

THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN

"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." TAKES BY "TERESA"

I have sometimes heard people say: "Oh, I never go to such and such a church; I don't like it, or I don't like the priest, or the congregation or something."

I do not think this is right. Do we go to church because everything is exactly to our taste? Because the church is handsome and artistic, and the vicar always bland and agreeable, and the congregation select or exclusive?

If so, I am afraid our Catholicism is merely skin deep. To whom does the church belong? To the pastor, or to the congregation, or to God?

And who is the Master of the House? The priest?

When we enter one of our churches, whether it be the grandest cathedral or a little iron chapel, where do our thoughts and our footsteps turn instinctively; where do our hearts and our knees bow?

We turn to greet the Master, we kneel humbly and submissively before the Throne of Christ, we gaze earnestly and lovingly upon the tiny golden door behind which is hidden the delight of our hearts, the Light of the World, the King of the universe, Our Lord Jesus Christ. There enthroned the true Master of the mansion, to Whom we come to pay our homage, to Whom all hearts are known, and from Whom nothing is hidden, Who searches the innermost recesses of the mind and detects every motive however deeply we may think it is buried. Is it not an insult for the Master of the House to put our small prejudices and feelings before the duty and obedience which we owe Him?

What does it matter what the priest is, or what the congregation is like?

We do not go to church to be agreeably impressed by the pastor and congregation, but to fulfil our duty, to worship God, and to gather the strength we need for the performance of our duty towards our neighbor, part of which consists in being forbearing to his faults and trying to hide them from others and from ourselves.

If we regarded every church as the House of God, and the Throne of the earthly Presence, we should soon come to look upon the merely minor accessories of pastor and congregation as necessary adjuncts whose shortcomings are on a par with our own—for we must remember that other people have a good deal to bear with from ourselves—and they will sink out of sight before the predominant fact of the presence of the Lord's, and every altar the Throne of Jesus Christ.

We should scarcely tell God outright that we did not like a certain church because something connected with it did not suit us, and yet we practically do tell him so indirectly, when we forsake our own church to attend another at some distance away because the latter is more to our taste.

It does not seem very nice, I know, and we don't like to think that we are guilty of treating the Divine Majesty with disrespect, and yet that is the only word for it. We have practically no right whatever to choose the church we shall attend; we ought as a matter of duty to go to the one of the parish in which we reside. We may, of course, occasionally attend another church but we ought not to do so to create a division of our own parish church. There is another thing that people should remember when they go away for their holidays, and that is to choose a place where they can have the benefit of Mass, at least on Sundays. Many of the summer resorts have no Catholic Church at all, or it is so far distant as to make it practically impossible to go just as regularly. We need religion just as much in the summer as in the winter, perhaps more so, because we are apt to drift into a careless, idle, easy way of living without much thought of the needs of the soul, when the long hot days of summer come upon us, and we spend them on cool, shady lawns, beneath the thick foliage of the arching trees, or on the beach with the cool sound of the waves washing the pebbles. That is to say some of us; the great majority unfortunately have to stay in the stuffy, sweltering town and toil in the offices and factories and offices. Even then we have a great deal to be thankful for. We have beautiful parks and gardens wherein we can roam in the evening after the day's work is over, and enjoy the soft and refreshing breezes. Even a walk through the tree-lined streets is almost like a glimpse of the country. But those of us who are fortunate enough to go away to the country can usually spend the whole day in the open air, and having nothing to trouble about are apt to drift into an almost dreamy kind of life, in which the needs of the soul are forgotten. Bodily apathy is too often followed by apathy of the mind and heart, and it is very difficult to get out of habits thus formed, they insensibly cling to us when we return to the busy life of the city, and we have then to spend the greater part of our time in trying to get rid of them. It is better not to allow them to form at all.

That Europe is Christian to-day, and not Mohammedan, and that Europe's chief America, inherited from her parent faith and the civilization based upon it, is due to the fact that just north of the narrow straits of Gibraltar, over which sailed peacefully the dark hordes from Asia and Africa, extended a peninsula inhabited by a nation of fearless spirit and of unflinching loyalty to the Christian cause. For seven long centuries against Moslem hordes resolved upon its conquest, till they held replaced the descent with the cross upon every watch tower of Spain.

