

Random Notes and Gleanings.

STRANGE ADVICE.—Some men are exceedingly selfish, or they see everything from a very selfish standpoint. They only think of their own way of looking at human affairs and they seem to want to have all the world gauge life by their standards.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.—Now that so much interest, on account of the great war in progress, is exhibited in Japan, and the affairs of that country, it comes timely from a correspondent over there to give us some idea of the educational methods of the Orient.

A HEROIC NUN.—Out at Shelbyville, Indiana, Sister Theodora, of St. Vincent School, four miles from the town, heard some one prowling through the building. On going to see what was the matter she met a negro face to face in the hall. He drew a revolver, but she grabbed it and the two clinched and fell in the struggle.

A PROMINENT CONVERT.—According to the American press, Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, while on a recent visit to St. Louis, enjoyed the happy privilege of administering the Sacrament of Baptism to an old friend and distinguished convert, in the person of Hon. Seth W. Cobb.

ing the Sacrament of Baptism to an old friend and distinguished convert, in the person of Hon. Seth W. Cobb, Mr. Cobb was formerly President of the Merchants' Exchange, of St. Louis. He has always been identified prominently with the business and social life of his home city.

NOVEL READING.—It has been estimated that in 1903, in the United States, five times as much money was spent on novels as upon liquor. A contemporary says that it would be amusing to see if the drink did five times the harm done by the novels.

THE DIVORCE REMEDY.—The divorce question is becoming more and more of interest throughout the American Republic, and its that in proportion to the social ravages that the vile system is causing.

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Anthony of Padua, St. Basil the Great died, in 1231. In 1777 the Stars and Stripes were adopted as the national flag by Act of Congress in the United States.

JUNE 15TH.—In 1381 Watt Tyler was slain. In 1844, Thomas Campbell, the poet of Scotland, and author of the "Exile of Erin," died. In 1834 the great Dr. Doyle (D.K.L.) the Irish Bishop and controversialist, died.

JUNE 16TH.—In 1722 the great Duke of Marlborough died. In 1846, Pius IX was elected Pope. In 956 Hugh IX the Great of France died. In 1659, Mgr. de Laval, the first Bishop of Quebec, landed in Canada.

JUNE 17TH.—This is a very memorable date. In 1775, the Battle of Bunker Hill was fought. In 1864, William Smith O'Brien, the leader of 1848, died. In 1778 the British evacuated Philadelphia. In 1673 PereMarquette discovered the Mississippi. In 1696 John Sobieski, King of Poland, died.

DIED.—In this city, on Friday, the 17th instant, Miss Eliza A. Burke, sister of Mr. Michael Burke.

MR. REDMOND COMING

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, on June 8, cabled to the National Secretary of the United Irish League of America, that he will come to America to attend the second national convention of the organization which is to be held in New York city on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 30 and 31.

Mr. Redmond's message, which was sent from the House of Commons, was as follows:

This means that Mr. Redmond, accompanied by a delegation of his colleagues, or other members of the United Irish League in Ireland, will come to attend the convention. The national committee of the organization in America unanimously requested Mr. Redmond himself to head whatever delegation might be selected and for some time past he has been considering the possibility of coming to the United States at the time selected for the holding of the convention.

Mr. Redmond, owing to the onerous duties which he had to perform, has found it difficult to leave Ireland about the time selected for the holding of the American convention. The Parliamentary session will only just have concluded, and as the amending land bill and the bill providing for the building of cottages for the Irish laborers have to be steered through Parliament in the interval, it means

that Mr. Redmond will be practically tied to his post in the House of Commons until he starts for America. Then again, he will be compelled to return home very speedily, as he will have to be in Ireland to defend the suit brought against him by the De Freyne estate, in the county Roscommon, a couple of years ago.

Mr. Redmond, John Dillon, Michael Davitt, John Fitzgibbons, of Castlereagh, and others of the national leaders are being prosecuted by Lord De Freyne, on the ground that they, as the responsible leaders of the United Irish League, took sides with the De Freyne tenants in their struggle with the landlord.

Although it is nearly two years since the suit was instituted, it has been fought step by step, by the national organization, until it reached the English House of Lords. The venue, as originally laid in the Vice Chancellor's court in Dublin, called for a trial of the case without a jury, but after a lengthy struggle the English House of Lords decided against Lord De Freyne on that point, and the case will now be tried by a specially selected jury in Dublin beginning early in October.

The legal authorities in Dublin are now engaged in the work of striking the special jury panel for the trial of the case. The procedure will be to select forty-eight names from the panel, nobody who has served as a juror within the past two years being eligible for service on the jury. When the forty-eight names have been selected the plaintiff and the defendants have the right to strike out twelve each, and from the remaining twenty-four the jury will be selected.

As each national leader named as defendants has been sued in his individual as well as his public capacity the prosecution will partake of all the attributes of a state trial, and will be substantially a reproduction of the prosecution of Parnell, Davitt, Dillon and the other "travellers" in Dublin in 1881, on almost exactly similar allegations.

STORY OF A BELL.

