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West. illez Square.

ay there is a special Seven Last Words

the seven sentences uttered by Christ on each "word" is a meditation or homily

appropriate music is recommended. The Seven Last Words, behold thy Mother." (St. Luke 22:49)

4. "I thirst." (St. John 19:28) 5. "My God, hast Thou forsaken me." (St. Matthew 27:46) 6. (St. John 19:30) into Thy hands I commit my spirit." (St. Luke 23:46)

name of the Pentecost Christ on the words, "This day I will be in Paradise." (St. Luke 23:43)

is canonized, March 26. The name spelled Desmas, De He is mentioned in the Gospel of Nicodemus

of Joseph of Arimathea called Gastas, the ancient mycel called Gomas

the Penitent Thief among the Catholic forces of Belgium and who has been suspended for some years, has returned to his allegiance and his duty. He has asked the Catholic papers to pub-

The True



Witness

Vol. LVI., No. 37

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1907

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Nations Must Seek God.

The Holy Father has just addressed a very important letter to the Italian Social Economic League. The Holy Father's words have a world-wide application and should be taken to heart in America as well as in Italy. The Holy Father's letter in part is as follows:

"Religion being a jealous guardian of the moral law, which is the natural foundation of the order of society, it follows that to bring a disordered society back to order nothing is more needful than that religious principles should be made to thrive. Wherefore the better to accomplish your responsible task and to meet our expectation, you will constantly strive more and more to mark the impress of Christianity on the movement you direct. And in doing this you will have in view not merely the common good, but also that of your members; and particularly, in attending to their material advantages you will seek to safeguard their spiritual interests. It is of the highest importance that in the light of the doctrine of Christ they should justly estimate human things and see how far beyond the defective goods of this transient life should be placed those of the life eternal.

"Thus and not otherwise can you efficaciously oppose the progress of Socialism, which, breathing hatred of Christianity, advances with ruin in its train—blotting out the hopes of Heaven from the hearts of the people—to destroy the fabric of society, already shaken. Your active charity will suggest to you the institutions that should by preference be promoted within the Union. To us those called professional societies seem most suitable, and again in a special manner we recommend you to be solicitous as to how you proceed in establishing and conducting them. You will, therefore, take care that those who are to become members undergo a fitting preparation; that is, that they are instructed by qualified persons on the nature and scope of the association, on the duties and rights of Christian workers, and on the teachings of the Church and the Pontifical documents that are most closely concerned with the labor question. In this connection good fruit will be borne by the work of the clergy, who in their turn will find here fresh helps for rendering the sacred Ministry more efficacious amongst the people. Hence the

workers so prepared will become not only useful members of the professional societies, but also energetic co-operators in extending and defending the practice of the Christian doctrines. We have those associations much at heart also because we look to them for material and moral aid for those workers whom necessity compels to seek work, for some time, in foreign regions without having protective assistance. The zeal of the pastors of souls will bring forth precious fruit in the field where it is aided by the provincial, diocesan and district associations for the protection of the emigrants which we hope to see springing up in all the centers of temporary emigration. For the rest, it will be your care to derive the advantages of moral improvement not only from this peculiar form of association, but likewise from others, which appear to have an exclusively economic character, raising them beyond their immediate purpose to the more exalted objects of education and culture.

"Finally, beloved sons, as to your general arrangements, we have already, by the rules for the establishment of Diocesan Committees, given life and impulse to a disciplined movement, which, under the surveillance of the Bishops, ought to develop the social actions of Catholics in the different dioceses according to local needs and the requirements of the time.

"We have desired then, as was fitting, to harmonize the careful autonomy of local institutions with the episcopal government of the Church. The effective assistance and favor of our venerable brethren are not wanting to this work of common utility, and judging by their zeal, will not, we are certain, be wanting in the future. To make Catholic action, especially the social side of it, stronger and more complete, we wish that the Diocesan Committees should concentrate their efforts upon this Social Economic Union. Thus the forces of all will receive an increase of energy from unity of direction. And accept, beloved sons, with great courage, the weighty charge we impose on you. Many are the difficulties you have already passed through. You will, perhaps, meet with others. But to keep up your spirits it will be sufficient to remember that you will never lose the support of good citizens, the help of our authority, and the assistance of God."

The French Situation.

The phase of the French situation that is now receiving most attention concerns the stolen archives of the Paris Nunclature. The theft of these documents, as a foreign writer points out, has developed from a minor incident of the anti-religious campaign in France into a big international question, in which all the great powers are directly concerned. It has emphasized the tremendous importance of the inviolability of diplomatic correspondence.

