

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY A PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN. CCXCI.

We have seen that the declaration of this Ibanez, that before the Reformation the people had no sense of human dignity, is not only not true, but is peculiarly contrary to the truth.

His next statement, that the people then had no sense of their rights, duties and responsibilities, is substantially only an amplification of the first.

Responsibilities in the sense of to-day were not much developed. The people, especially the peasantry, had little to do with public life, for government was mostly in the hands of princes or of aristocratical councils.

However, within that narrower round which chiefly defines the obligations of most men, and on which chiefly the Scripture lays stress, the sense of duty seems to have been quite as strong as now, and quite as faithfully met.

Dr. Karl Hase is a very strong Protestant, and therefore naturally regards the century before the Reformation in Germany as a time of obscurity, and the Reformation as a time of illumination.

What Hase says, Luther fully confirms. He declares that the people of Saxony were daily muttering: "Why could you not have let us alone? You know that we were living in simplicity and godly sincerity, in piety, in good morals, in all neighborly friendliness and in brotherly helpfulness."

We see then, neither Luther nor the men of his time seem at all aware of any such magnificent moral and spiritual development as our friend Ibanez describes as springing out of the Reformation.

Now comes the drollest part of Ibanez' disquisition. He says: "The Reformation unchains the Book and shows it to the people; the truth pro-pagates itself on every side, and schools, hospitals and establishments of beneficence are multiplied."

Of course the allusion to "the un-chaining of the Book" refers to the chained Bible which Luther found in the library of the Augustinian monastery at Erfurt, chained, as so commonly with books of that time, to keep it from being stolen.

which every one of that time understood, that it would become a perpetual commonplace of Protestant declamation, for beguiling simple souls into the imagination that the friars of Erfurt chained their Bible not, as they did, to keep it from being stolen, but to keep it from being read, which they never thought of. True, few would have read it, for the library was probably only meant for the brethren, and edition after edition of the Bible in German was coming from the press.

Dr. William Griggs, as we remember, was much provoked to meet with this stupid fiction in Holland. I wish it had staid there. In this country the fable has grown so that a pious lady, I understand, (a very good woman too, otherwise, and an edifying writer) actually supposes that this Erfurt Bible was the only copy surviving in Christendom.

The strangest part of this paper of the Spanish-American is, that the Reformation began to display itself "in schools, hospitals and institutions of beneficence!" According to Luther's express testimony, this man has turned the facts exactly topsy-turvy. Says Luther: "In the old Popish days, if we wanted money for a church, or school, or hospital, we had but to give notice, and money would pour in upon us in such a stream that we soon had to send out word to check it. Now, on the other hand, we may beg, and beg, and beg, and hardly a gulden do we get for church, or school, or hospital."

This man goes on to say: "Protestantism opposes itself to the slavery of the mind and conscience. It accepts no yokes that degrade. Only one authority does it recognize: that of God; therefore it teaches and maintains liberty." A wonderful defender of liberty! The two main German Reformers pleaded for slavery, and failing of that, fought, and most successfully, for abolition.

If Ibanez had said that Calvinism worked mostly for liberty, he would have told the truth. But he had no right to say this of Protestantism, for Lutheranism and Anglicanism make up about two-thirds of this, and to-day constitutionalism prevails everywhere in Christendom outside of Russia and Protestant Germany.

How to keep Lent. Can you fast? If you have any doubts about your duty in regard to fasting or abstaining in Lent, consult your confessor at the beginning of Lent. Do not wait till Lent has passed. Do not cheat yourself of the grace of obedience and respect of God's law.

Lent is a time of grace—a time when God pours upon earnest souls great favors. It is a time set apart by God to teach His Church for penance. He who does no penance in Lent is like an instrument out of tune, giving forth discord instead of sweet music.

Stop your daily stimulant, smoke less and give more to the poor. Guard your senses from disorder, let no evil speech proceed from your mouth. Stay at home and strive by pleasant words to make others happy.