Only six months after that tremendous work had been ended by the

surrender of the Alhambra, a fleet of Spanish vessels was loading the way westward over unknown wastes of sea, every man on board was a Spanish seaman.

"Thus Spain saved Europe and gave it to America. She has lost, and is losing her last hold on that new world which she revealed. It would be a crime of ingratitude if Europe and America did not combine, it need be, to save the Spanish peninsula intact for the Spanish people."

These people have in them the making of the best republicans next to ourselves, in the world.

"All who care for the welfare of humanity, in any broad and general sense, must hope that, as the outcome of this struggle upon which we have entered, Cuba will be free—not only for her own good, but for that of ourselves and of Spain as well. And those familiar with Spain must hope that the Queen Regent may continue at the head of its government, to guide it wisely for herself and her son, till the people can be qualified to establish a republic."

Thus speaks Mrs. Abba Gould Woolson in The Boston Herald. Mrs. Woolson has travelled extensively in Spain, and from her own personal observation has come to the conclusion that the generally accepted idea of the Spanish people in a mistaken one.

Probably the conduct of Admiral Cervera on the sinking of the Merrimac came as a surprise to most people who never saw the best traditions of Spanish chivalry, that chivalry which was always to the fore in any great enterprise during the best days of the Spanish people and which is still urging the Spaniards on to deeds of valor in an almost hopeless contest with a younger and more powerful country.

The reception which Admiral Cervera accorded to the brave men who had taken ten chances to one against their lives in sinking the Merrimac was in accordance with the best traditions of Spanish chivalry, that chivalry which was always to the fore in any great enterprise during the best days of the Spanish people and which is still urging the Spaniards on to deeds of valor in an almost hopeless contest with a younger and more powerful country.

Father Doherty's Picnic

ARTHUR, June 28rd.—The famous Arthur picnic got up by Father Doherty came off to-day in the beautiful grove near that village, and was quite up to the high standard set by previous gatherings in the same place. There must have been in the neighborhood of 3000 people on the grounds, a great tribute to the popularity of Father Doherty. But no wonder it is a success. The whole village turned in with him and worked to make this gathering one worthy of the note. There were the usual games, etc., in the morning, and then followed dinner.

The "Wizard of the North" was on hand, as usual, making himself agreeable. The speakingly began about 4.30. The principal speaker was F. S. Spence of Toronto, who devoted his remarks to the plebiscite and prohibition. Among the other notables present were Jas. McMillan, M.P., Andrew Sempie, M.P., Jas. Tucker, M.P., J. P. Downey, H. McMillan, John Newstead and J. J. Drew. Messrs. Downey and Drew were elected by the local quartette to do the orating for the party, and gave appropriate five-minute discourses. Mr. Ramsay, the comic vocalist, the church choir and Fergus band supplied a choice programme of music. The usual chances were taken on washing machines, buggy, harness, etc. The lucky men are not known yet.

Closing Exercises at Loreto Academy, Guelph.

GUELPH, June 22.—The annual distribution of prizes took place this morning at Loreto Academy. The exercises were strictly private, the only guests present being Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., and Rev. Father Kavanaugh, S.J.

The young ladies who took part in the programme acquitted themselves in the creditable manner always noticeable in the pupils of the ladies of Loreto. At the close of the programme Rev. Father Kenny, in his own happy style, addressed a few words of congratulation and fatherly advice to the young ladies.

The following is a partial list of prizes:

Gold medal for Christian doctrine, presented by His Lordship Right Rev. T. J. Dowling, Bishop of Hamilton, awarded to Miss K. Parsons.

Gold cross, presented by a friend of the institute, awarded by a vote of teachers and companions to Miss Annie O'Leary for charity in conversation.

Gold pin, presented by Rev. Father Burke for ladylike deportment, equally merited by Misses Wagner and Kelleher, obtained by Miss Annie Wagner.