The French Government is proceeding warily. On March 22 the committee appointed by the Chamber of Deputies to examine the seized documents held a meeting. Prime Minister Clemenceau informed it that the trial of Abbe Jouin was not likely to be postponed after April 11, and that judgment was expected on April 18. The papers could be handed over to the committee on April 22. The committee adjourned until three days after the judgment in the Jouin case.

A correspondent of one of the most reliable American papers is informed by a high Vatican official that no correspondence between Mgr. Montagnini and Cardinal Merry del Val, Papal Secretary of State, concerning the French elections exists among the documents sequestered. He is also informed that Mgr. Montagnini's diary, which is among the seized documents, consists of his personal appreciation of events and personages, which, even if unfavorable to the Government, cannot in any way affect the Vatican, as Mgr. Montagnini's functions did not consist in keeping a diary, but simply in taking care of the Nunclature. The Vatican is convinced that nothing is likely to be found proving interference in political affairs in France.

PLIGHT OF THE FRENCH CLERGY.

"The French clergy," writes a correspondent of the London Catholic Times, "are reduced to begging from door to door for their food and shelter. To provide for their daily wants, some of the parish priests have formed themselves into a union, called 'Alliance des Pretres Ouvriers.' Their appeal says: 'To lighten the burden of the faithful, who have now to provide for the needs of the clergy, various priests, following in the footsteps of St. Paul, who was a burden to no man, have sought to sanctify themselves by manual labor as well as by study and prayer. They have commenced to present to the public the product of their labor.' Their president is L'Abbe Leroux, dean of Airvaux, Deux Sevres; the secretary, M. Ballu, cure de Parnay par Montsoreau, Maine-et-Loire.

"Amongst these priests thus reduced to penury, it is curious to see how much talent is hidden. One, an ex-military chaplain, undertakes all kinds of optician's work, mends watches and sells jewelry. Another prints postcards, with photos, at three francs the hundred. Then I see one with a little hand-press, offers to do printer's small jobbing work. Another, possessed of a lathe, undertakes all manner of wood-turning, whilst one good cure, an excellent wood carver, is glad to take orders for church and house decorative work. Thus these poor French priests, thrown on the roadside by an anti-Christian Government, try to remain among their flocks, ministering to their spiritual needs."

Abbey's Effervescent Salt

A few kind words from **The Sisters of Misericorde.**

"Having made use of Abbey's Salt for some time in our Hospital, we are pleased to say that it is a very good medicine in cases of indigestion."

ALL DRUGGISTS, 25 and 60c. BOTTLE.

BRENNAN'S

Just a few Reminders for Easter Buying.

Our lines of Easter Neckwear are now complete, which means, we offer one of the most up-to-date lines of Men's Ties at 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 in all the newest colorings and Styles.

Special Gloves, Tan and Grey, \$1.00. Hats, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, and \$5.00. Caps, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.

1-4 SIZE COLLARS. SHIRTS TO ORDER.

BRENNAN'S

7 ST. CATHERINE ST. EAST.

Lecture by Seumas MacManus at Kam Hall.

Kam Hall was completely filled Tuesday evening to listen to a lecture by Mr. Seumas MacManus, the celebrated Irish author and lecturer. Ex-Judge Doherty presided, and among the prominent gentlemen present were: Hon. Judge Curran, Dr. J. J. Guerin, Frank Curran, President St. Patrick's Society; H. J. Kavanagh, K.C.; Rev. Father Martin Callaghan, Rev. Father Malone, S. J., Rev. Superior of St. Laurent College; Rev. Fathers O'Gorman, Killoran, G. O'Bryan, Heffernan and Messrs. Jas. McMahon, president Y. I. L. & B. Society; T. O. Heffernan, president St. Mary's Young Men's Society; the following leaders of the A.O.H.: Patrick Keane, County President; T. Heavers, County Secretary; P. Scullion, provincial vice-president; P. Doyle, provincial secretary; John P. Kelly, J. Brady, J. Foley, J. Heaney, Thos. Hanley, John O'Neill, John O'Keefe, E. J. O'Keefe, Hugh McMorrow and M. D. Tracey.

