

A Desire.

(By Adelaide Anne Procter.)

Oh, to have death in Bethlehem
When the Star of the Lord shone bright;
To have sheltered the holy wanderer
On that blessed Christmas night;
To have kissed the tender wayward feet
Of the Mother Unfaded!

An Ancient Foe

The health and happiness in Europe
is being even these times immemorial.
It comes bunches in the neck, dis-
tends the skin, inflames the mucous
membrane, wastes the muscles, weakens
the bones, reduces the power of
resistance to disease and the capacity
for recovery, and develops into con-
sumption.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Will rid you of all radical and per-
manent skin blemishes.
one to the Divine Master, openly
proclaimed the teaching of Christ,
and promulgated the great truths of
the Gospel, he, too, was scorned and
boasted down as a rebel. The
authorities were angered, and, sum-
moning him before them they bade
him desist, saying: 'Commanding
we command you that you should
not teach in the name of Christ.'
And what did the great apostle
reply? Did he quietly submit to this
unbearable exercise of authority?
Did he meekly obey the law of the
land on this point? No. He re-
plied as a true Christian will always
reply, namely, 'We ought to obey
God rather than man.' (Acts v.,
29.)

Not From Earthly Authority.

The Catholic Church is founded
by Christ Who is as truly God as
He is truly man, and from Him is
derived its beginning, its hierarchy,
its laws and its mission. None of
the ecclesiastical powers which are
proper and essential to the Church
are derived from any earthly au-
thority. They come from God. The
Pope, successor of St. Peter, has
been appointed by God as its supreme
chief: 'To thee do I give the keys
of the kingdom of heaven.' He
holds from God his ecclesiastical
rights and duties. 'As the Father
bath sent me so I send you.'

Protestant churches are also
gathered different. The King of Eng-
land is head of the Established
Church; the Emperor of Russia, of
the Orthodox Church; the Em-
peror William, of the Evangelical
Church, and so forth. But the
Catholic Church is the servant and
the mesial of no earthly government,
and of no temporal Government, and
no Catholic who respects himself
will give up his religious convic-
tions, or abandon the teaching of
Christ, at the bidding of any one
whatsoever. Rather than do so, he
will do what Cardinal Fisher and
blessed Thomas More and hundreds
of other heroic and noble souls in
England did in the sixteenth century
he will shed his blood, knowing that
death is better a thousand times than
perfidy. 'Malo mori quam foedari.'

Monsignore Vaughan on France.

The Distinguished English
Ecclesiastic Tells of the
Church's Persecution
There.

The Right Rev. Monsignore
John S. Vaughan, domestic prelate
of his Holiness, Pius X., who was re-
cently in Boston, gave, in an inter-
view with a representative of the
Boston Herald, a clear exposition of
the position of the Church in the
present religious crisis in France.
He said:

"The condition of things in
France, seems to be but little un-
derstood in America. If it were, it
would arouse a feeling of the great-
est indignation throughout the coun-
try. The Americans love liberty as
much as we English do, and offer to
all full freedom to serve God as their
conscience direct. In France there
is the greatest profession of freedom,
but it is mere empty sound, signifi-
fying nothing. The words 'Liberty,
fraternity, equality,' are emblazoned
in large letters on the walls of the
great public buildings, but these fine
words find no place in the laws and
no echo in the hearts of the legis-
lators. On the contrary, where the
Church is concerned, the greatest of
tyranny and injustice everywhere
prevail.

"The French Government is not
Catholic. It is not even Christian;
but it is strongly anti-Christian.
Hence its continual attacks upon the
bishops, priests and religious, whose
only offense is fidelity to their reli-
gion and to their God."

"But it is said that the clerics are
enemies to the Government?"

Limit to Obedience.
"So long as the civil Government
confines itself within its proper and
legitimate sphere, it would find no
more devoted subjects than Catho-
lics. But when it breaks through its
proper boundaries and attempts to
trample under foot the rights of
conscience and the laws of God, then
we will admit that obedience in those
matters would be but another name
for perfidy and apostasy, to which
death itself is greatly to be pre-
ferred."

