

The prayerful spirit we spoke of last month is something altogether internal, unseen. Mighty though its effects are, its action is invisible. Like the electric wire that springs the far off mine it whispers nothing of the coming blast. Not so this apostleship of intercourse. Its power lies in its outward form. Doubtless the strength and persuasiveness of that outward form originates in the inward force of faith and love. But the exterior phenomena are the only agencies that we can examine and analyze. To them we proximatively refer results. An erring soul is won over by the charm of a fervent Catholic's winsome life. We naturally attribute that conversion, under God and His grace, to the influence of that sweet example.

The first thing that strikes us about this apostleship is the multitude of opportunities for its exercise. Every day we come across a certain number of persons at home, in our neighbourhood, in the street, in friendly or business relations. On all these persons we can exercise an effective, albeit indirect, apostleship. To all these persons we may, if we wish, do some good. In all we ought, when we can, to enkindle and keep aflame the love of Jesus.

But how shall we do so? The answer opens out vistas as endless as the opportunities of a lifetime and the tactful resources of an alert mind and sympathetic heart. One feels that a full reply would have to take in all possible situations and contingencies. However, although the undertaking is in very deed rather gigantic, we may begin to approach it on the negative side. What is there that Christians ought not to do when they wish to diffuse around them the good odour of Jesus Christ? What defects should they avoid if they are not as yet conscious of them, or eradicate if they feel their blighting presense?

In the first place they must not give scandal. They have a certain reputation for piety, they are often seen at Mass on week days, they are engaged in any number of charitable undertakings. It will not do in social gather-