Preceding the lecture Mrs. J. Burnett Kelly sang "Come Back to Erin," her rich clear voice being heard to much advantage. This lady, in company with Miss Isabelle Foley and Messrs. J. J. Walsh and J. A. Blanchfield, also rendered the part song, "The Flight of the Earls" and that most peaceful and beautiful song of Tom Moore's, "Oft in the Stilly Night." At the conclusion of these songs Mr. MacManus was introduced by the chairman, who said the sweetly sympathetic talent of the lecturer's folk-lore stories and poetry had endeared him, not only to Irish hearts but to others the wide world over.

Mr. MacManus thanked the audience for its hearty welcome and said he did not propose to give any formal lecture, but to tell them some tales and leave it to them to analyze the humor afterwards. In the national Irish characters, commencing deservedly with the jarvey and policeman, and going on from national character to national characteristics, legends and proverbs, the lecturer showed that his humor was not of any grim, sarcastic or severe

kind, but was entirely good-humored. Ireland was, he said, a country of smiles and tears. He gave them of its humor until the course of his remarks was almost constantly interrupted by the laughter. He told them of the serious side, too, but only as regarded the everyday happenings of national life, with never a political word or suggestion, and he brought up old folklore which kept them deeply interested. In three minutes from the time he commenced the audience were all laughing. A dozen stories of the jarvey whose wit is of the typical Irish character, pure, sparkling and spontaneous, and many examples of what is called the Irish "bull" were mirth-provoking to uproariousness, and when he left the region of broad laughter and related proverbs and legends and described their origin—for there isn't a glen, or a rock, or a bush in Ireland that has not its legend attached to it—the explanations always finished with some abrupt touch of humor which was equally irresistible, though preceded by no humorous beginnings. He read extracts from some of his published books and poems, which were listened to with respectful appreciation and when he announced that he had already exceeded his allotted time, it came as a surprise to find how quickly the time had flown, than which no greater compliment could be paid.

Rev. Father Martin Callaghan proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. MacManus. He said he had listened with rapture and had been delighted with what they had heard. He looked on Mr. MacManus as both humorist, philosopher, moralist and poet, a signal credit to the race to which they belonged, and deserving of a niche in the temple of Irish fame.

Dr. J. J. Guerin seconded the motion. To have been there was, he said, to have had the opportunity of hearing a magnificent exponent of their feelings and sentiments, and had the people only known the treat that had been in store for them, no hall in the city would have been large enough to accommodate the

people who would have attended. The chairman conveyed the vote to Mr. MacManus, after which the remainder of the musical programme was completed.

Mr. John P. Kelly sang "The Meeting of the Waters" in clarion tones; Miss Isabelle Foley rendered "Kathleen Mavourneen" with much tenderness and power, and being the recipient of a magnificent bouquet of carnations, afterwards splendidly sang as an encore "I'm off to Philadelphia in the Morning." The quartette before mentioned gave "The Harp that once thro' Tara's Halls" and "God Save Ireland," the audience joining in the singing of the latter. Prof. J. A. Fowler, organist of St. Patrick's Church, directed the musical programme, and acted as accompanist at the piano.

Relics of Tom Moore.

One of the rooms of the Royal Irish Academy in Dawson street, Dublin, is devoted almost exclusively to relics of Tom Moore. The walls are lined with shelves filled with works belonging to Moore's library, and in this room is the piano on which Moore, who was a delightful musician, accompanied himself when singing his own melodies. In the United States there are also cherished relics of Moore, and among them, in the possession of Mrs. E. B. Childs, of Philadelphia, widow of Mr. George W. Childs, the former editor and proprietor of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, is a harp, small in size, which was presented to Moore by some of his admirers in the City of Limerick, and was frequently used by him. After Moore's death, in 1852, his widow gave it to a nephew, Mr. Murray, by whom it was presented to Mr. S. S. Hall, Moore's biographer.

Mr. Hall left the harp by his will to Mr. Childs, who placed it in his private office in the Public Ledger Buildings. After Mr. Childs' death in 1894 the harp was for years in the Museum of the Drexel Institute in Philadelphia, whence it was removed by Mrs. Childs, in whose possession it is now, to her private residence. At this time, when the enthusiasm for Moore, which has never flagged, has been stimulated by the erection of a magnificent Celtic Cross over his grave in Bromham Churchyard, Wiltis, this precious relic of the poet, which recalls so many thrilling associations, might, perhaps, be placed for the benefit of Moore's countless admirers in some public museum where it could be seen by the people at large. Mr. S. C. Hall, who gave the harp by will to Mr. Childs, was himself very enthusiastic in endeavoring to keep the memory of Moore fresh in the hearts of Irishmen. He erected in Bromham Church at his own expense a magnificent "rose window," and also in 1879 procured the erection of the slab and monumental bust which mark Moore's birthplace in Augier street, Dublin.