Saves All His Dimes. In one of the dry goods stores this week a gentleman paid a small amount, all in dimes, and afterward purchased about \$3 worth of goods and also paid for them in dimes.

Mr. Noe says he was in the habit of taking two drinks of whiskey a day every day, but now he gives him- self two dimes a day and abstains from drink. Since he commenced this practice he has purchased a horse for \$80 in dimes, and after paying for his hay in dimes still has dimes left.

Green Co. (Ky.) Record.

FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

Third Sunday in Lent. TRIPILING WITH GOD.

"He who is not with Me is against Me." (St. Luke xi 23).

A holy writer, commenting upon this Gospel, says that the seven devils spoken of are the relapsing sinner's sevenfold wickedness in his contempt of the seven gifts of grace from the Holy Ghost which wrought his former conversion.

And yet he can be more wicked and more foolish than ever before. With the suggestion and aid of one devil he committed his former sins. Now he opens the door of his heart to seven devils more wicked than the first, to help him do worse than he ever dreamed he would dare to. That is because he is now sinning against the light.

More light, more responsibility! He is sinning now against more light, and that is why a relapsing sinner plunges himself into greater spiritual darkness than he ever was in before, and his last state has become worse than the first.

Whose state have I been describing here to-day? Is it yours? If so, let me say a word to you—a word which I pray God to stamp deeply upon your heart—a word to ring in your ears all day, and haunt your thoughts at night—a word that I would have appear before your eyes in letters of fire as you go on from sin to sin: "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God!" Stop now!

Go not on heaping up wrath against the day of wrath, fighting against God and rejecting His mercy. This is the season of penance, and especially the season of penance for you who relapse into sin.

Come quickly to confession, for you are in urgent need of God's mercy. You who are listening now to those words, and are not resolving to do penance and seek for absolution during this Lent, are the ones who need that mercy the most. Beware! You remember what the headless man said in the Gospel: "Soul, take thine ease; thou hast many good things laid up for enjoyment."

An Angel at Our Side.

Often, without knowing any particular cause, we feel special influences, such as the nearness of God and the holy angels. Sometimes, when watching before the Blessed Sacrament, or at quiet times when engaged in ordinary duties, there comes on us a hush, a sense of peace, as though the world were removed a million miles away from us.

Leo XIII's Gentle Sarcasm.

The Arglican Bishop of Gibraltar, whose death is just announced, was once the victim of the late Pope's gentle, but peculiarly penetrating, gift of sarcasm. He was admitted to an audience at the Vatican, and, according to those present, seemed rather disposed to stand on his dignity. But Leo XIII., effectively plumped him with the subtle opening: "I believe, my lord, that I have the honor to live in your lordship's diocese."

Sorrow for Sin.

An act of contrition is quite another thing from the doubt whether we are forgiven. Contrition is sorrow for the pain given to God, and cannot be renewed too often. In a child who has committed back ingratitude against a loving mother, the pain can never go. The more free the forgiveness, the more keen the sorrow.

Tobacco and Liquor Habits

Dr. McTeargart's tobacco remedy removes all desire for the weed in a few days. A vegetable medicine, and only requires touching the tongue with it occasionally. Price \$2. Truly marvellous are the results from taking his remedy for the liquor habit. It is a safe and inexpensive home treatment; no hypodermic injections, no publicity, no loss of time from business, and a certainty of cure.



Nestle's Food Paves the Way for the March of Life

PROGRESS from infancy to sturdy, healthful youth is safeguarded and made secure by the use of Nestle's Food. Sold all over the world for the past thirty years. Now being used by the third generation of mothers.

LEEMING, MILES & CO. Sole Agents. MONTREAL.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT.

In considering the Fourth Commandment last week our remarks were confined to the obligations which children owe their parents. As stated at that time, this commandment implies reciprocal relations. For while it imposes obligations upon children and inferiors, it likewise fixes duties for parents and superiors.

