MARCH 8, 18943

CATHOLIC RECORD. THE

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS.

Fourth Sunday in Lent.

THE LUST OF THE EYES. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works darkness, but rather reprove them. For the hings that are done by them in secret, it is a same even to speak of. (Ephes. v. 11, 12.)

Some weeks ago, my dear brethren we had occasion to speak of the horri-ble and filthy vice of impurity, which is every day dragging into hell thou-sands of souls with the mark of the cross of Christ on them, and washed in vain with his Precious Blood. As was said then, many Christians do not seem to realize the enormity of sins against the Sixth Commandment-at least those of thought and of the tongue ; to which

of sight. An immodest imagination or desire, wilfully entertained or enjoyed, is a mortal sin, and gives the soul so harboring it instantly into the power of the devil. Let us hope that no one having the Catholic faith will doubt this, or think it too strict a doctrine for it is the unanimous consent of all the teaching authority in the Church from the beginning, amply supported also by Holy Scripture. What shall we say, then, of wilful and deliberate gazing at immodest pictures, or of reading matter directly calculated to inflame impure passions, and certain to have its effect ?

Now, I hardly need to say that a city like this is full of these temptations coming through the cyes into the heart. The good and pure instinctively avoid them, and scarcely know that they exist; accustomed to watch the slight-est movements of their souls to evil, and instantly to repress them, they shrink with horror from those filthy words and pictures on which others eagerly gaze. They know that, as the Apostle says, it is a shame to speak of these things, a greater shame to write or to read of them, greater shame yet to expose them to sight, to incite temptation by them, and thus to destroy the souls for which Christ died. I say that the good and pure are not likely to be caught in this net of satan ; by this I mean those who have been warned of the evil, who understand its danger, and from well-formed habits of virtue set themselves reso-lutely against it. But there are others who are good and pure — in their baptismal innocence, perhaps; young, at any rate, and unused to sin, at least of this kind-who are not forewarned and forearmed like those of maturer years, who, seeing bad pictures in papers sold even at stores otherwise of good repute, and kept, perhaps, by Catholics, do not fully understand how bad they are, and are led to look at them with pleasure, to learn evil which they know not of, and thus to contract

habits of sin which they will never Now, what does our Lord say of those who thus put temptation in the way of the young and innocent? You all believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged neck, and that he should b drowned in the depth of the sea." Strong words these ! but they are those of the Divine Wisdom, and beyond correction by human lips. Yes, it is better to die, better even to die in the state of sin, than to add such a sin as

this to our number. Let us beware, then, not in any way, however indirect, to give sanction or encouragement to this work of the devil in our midst. "Have no fellowship with these works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Do not buy or even take up for a moment the indecent to look at or read them : do not frequent places where they are to be Set your faces resolutely, for the Joseph's parish ! honor of God and the Catholic name, as well as for your own soul's sake, against this plague of immodest litera ture, which has assumed such fearfu proportions and become so bold and unblushing in these days in which we it ! And some of the dresses are nice, live. Think nothing to be light or of little moment in this matter; mortal are made of dreadfully common sin is much easier in it than you may

A LITTLE WHITE DRESS. BY MARY CATHERINE CROWLEY. "Only three weeks more, Constance. Aren't you glad?" said Lillie to her

little companion and neighbor as they hurried to school. "Indeed I am. But it's so long in coming !" sighed Constance. "The days never seemed to go so slowly be-"I have made a calendar, and every

morning I cross off a date; there are already seven gone since the 1st of May," explained Lillie, with a satis-fied air, as if she hal discovered the secret of adding "speed to the wings of time." "We shall not have a great Was it a grand holiday that our young friends were anticipating so may be added those coming from the use of the other senses, especially that

drawing near? One might suppose something of the kind. But not at all. On the approaching Feast of the Asconsion they were to make their First Communion ; and, being convent bred little girls, every thought and act had been directed to preparation for this great event, to which they looked forward with the artless fervor natural to innocent childhood. No one must imagine, however, that they were di-minutive prudes, with long faces. Is not a girl or boy gayest when his or her heart has no burden upon it? In fact, it would have been hard to find two merrier folk, even upon this bright

spring morning. Lillie was a sprightly creature, who, somehow, always reminded Sister Agnes of one of the angels in Murillo's "The Immaculate Concep picture, picture, "The Immaculate Concep-tion,"—a lively, happy-go-lucky, rol-licking angel, who plays hide and seek among the folds of Our Lady's mantle, and appears almost beside himself with the gladness of heaven's sunlight. Yet Lillie was by no means an angel. She had her faults of course, and the often sadly tried the patience of the good Sister. She was quick tempered, volatile, inclined to be a trifle vain. Alas that it is so hard to keep a child's heart like a garden enclosed as with a fragrant hedge, laden with the blos soms of sweet thoughts—safely shut in from the chilling winds of worldliness! She was lovable withal, generous, af fectionate, and would make a fine woman if properly trained.