HOW FRANCE KEEPS HENRI DE MONTMORENCY'S MEMORIAL GREEN.

In Cires-les-Mello, a small town of the department of Oise, in France, they have a strange method of testing fate on Easter Monday.

To understand the custom it is necessary to glance at an incident in French history. When the constable Henri de Montmorency, owner of the chateau at Mello, was so pursued by the hatred of Cardinal Richelieu that he was at last beheaded for the crime of high treason at Toulouse, his wife had a little chapel built in the park of the chateau and begged the Cardinal to permit her to place the remains of her husband in it.

Richelieu and Louis XIII. denied her prayer, and she retired in sorrow to a convent, where she had a sumptuous chapel built, in which, now stand statues in marble of her and her husband.

But the little chapel of Cires-les-Mello, though empty, became the center of the pilgrimage of lovers on account of the affection which had prompted its erection. It is to this modest place of worship that youths and maidens resort from miles away on Easter Monday to learn their fate.

The mode of divination is most curious. The entrance to the chapel is protected by a grill work through which it is easy to pass your hand. The young man or woman who wishes to learn whether the chosen one will wed him or her during the ensuing year takes a sou in hand, and, putting the arm through the grill, tries to cast the sou on the altar.

If the sou falls on the altar and stays there, it is thought certain that the saint will intercede for the lover and bring him or her the happiness of marriage within the year. If, however, the coin should not fall on the altar or should roll off, adieu for a long time to all hope of marriage.

The souls of fortunate and unfortunate alike are gathered by the priest afterwards and devoted to almsgiving.—Boston Globe.

Dr. Drummond Critically Ill.

Much surprise was created by the announcement, received yesterday, to the effect that Dr. W. H. Drummond was critically ill in Cobalt.

Inasmuch as Dr. Drummond was one of the participants at St. Patrick's Day banquet, he was all the more startling, as the doctor was then in excellent spirits and health.

Mr. George E. Drummond received a telegram from Cobalt last night stating that the critical condition of his brother was unchanged. The doctor is suffering from a shock of paralysis.

House of Lords Ireland's Enemies.

Toronto, April 3.—"There is no doubt that the House of Lords, as it is now constituted, cannot last much longer," remarked Mr. Chas. R. Devlin, M.P. for Nicolet, and a former member for Galway, Ireland, in the British House of Commons, in a speech delivered before the Canadian Catholic Union last evening at a dinner given in his honor.

Mr. Devlin proceeded to explain that if the Commons were to pass a Bill perfectly satisfactory to the majority of the real representatives (not born, he remarked, with a tinge of satire), the Lords might, and not infrequently did, defeat such a measure for reasons peculiar to their own interests.

"They have been the natural enemies of the Irish people," declared Mr. Devlin. "Many of the questions that trouble the Irish people would have been settled long ago had it not been for the House of Lords. The members of the Commons are

surely better safeguards of the affairs of the people than are the Peers, who are born to the seats they occupy. With the opinion of the masses, as it is now, the life of the Lords should not be long."

Touching on the relationship of the British Parliament to the Irish nation, Mr. Devlin grew emphatic. A Chief Secretary, he said, could never do much for the country. The machinery of English Government did not require the chief secretary to know anything about Ireland. The Hon. James Bryce, who formerly held that office, though always a great friend of Ireland, could not do much for it. His hands were virtually tied.

In giving his reminiscences of the British House, Mr. Devlin drew contrasts between the conditions for a member of Parliament at Westminster, and those for one at Ottawa. The advantage, so far as political purity was concerned, seemed to be in favor of the British member.

Belgian Priest Recants.

"The Abbey Daems," says "Rome," "who caused so much confusion among the Catholic forces of Belgium and who has been suspended for some years, has returned to his allegiance and his duty. He has asked the Catholic papers to pub-

lish this notice: "As a Catholic priest, wishing to obey my bishop, who is in entire accord with the Supreme Pontiff, I ask the general assembly of the Christian Democratic party not to re-elect me either as an active or honorary president. The Christian Democratic party is the group of semi-Socialists which separated itself from the Democratic league of which the Chevalier Verhaegen is the president."