It is, therefore, a prime duty imposed upon parents that they provide their children with food and raiment. Fathers and mothers consequently who force their children without necessity to become bread-winners are not acting in compliance with the law of God.

Another duty imposed upon parents by this commandment is that of correcting the child. Another, that of giving good example, and still another, that of exercising a most careful vigilance over it. Parents who fail to correct the child for its faults should not be surprised to see these faults grow into habitual vices.

Such are some of the positive duties laid upon parents by the Fourth Commandment. They are all of serious importance to parents. But there still remains one to which we would direct attention. It is that of vocation of the child. In this particular the future of many a child is wrecked by the opposition of parents. Especially is this true in regard to the religious state.

KEEP THE CHILDREN HEALTHY. If the children's digestive organs are all right, the children are all right. They will be hearty, rosy, happy and grow well. You can get your children right, and keep them right by the use of Baby's Own Tablets, which cure all stomach and bowel troubles, nervousness, irritation, prevent grip, break up colds and fevers, teach, break up worms. And you have a positive guarantee that there is no opiate or harmful drug in this medicine.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. This medicine is a sure cure for all ailments of the blood, and restores the system to its normal state. It is a true blood purifier, and will cure all skin diseases, such as eczema, psoriasis, and all other eruptions of the skin. It will also cure all ailments of the digestive system, and restore the appetite and strength.



NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. HOME OFFICE: TORONTO, ONT. L. GOLDMAN, A.I.A., F.C.A., Managing Director. JOHN L. BLAIKIE, President. W. B. TAYLOR, B.A., LL.B., Secretary.

Forging Ahead

In tending to its policyholders and well wishers

The Season's Hearty Greetings

The MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA

is pleased to announce that it has written during the past year

OVER FIVE MILLIONS

of good Canadian business; and that in all other respects the Company has had a most successful year.

It may be only a trifling cold, but neglect it and it will fester in your lungs, and will soon be carried to an untimely grave. In this country we have sudden changes and must expect to have coughs and colds. We cannot avoid them, but we can forestall a cure by using Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, the medicine that has never been known to fail in curing coughs, colds, bronchitis and all affections of throat, lungs and chest.

A TONIC FOR THE DEBILITATED.—Parmentier's Vegetable Pills by acting mildly but powerfully on the secretions of the body are a valuable tonic, stimulating the lagging organs to heal, and restoring the system to full vigor. They can be taken in gradual doses and so used that they can be discontinued at any time without return of the ailments which they were used to allay.

Much distress and sickness in children is caused by worms. Mother Graves' Worm Expeller gives relief by removing the cause. Give it a trial and be convinced.

\$4.50 LADIES' SUITS

We manufacture ladies' suits. Our specialty is a \$12.00 all wool cheviot suit. We sold over 1000 of these suits this fall at \$12.00 each. We have 200 of these suits now on hand. We do not care to carry them over until next fall. We will sell them until gone for \$4.50 a suit, were \$12.00. The cloth is wool. The colors are black, grey, light grey, navy, blue, sea brown, myrtle, green and dark red. The skirt is cut in latest style with all the goods at knee. It is bound in velvet and stitched on hand. The coat is light and the back is lined at waist with long silk on coat—the latest style. The coats are lined in 80-100 saten, the suits all this year's styles. The sizes are from a 14 year old girl to a stout woman 44 bust—any size can be returned if not satisfied. We face factory and money refunded. Send bust and waist measure—length from neck band to belt in back—sleeve length under seam—also length from side and skirt and around hips—perfect satisfaction guaranteed. Send this ad; mention this paper and its date.

SOUTHCOTT MFG. CO.

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE K.P.D.C. FOR NERVOUS DYSPEPSIA. HEADACHE, DEBILITY, LOSS OF ENERGY, ETC. FREE TRIAL OFFER. Write for circular. K.P.D.C. CO. Ltd., Boston, U.S.A. and New Glasgow, Canada.