Gold medal, presented by Right Rev. Mgr. McEvey, competed for at the departmental examination '97, equally merited by Misses Parsons and Malone, obtained by Miss Parsons.

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Silver medal for instrumental music, obtained by Miss May Carroll. Silver thimble for art needlework, awarded to Miss Gertie Heffernan. Gold palette, presented by Rev. Father Healy, awarded to Miss Emma Reinhart for china painting. Junior Division—Silver medal for Christian doctrine, equally merited by Misses Annie Lynch and Marguerite Pigott, obtained by Miss Annie Lynch.

It was announced to the pupils in the vocal department that Mrs. Martin-Murphy offered two medals for competition next year, a silver medal to the choral class and a gold medal to her private pupils.

The painting and fancy work done by pupils this last term are on exhibition at the studio, and quite a number of friends and others interested had the pleasure of examining the exhibit this morning. The consensus of opinion was that the work was exceedingly creditable to the pupils, and also to Sister Antoinette, who presides over this department. Among so much evidence of artistic talent, it is difficult to discriminate, for almost all are worthy of notice.

An Essay on Wives

Every home should possess one of these; they are always useful and maybe had very cheaply nowadays. They are sold in different sizes, and with care last for years. If anything goes wrong with them they are not to be equalled and make most unpleasant sounds. This may be remedied by the discreet application of a little soft soap. If the noise continues leave it and go away to the club for a time; this plan will often succeed when all else fails. Wives frequently require now covers, and any good dresser will see to this for you at the cost of a few pence. It is advisable to have this properly attended to, as nothing looks worse than a ragged wife with the stuff all showing. Whenever this is observed you may be sure the home is an untidy one. The wife itself will work better for thus being kept in order, and may be made to last three times as long as it otherwise would by occasional visits to those mentioned. The wife should have air at least once a day and should be placed on the window ledge or in a sunny position whenever possible. This will bring up that bright fresh colour in the material which is so much valued and admired by all who behold it. Fresh food should also be given regularly, allowing the wife to root it out for itself when that is practicable. In the spring the wife usually becomes restless, and about May will change its surface to those mentioned. This is called by fanciers "Spring Cleaning," and is a very critical time with the wife. The operation consists of taking all the dirt in the house and redistributing it in the various rooms. The wife should be left alone at this period, properly putting its dirty nail in her drinking water. Old wives should not be kept about the house after a new one has been obtained. Nothing looks worse than this, and it is more over a very unclean and unwholesome sight. We strongly advise a careful selection at the beginning—avoid over-cheapness; the dearest a wife is, the better you will get on with it.

Romanes of a Criminal.

Public interest in London has been greatly excited by an account of a desperate encounter between a well-known burglar and three police officers who arrested him near St. Pancras Railway Station. When being removed in a cab to the police station the man suddenly drew a revolver from his pocket and fired at the three detectives, wounding one and striking the other two. The man it is said has committed no less than 160 burglaries in the Midlands, refused any further information than that his name was George Edward MacDonald. An evening newspaper states as the result of inquiries it has ascertained that this is his correct name, and that he is the son of an Irish gentleman holding an official position. He received a first class education but was not brought up to any profession or trade. As a result, when he reached maturity, he found that his father's impoverished means were insufficient to maintain him, and all attempts to obtain a start in life failing, he in a spirit of intense resentment at what he considered to be the injustice and cruelty of society, embarked upon the dangerous career which has now brought him within view of penal servitude. Twelve months ago he made the acquaintance of a young lady whom he induced to follow him, and they resided together at London, where their neighbours were much edified by MacDonald's domesticated habits and general conduct. Occasionally he went on a journey—on business, he said—and then remained away the whole night. It was then no doubt, he committed the wholesale burglaries attributed to him, and when he returned with various articles he represented that they had been entrusted to him to sell. It was not until the Northampton police searched his room, and then that the woman was aware of the true character of the man with whom she had been living, and who had invariably treated her with the utmost kindness.

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