In a New York exchange a correspondent tells the story of how a bell was secured for a certain Church, through the reaction caused by bigoted opposition to a bell in the earlier days of that Church's need. The letter is a fine illustration of how frequently good is the result of evil. The evil of itself cannot produce the good; but the spirit which animated those guilty of prejudice and bigotry often procures results the very opposite of those intended.

"Several years ago when it was proposed to place the bell of the old town hall of Flatbush in the Catholic Church, since the town had been absorbed by the borough of Brooklyn and the bell was no longer used for its original purposes, many applauded the idea which seemed to assure the preservation of an historical relic. But soon came such a flood of protests from non-Catholic sources that Rev. John T. Wood, the rector of Holy Cross Church, would have nothing to do with the bell. Although the city authorities had voted to give the relic to the Church he refused the gift because of the prejudice exhibited by the writers of the letters.

"Now the church is to have a new bell after all with an historical interest because of the circumstances associated with its donation. A humble member of the parish, James Cruise, who had been a pioneer in this old Dutch settlement, was among those who were disappointed that the first movement had failed. Without announcing his determination, he made up his mind to a course now revealed. A few days ago he died at his childhood's home in Ireland, which he went back to see when he felt his end approaching. Before his death he made provision which has resulted in the payment to Father Wood of \$1500, which will be used in the purchase of a bell, as a memorial to Mr. Cruise and his wife, who died before him. The congregation will raise about \$8000 with which to build a belfry. The Church is on an avenue through which multitudes of people pass each summer on the trolley cars going to Coney Island and other summer resorts, and passengers will observe as they glide along a large electric cross which is to surmount the belfry as a sign that the faith is strong in this outlying part of the City of Churches. The bell will daily ring the Angelus. All this might never have been if the bigoted ideas of some people had not led them to oppose the placing in this Church of the old town bell."

OUR CURBSTONE OBSERVER ON COURTESY.

I am not going to pose as a master of etiquette, nor as a Chesterfield. I suppose that I would have little claim to either titles. But I have seen a deal in my time, and there is no place like the curbstones for observing humanity and noting all its shortcomings and all its finer characteristics. I had been reading an admirable article the other day, and I am going to quote a couple of passages from it. Before doing so I would like to observe that I have seen more than one promising future marred on account of a lack of courtesy, and I have seen more than one person's fortune made through the medium of a courteous word or act. It must be remembered, however, that there are degrees and varieties in the quality of courtesy. The true politeness, the real "savoir vivre," the in-born courtesy that belongs to those who have derived such gifts, (for they are gifts) from their fathers and forefathers, cannot be taught, nor cultivated, as you would teach mathematics or cultivate dancing. But refinement of manner and a certain degree of good breeding may be acquired, by precept, by contact with the refined and well-bred, and by carefully avoiding the association of the rougher and more uncouth classes of people. I will come now to my quotations from the article mentioned above:

COURTESY LEAGUES.—"Some one has suggested that leagues for courtesy be established in the public schools, and while the idea has of course invited the ridicule of the newspaper humorists who have a foresight of the league in operation, most people will recognize the real wisdom that underlies all the possible absurdities of the suggestion. Considered simply as an accomplishment, courtesy is at least as worth while teaching as basket making, or clay modeling, or even—if it be not heresy to say so—as nature study. Grace of manner is quite as desirable as sharpness of vision, or deftness of fingers, or precision of speech. Courtesy is a habit of self-respect and of respect for others, and at such becomes a passport to the world over, the universal lubricant of intercourse between men."

DIFFICULTY TO TEACH.—The idea that I have sought to convey in my introductory paragraph is expressed, perhaps, more clearly in this second quotation: "It is, indeed, so much more than an accomplishment that it is not absurd, but impossible, to teach any but the most superficial forms of it. A man's manner is, after all, the most generally available key to his character. It is an expression of something within him and cannot therefore be as simply cultivated as a habit of using good English. The cultivation must go deeper, to the development of those interior graces, of generosity, of kindness, of refinement of mind, of which it is the flower. There are not many things beyond the capacity of the public school, but perhaps this development is one of them."

TEMPERANCE NOTES

"One of the best features to be noted in our Catholic societies of men," says a Pittsburg paper, "is that drink is tabooed at their public dinners and luncheons. The initiation is due to the Knights of Columbus, and the custom has spread. There was a time when it was deemed the proper thing to have the menu garnished with a list of wines; it was thought good-fellowship could not be exemplified without a social glass. The generous wine was the inspiration of the fine flow of conversation and the happy, witty and intelligent after-dinner speeches. This was all a mistake, and it is well it has been found out and acted upon. The absence of stimulants on these occasions has elevated them, giving them a higher tone of purity and intelligence. In purely secular assemblages, bankers, doctors, lawyers and the various unions, the custom now is to dispense with liquors at the public festive gatherings. It is a movement that should spread and be encouraged and promoted among all classes and conditions."