SEND NO MONEY



THIS FINE Violin AND OUTFIT ONLY \$4.35. This violin possesses a rare, powerful tone of great melodic quality, equaling that of the famous Stradivari violins of which it is an exact copy. The body is made of seasoned maple of beautiful flame, the top is spruce wood, so to be years old, prepared from the western larch forest of Germany. The color is a rich, reddish brown, hand rubbed in oil to a high piano polish, and the strings, such as pegs, four horse hair, etc., are fine ebony finished. Our \$4.35 price includes the Violin, exactly as described, a fine case, bow, two sets of gut strings, a big cake of rosin, finger-board, chart and a well bound instruction book, all packed in a most substantial leather carrying case with your name and address and simply drop us a card with your name and address and we will ship this fine Violin nearest express office and amount required. Don't send us one cent for your free inspection. Don't send us one cent. Then, if after a regular trial for 30 days you are not satisfied, we will return your money. For \$4.35 extra we will send a handsome hand-bound black leather case, with brass trimmings, inside cover. We may not be able to repeat this offer.

EVERY MAN

Who could not otherwise leave an estate which would yield an income equal to the immediate needs of his family is enabled to do so by life insurance.

The Continuous Instalment

policy guarantees to the beneficiary an annual income for twenty years certain, and thereafter for the remainder of life. It is issued with premiums payable throughout insured's lifetime or limited to stated number of years. It is also issued so that the insured obtains the yearly income himself, after a certain period, for the balance of his lifetime.

If you are interested, we would be pleased to have one of our representatives see you and explain fully.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. HOME OFFICE: TORONTO, ONT. L. GOLDMAN, A.I.A., F.C.A., Managing Director. JOHN L. BLAIKIE, President. W. B. TAYLOR, B.A., LL.B., Secretary.

Forging Ahead

In tending to its policyholders and well wishers

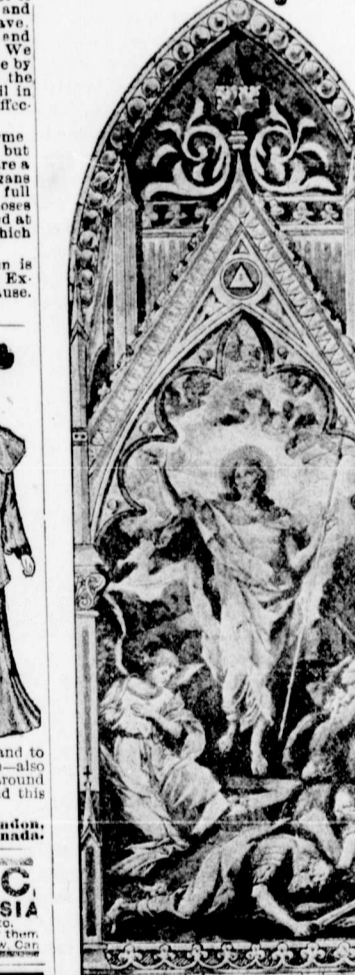
The Season's Hearty Greetings

The MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA

is pleased to announce that it has written during the past year

OVER FIVE MILLIONS

of good Canadian business; and that in all other respects the Company has had a most successful year.



HOBBS MANUFACTURING CO.

LIMITED. Manufacturers of... Memorial and Decorative Art Windows

LONDON, CANADA.

FAVORABLY KNOWN SINCE 1826. BELLS' PATENT. (CHURCH, SCHOOL & OTHER PURPOSES). WEST-TROY, N.Y. GENUINE. CHINESE, ETC. CATALOGUE PRICES FREE.

INDIGESTION CONQUERED BY K.D.C.

RESTORES THE STOMACH TO HEALTHY ACTION AND TONES WHOLE SYSTEM.