"Then you would advocate dis-
obedience?"

"I would reply in the words of
Christ, 'Render to Caesar the things
that are Caesar's and to God the
things that are God's.' What the
French Government is asking is
that we should render to Caesar not
only the things that are Caesar's, but
likewise the things that are God's.
But this can never be.

No Room for Hesitation.
"When a choice is to be made
between God and man, between our
duty toward the State and our duty
toward Him, by whom kings reign
and the princes of the earth exercise
their power, there can be no room
for hesitation. We must prefer
God. This has been recognized and
will always be recognized as the only
course that an honest man can take.
When St. Peter himself, in obed-

Not Salaries, Indemnities.

"The bishops are not office-hold-
ers, and their stipends are not sal-
aries. The stipends which they
have been receiving until lately are
simply indemnities or compensa-
tions. The American people do not
realize the origin of these stipends,
and so let me explain.

"Suppose I possess a landed estate
which brings me in \$100,000 a year,
and that someone more powerful
turns me out and takes forcible posses-
sion of my house and land. Is
not this downright robbery? Certainly.
Let us suppose, however, that
after a time the robber dies, and his
son, under pressure from the courts
of law, at last agrees to give that
justice is done. He regrets he can
not return me my actual estate,
which has been divided, and is
now owned by various persons; but
he agrees to pay me the \$100,000 a
year which is its equivalent. This
annuity is my due. It is not a salary;
it is not a gift. It is what belongs to
me by absolute right. If at any period
he should refuse to pay it, then he does
me a gross injustice. Yet this is precisely
how the French Government is now
treating the Catholic Church.

"The goods of the church were
confiscated, and when Napoleon I.
rose in his strength to put things
to rights and to restore order out
of chaos, he was able to persuade the
Pope of that day to leave the pur-
chases of ecclesiastical goods in
peaceful possession of their property,
simply because he undertook to in-
demnify the Church in another way;
that is to say, by assuring to all the
bishops and parish priests a suitable
stipend. The Government can in
justice no more deprive bishops and
priests of these stipends than can a
company justly deprive me of the
interest of the money that I have
loaned to it at an agreed percentage.

Says Obligations Disowned.
"Not one person in a hundred in
the United States seems to realize
the nature of the separation of the
Church and State that has been
brought about in France. People
fancy that the Church there is placed
in the same position as it is here in
America. Were this true, then
there would be nothing to fear, and
France would soon be more Catholic
than ever. But this is in no sense
the case. In France the separation
means simply that the Government
disowns all its obligations to the
Church while it reserves to itself the
right to persecute and tyrannize over
it and to restrict its liberty just as it
pleases.

"Outsiders talk very glibly about
the duty of obeying the law of the
land. But let me ask, is every law
that an unscrupulous Government
chooses to make to be obeyed?
When Herod commanded all the
male children under two years of
age to be slain did that law carry
with it the obligation of obedience?
When the law demanded the execu-
tion of Christ did that possess any
binding force? Is there to be no
limit to the exercise of civil authority?
The Pope is a great lover of peace;
but there is one thing he loves far
more, and that is truth. He has
done all that was possible to ac-
commodate the French Government
and to smooth the way; but when
asked to do wrong and to sacrifice
the essential principles of the Church
of course he replies as a true suc-
cessor of St. Peter. 'We ought to
obey God rather than men.'

"In England St. Thomas of Can-
terbury died a martyr's death in
defiance of the liberties of the
Catholic Church. And Pius X.
breathes the same splendid and gen-
erous spirit today. He will never
betray his charge, for he is as firm as
he is gentle."

"But can you tell us what is likely
to happen in the near future?"

