the majority of saloons and groceries do a thriving business on Sunday. Perhaps they are not aware that the minors whom they see drunk on Sunday, must necessarily have procured liquor from some body on that day? They don't generally get it at home. Now if the police of this city cannot, or dare not, bring the Sunday

SALOON KEEPER BEFORE THE COURT, would it not be well for the Legislature to consider whether a special revenue police might not be found more effective? The police of Montreal are of necessity either the

ONLY LIVE FISH

SWIM UP STREAM. IT TAKES VIGOR AND BACK BONE TO GO AGAINST THE TIDE. THE SICK MAN IS SELDOM THE SUCCESSFUL MAN. THE POINT IS: GET WELL AND KEEP WELL THIS CAN BE DONE; HERE'S A NATURAL WAY: INHALE NATURE'S VITALIZER—OXYGEN. NOT THE AMOUNT WHICH YOU GET IN ORDINARY BREATHING BUT A CONDENSATION OF IT. THIS IS FOUND IN COMPOUND OXYGEN. THIS POWERFUL REMEDIAL AGENT IS NOT ONLY AN INCREASE OVER THE NORMAL SUPPLY, BUT IT IS VITALIZED BY CHARGES OF ELECTRICITY. IT MAKES STRENGTH AND MAINTAINS IT. THE BEST FEATURE OF VITALITY GAINED IN THIS WAY IS THAT IT REMAINS AFTER THE USE OF COMPOUND OXYGEN IS DISCONTINUED.

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relatives or the friends or the neighbors of the saloon-keeper. It is no doubt, edifying for them to enter a saloon on Sunday, and say to the busy man behind the bar: "Father, brother, uncle, aunt, cousin, friend, neighbor, I arrest you in the name of the law. You are selling liquor to these men whom I find drunk on your premises—to this minor who with his older brethren would be better employed in church, in his own home, or among his sober friends." Is not this a real explanation of the continued infraction of the Sunday and the minor laws? If so, let us by all means have a revenue police. Let them be changed from the city to another every three men. Let them get a big salary, and let a high license tax pay that salary. It would be hardly fair to tax the sober law-abiding citizens, in order to make the saloon-keeper respect the majesty of the law. The Rev. lecturer closed his practical and interesting discourse by advocating cancellation of licenses for third offences, as perhaps the only effective means of enforcing the liquor law. Before and after the lecture some very excellent vocal and instrumental music was given by the Misses. Jensen, Wall and McCallen. Senator Murphy presided, and stated on the platform were Messrs. James Connaughton, J. J. Costigan, John L. Jensen, James Ternay, and other officers of the St. Patrick's A. A. & B. society. Father McCallen announced that next Tuesday he would deliver the last of the present series of lectures and resume only after the Christmas holidays.

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CATHOLIC CULLINGS. Gems of Thought From Holy Men Past and Present.

Imitation is a necessity of nature; when young, we imitate others; when old, ourselves. The good hate evil, but not evil people; the evil abhor both good and good people.—Abbe Roux.

That in us which shall never die is changing daily—is being moulded or marred according as we yield to or resist the working of His Word and Spirit—is taking the eternal stamp of good or ill.—Cardinal Manning.

The softness, and the glory, and the temptations, and the honours, and the luxuries that are about us, are more seducing and dangerous than the winter of penal laws. They harden the manhood of Catholics pariter. The summer sun relaxes many.—Cardinal Manning.

In your prayers and in your works of charity remember the souls in Purgatory. Nothing is more pleasing to them or more beneficial than the offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Many have been the graces obtained through their souls. Remember they cannot pray for themselves, hence the necessity of our prayers for their early deliverance.

It is a masterly stroke to triumph over our own bodies, that we may parry all blows in the other combats in this life. In my opinion this advantage is so great that all who have acquired it will make little account of the labors they must endure in this first war, and it must, moreover, cause them to everywhere enjoy great peace.

The beauty of a religious life is one of its greatest recommendations. What does it profess? Peace in mankind. It teaches us these arts which will contribute to our present comfort as well as our future happiness. Its greatest ornament is charity; it influences nothing but love, and sympathy and affection; it breathes nothing but the purest spirit of delight, and in short, its system is perfectly calculated to benefit the heart, to improve the mind, and enlighten the understanding.

All depends on perseverance. Without this nothing avails. The grace and perfection and splendor of the angels could not save them. The daily fellowship with Jesus, His doctrine and miracles, and three years of His presence did not save Judas. The gift of regeneration, and of the sacraments of grace, were all in vain to Ananias and Sapphira. All alike lacked one thing, and that one thing lacking left them all things. They had not perseverance; and though they had everything else, nothing without this was of any avail.

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