A COUPLE OF EXAMPLES.—In 1882, I was in the office of a leading hardware merchant of this city, a man who was the personification of courtesy and one of the most prominent Irish-Catholic gentlemen of Montreal. While I was there a young man came in and handed that gentleman a letter of introduction. The young man, who was most elegantly dressed and apparently one who was brought up in good society, took a seat and began to fumble with some papers on a side table, while the letter was being read. The merchant, asked him a couple of questions and then told him that he would send a reply by letter in a day or two. When the young man had gone away the merchant informed me that the young man had come with a letter of introduction from a very prominent citizen and that he was applying for a situation. "I watched the young man's movements and I have concluded to make inquiry regarding his general conduct," said the merchant. Then he continued thus: "Did you notice that he did not even take off his hat on coming in, and that he was ill-bred enough to spend his time examining my papers—which might have been private for aught he knew—while I was reading the letter? Had it not been for these two signs of discourtesy I would have given him the place at once. Now, all depends on his other qualities, and they will have to be exceptional to counterbalance such defects in breeding."

There was a newsboy on the street. He was about ten or eleven years of age, and every day he used to go up to the Parliament buildings with his papers. He became a great favorite on account of his punctuality, and especially his delightful and unaffected politeness. In 1810, I was one day going into the Parliament buildings in Ottawa, and was surprised to see the same lad, dressed in a neat black suit, with white tie, and darting around the place among the pages. I stopped him and asked how he came to be there. He told me that one of the present Federal Ministers (the late Sir Adolphe Chapleau), had been so pleased with the Quebec newsboy that he got him a place of page at Ottawa, for the session. In 1898 I had occasion again to visit Ottawa, and was surprised and pleased (how years fly) to find the same boy, then a fine young man about twenty-one years of age. He was occupying a first class position in connection with the Great North Western Telegraph Company. He was their representative during the session. In 1903 I learned that the same young man had become a very prominent citizen, and likely to be a city Alderman in the near future. That is the story of the Quebec newsboy, and his advancement was entirely due to his great courtesy and politeness. I merely give these two examples to illustrate my thoughts on this subject.

FRANCISCAN NUNS.

An order of nuns, the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, whose mother-house is at Nantes, France, says an exchange, has established a house of their order in Loughglilly, Ireland: They have opened a school, and have also entered on the duty of teaching various branches of industry to the children of the surrounding country. Already over one hundred children receive instruction in Brussels rug and carpet-making, embroidery and lacemaking of various kinds, artificial flower making, plain needle-work, laundry-work, cookery, butter and cheese making. They are also taught the art of poultry-keeping, and the management of the kitchen garden. No charge is made for the instruction imparted. The Sisters also visit the people in their homes and strive to impress upon them lessons of cleanliness and thrift.

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A Week's Anniversaries

(By an Occasional Contributor.)

ON SUNDAY, the 12th June, was a day of great importance in the religious world, as it was the Feast of the Sacred Heart, but the anniversaries of a profane character that it commemorated were few. Among them is the death of William Cullen Bryant, which took place in 1878; the incorporation of the city of New York, in 1665; and the offering of a reward for the heads of John Han-

cock and Samuel Adams, offered by General Gage in 1775.

JUNE 13TH.—The feast of the great and good St. Anthony. It was on that day, in 1231, that the powerful St. Anthony of Padua died. In 1798, the great battle of Ballynahinch took place. In the same year and on the same day, Dr. Esmond was hanged on Carlisle bridge in Dublin. In the year 40 Agricola, the renowned Roman general, was born. In 1817 Richard Lowell Edgeworth died, and in 1885 Colonel Mulligan's statue was unveiled in Chicago.

JUNE 14TH.—One day after St.

A public meeting of the American Federation of Societies, and of forming a New of the Federation in Carnegie Hall, largest meetings place, every seat occupied, and the speeches, and the Hon. W. B. with others, refer the Federation a Catholic laity. Almost every New York, and town attended, a presided over by who got a tremor he came upon the his purple robes of The objects of according to its program, are to agitate sectarian schools recognition for C lines. Under the objects the federal questions of education catholic schools and nature and emigration Catholic sailors, special questions, the question of d most prominent. questions the re Catholics, taxation, party, and protection rights are made. All of the special fact that opposition has been made that it might politics. This w

Most Rev. Archbishop and made a bishop opened his planning that the earnest support, was to band together societies in A might work in unison good of the Church ed in part: "The Catholic ful mother of s there is good in has had its incep Church. These Church are many number, and they good. A national Societies wa and hence the fe Opposition I to this Federation it might be pro The moment that tion sounds its o moment my appri mediately withdr

Congressman who spoke on the of the Federation enthusiasm. "The successful said the Congress organization of ea intact, and leave prove its own ef relation to the combinations s have triumphed. in forming the F intention to keep each organization to work for the the Christian wa greatest advantage Church and mora

"The objects of be gathered under Briefly these a which only Catho questions which o remedy, and fina neither Catholic solved. "The first qu form of hostility struction, and ye is necessary for instruct its youth morality. "The cry is for cation. There is school must be anti-Christian, an rian it is anti-Ch "Much of the o tian teaching has the damnable libe uttered against s especially against been said of the ings say that the means. No black uttered by mortal "The evils of i have not been great extent as can show what it manifestation w long ago in Fran "The sanctity o is another of the