Fears Storm and Violence.
"Is it impossible to peer into the
womb of time and to see what it
is going to bring forth. But the powers
of darkness and of irreligion are so
powerful in France just now that
I greatly fear that there will be a
period of storm and violence before
the atmosphere clears. In the long
run, however, and after passing
through a dark night of trouble, I
think the light of a brighter day will
dawn and that the Church will again
become a power in France. A
great part of the nation is absolutely
rotten to the core; but if some
judicious cutting and pruning can
be done—and persecution is often a

agent in God's hands—then we may
still hope for the recovery to health
of this once great nation."

The daily papers could not avoid
giving the information that the fall
of the Cabinet of Marshal Lopez
Dominguez in Spain was due to the
opposition expressed by its anti-clerical
policy, but they told their read-
ers little as to the strong feeling ex-
cited amongst the Spanish Catholics
by the Government's associations
bill. On the contrary, pronuncia-
ments in favor of the bill were
largely quoted day by day, and
the impression produced in the
case of the ordinary reader must
have been that the power of the
Church was slight in Spain. The
Spanish is far from being slight,
and any one who has been reading
impartial Spanish papers must have
been struck by the number and
vigor of the Catholic protests. They
were made by the hierarchy, the
clergy and the laity of every class,
and amongst the people it had been
recognized for some time that the
formidable resistance which they
had been meeting. The fall of the
Cabinet has administered a
lesson to the Liberals. During his
brief term of office Senor Morot
proclaimed that he favored a policy
of conciliation in dealing with the
Vatican, and it may be taken for
granted that his successor will follow
that line.

The death took place the other
day at Bury, England, of Very Rev.
Dean Walsh. The deceased priest
was a cousin of the Most Rev. Dr.
O'Connor, Bishop of Armagh,
Australia, and was connected with a
number of well-known County
Waterford families. Dean Walsh
spent nearly all his religious life in
the English mission.

The Supreme Court at Manila has
decided by a unanimous vote that
the church property seized and held
by the followers of Aglipay, the
apostate priest who calls himself the
head of the Filipino Church, belongs
to the Catholic Church and must be
given up by those in possession.
The title to about fifty churches and
convents was involved in the case.

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Miscellaneous.
—Miss Isabella M.——was a very
witty lady. A gentleman once re-
quested to her: "What fine dark
hair you have got, Miss M.?" My
wife, who is much younger than you,
has her hair curly gray."

"Yes," rejoined the lady; "and
if I had been your wife no doubt
my hair would have been gray,
too."

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Mr. H. Wilkinson, Stratford, Ont.,
says:—"It affords me much pleasure
to say that I experienced great relief
from Muscular Rheumatism by
using two boxes of Milburn's Rheu-
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"Now, my little man," said a
famous athlete, pleasantly, "I sup-
pose your papa has told you about
the day he and I played in the great
football match?"

"Yes, sir," replied the bright
child.
"Ah! That was a great day. I
knew he would never forget it.
Does he often speak of it?"

"Yes, sir; he says you borrowed
five dollars from him that day and
never paid it back!"

Mrs. Fred Laine, St. George, Ont.,
writes:—"My little girl would cough
so at night that neither she nor I
could get any rest. I gave her Dr.
Wood's Norway Pine Syrup and am
thankful to say it cured her cough
quickly."

"Mrs. Stebbins is a very mean
woman."

"What has she done?"

"She gave her little boy a slice
of bread and butter and told him to
go out and sit where he could smell
the blackberry jam Mrs. Perkins was
making."

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Cholly Nowitt—D'y'e know, Miss
Snart, though I've only just met you,
there seems to be a sort of intellectual
sympathy between us? You know
just how to appeal to my tastes, you
see. Are you a literary woman?"
Dolly Smart—No; I'm a kinder-
garten teacher.



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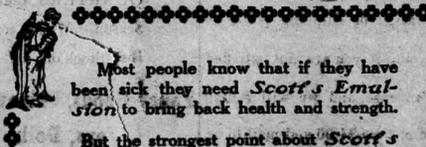
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