

A PAGAN STATE OF MIND

The Blessed Mary and John the Beloved Disciple, who were present at the first great sacrifice, knew who it was that really hung on the Cross; the pagan soldiers, who mounted guard on Calvary did not. They were on the hilltop to keep order; they did not know that the Son of God was with them in the flesh; the tragic sacrifice was consummated before their very eyes, but it did not appeal to them; only the centurion knew and understood.

How many Catholics are there who live in this pagan state of mind! How many are there who are present at the renewal of the Sacrifice of Calvary whose faith is obscure, who realize the Real Presence not at all or only in a vague sort of way! Their demeanor at Mass is not that of Mary or St. John beside the Cross, but rather that of the Roman guards who looked on, bored and impatient, leaning lazily on their barbeds, and present only because their duty kept them there.

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heat and cold and distance, consider it a duty to assist as often as they can. Unhappily, there are innumerable Catholics who, through lack of faith or knowledge, have not felt this attraction and employ the flimsiest excuses to shirk this all-important duty of their Christian lives.

In no less degree than that of the pupils who are now attending the Public schools. Furthermore, the Catholics of Philadelphia, whilst educating their own children, and thereby saving to the city millions of dollars every year, pay at the same time as much for the support of the Public school as their non-Catholic citizens. The conclusion from all these startling truths is that the Catholics of Philadelphia, though numbering but one-third of the population, pay for the education of more than half the children of the city and actually do more for popular education than any other body of citizens.

Could any of those malignant slanderers, who are in the habit of assailing the Catholic Church as an "enemy of education," point to a single example of such sacrifice and support for education by any non-Catholic community the world over?—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

A MINOR KEY I brought a little holly wreath And laid it on the snow— Lonely and motherless beneath, His tiny grave lies low. I kissed a little holly wreath, And laid it on the snow— If only it could reach beneath To those dear lips I know!

night came the songs and pieces were nearly all about the manger. It beats all how many verses and things there are about it." Our brethren of the sects seem to be coming around to the custom of having a Cris in the church at Christmas. At present (as the above speech indicates), they have gone as far as the manger. But why not the whole scene?—Sacred Heart Review.

ANGLICAN BISHOP'S IGNORANCE AND BLASPHEMY

Readers of the "Nineteenth Century" magazine (says "Alfonso") will deeply resent and protest against the tone of an article by the Protestant Bishop of Carlisle on "Monopoly in Religion." The part dealing with the two great doctrines of the Catholic Church, Infallibility and Transubstantiation will certainly cause a shock to the sense of decency and propriety of every Catholic, and set him wondering how on earth a man occupying an English Bishopric can be so ignorant and blatant. Protest has already been raised against the outrageous paragraphs from the Catholic press; and even journals of the Bishop's own communion are administering castigation to him. The Church Times (a leading Protestant paper) for example, says: "We have to go back to the old Exeter Hall days to match what he says about Transubstantiation and Papal Infallibility. The Vatican decree would never have been passed if the Council had been an assembly of married men; their wives would have taught them better." And this sentence seems to be borrowed from the school of Kenist:

"When it is asserted that from the same bushel of flour both a cake and a God can be made; and from the same cask of wine both a human beverage and Divine Blood! the assertion passes beyond the realm of reason into that of delusion." The Bishop himself appears to enjoy a monopoly in controversial indecency.

that of God and Man in One Person? And the Resurrection of human bodies at the last day? His attitude is that of rank Rationalism. It would dissolve Anglicanism as well as Catholicism—in short, all supernatural Christianity whatsoever. We are sorry for his brother Bishops.—Edinburgh Catholic Herald.

GREAT THINKERS "SEE" GOD IN NATURE

Lately there passed away in France a great man of science, the most noted entomologist of the world, J. H. Fabre, whom Victor Hugo was used to call "The Homer of Insects." To a visitor he said: "After my eighty seven years of observations and reflections I cannot say that I believe in God: I see Him. Without God I understand nothing; without Him all is darkness. Not only have I preserved this conviction despite my studies, but I have aggravated or ameliorated it, as you may wish to term my state of mind. Every epoch has its delusions. I consider atheism as the delusion of our epoch. It is the malady of our present time. One would despoil me of the outside of my body sooner than of my belief in God."

DIED

DOWNY.—On Wednesday, Dec. 22nd, 1915, at Toronto, John B. Downy, late of Waterdown, Ont. May he rest in peace. TURV.—At the Dardanelles, on Dec. 6, in brave and heroic defence of his country, Ignatius Turv, late of Harbor Maine, Nfld. Aged twenty years. May he rest in peace.

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