Constance, a year older, was more sedate, though with plenty of quiet fun about her. But, as a general thing, she knew when to be serious and when to play-a bit of wisdom which Sister Agnes frequently wished she could manage to impart to the others of the band of aspirants, of whom the gentle

nun had special charge. Constance and Lillie were nearly always together. Now, as they tripped onward, they were as happy as the birds in the trees above them, and their voices as pleasant to hear. Having turned the corner they began to meet

a company of children, who came along, sometimes in groups, again in detachments of twos and threes, all know His words: "He that shall scandalize one of these little ones who they passed joyously on, as if keeping time to the music of their own happy hearts. Poor children they were, most of them, with plain, ordinary faces, but upon which now shone a light that made one think of old sweet stories-of St. Ursula and her throng of spotless maidens ; of Genevieve, the child shepherdess of Nanterre. Who

that has ever witnessed such a scene can forget it !--this flock of fair, spotless doves amid the dust or mire of the city streets, that by their very passing bring even to the indifferent spectator a thought above gain or traffic-a memory perhaps of guileless days and noble aspirations, as, looking up at the papers or books now unfortunately so common among us; still more, do not them to the snowy cloudlets that gather sell them ; do not allow them to be in nearest to the sun and are irradiated the house ; do not suffer your children by its brightness.

ton stuff.

alone

places had evidently been carefully darned; indeed, her sharp eyes dis-covered even a tiny tear in the skirt, as if Annie had unwittingly put her THE LATE FATHER CASEY. Church Uses.

as if Annie and unwittingly put her fingers through it when searching for the pocket. "Why, Annie Brogan," she ex-claimed, thoughtlessly, "you did not wear that dress to make your First Communion !'

"Yes, to be sure. Did not mother do it up nicely?" answered Annie, with *naive* appreciation of the patient, painstaking skill which had laid the small tucks so neatly, and fluted the thin ruffles without putting a hole through them. "And mother was saying, when she was at work on it, how thankful we ought to be to have

defined.

pretty veil you have !"

late for school

clothes.

But the circumstance had made an

Lillie was speaking, but it was the

fact which created such a sensation. "Why didn't she get a new one?" inquired Eugenia Dillon, a girl of a haughty disposition, who attached a

great deal of importance to costly

"Hadn't any money," responded Lillie, nibbling at a delicious pickled lime which she had produced from a corner of her lunch basket.

"Oh, not put off your First Com-munion !" protested one of the group.

"Why, yes," returned Eugenia, conscious that she had scandalized

them a little and trying to excuse her-self. "It is not respectful or proper not to be fitly dressed for such a great

"But Annie was as neat as could

be," said Constance ; " and looked as pretty as a picture, too. I'm sure Our

Then I'd wait till I had-"

Falls, graduating in 1868. He was ordained in the following year and it; since, much as she wished to buy a dress for me, she would not have been able to do so, with the rent and signed to the church at Tidicute, Pa., as his first charge. There he remained until 1870, in which year he came to everything to pay; and how good your mamma was to give it to me." "Pshaw !" rejoined Lillie. "I could have given you a dress ten times bet-Erie and assumed the pastorate of St Patrick's pro Cathedral. Ten years later Father Casey was elevated to the important office of Vicar-General of ter than that if I had only remem bered. Mamma just happened to put that in with a bundle of some of my last summer's clothes, which she hoped Mrs. Brogan might find useful. But the Erie diocese, included in which are the counties of Erie, Warren, McKean, Potter, Crawford, Mercer, Venango,

she never dreamed you would wear it to-day." "I thought it was so nice!" said Annie, coloring, while a few tears of chagrin and disappointment sprang to back a second disappointment sprang to her eyes ; somehow, a shadow seeme On the death of his father. James

mourned.

to have unaccountably arisen to dim the brightness of this fairest of days— this sketch inherited a considerable a wee bit of a shadow, felt rather than fortune. His means have been used liberally both in upbuilding the church "So it is nice !" declared Constance, and in worthy charities. frowning at impulsive Lillie, to warn her that she had blundered. "It is ironed perfectly; your mother has made it look beautiful. And what a were unremitting to hasten to comple-tion St. Peter's Cathedral in Erie, dedicated a year ago, and in addition to cash contributions of the Casey

family, amounting to \$70,000, Father Casey himself presented the magnifi-"Yes, I did buy that," replied Annie, in a more cheerful tone. cent organ now in use. The most enduring monument to Annie, in a more cheerful tone. "Oh, it's all right! And Our Lord must have welcomed you gladly, Annie, you are so good and sweet," added Lillie. "I didn't mean any Father Casey's memory is Villa Maria Academy, an institution for the higher

education of young women, which was harm in noticing your dress; it was only one of my stupid speeches." Lillie looked so sorry and vexed with erected and furnished by him at an outlay of over \$100,000 and presented to the Sisters of St. Joseph in May, 1892.

herself that Annie laughed. The shadow was lifted ; the children wished Father Casey leaves a fortune estimated at a quarter of a million, most of which, it is anticipated, will one another good-bye; Annie went homeward, while the others quickened their pace, fearing that they would be revert to the church.

The Baron's Retort.

impression, especially upon Lillie; and at the noon recreation, which the An irreligious young man met one of the Barons Rothschild in a Parisian first communicants spent together, she cafe, and began boasting to him, and hastened to tell her companions about a number of others who sat at the "Just imagine !" she cried; " Annie table, of his extensive travels. He Brogan made her First Communion was most enthusiastic in his descrip this morning, and she wore an old tion of the island of Tahiti, and men dress of mine-an old dress, all mended tioned attractions of that favored spot

up, that mamma gave her !" which the Baron thought rather be "The idea !" — "What was she neath the notice of a sensible man. thinking of ?" etc., etc.; such were the exclaimations with which this an-"My dear sir," asked the Baron politely, "did you see anything else worthy of note on the island ?" nouncement was greeted. Most of the girls did not know in the least of whom

"I observed," replied the young man, indignantly, "that it was fortunate enough to possess neither pigs nor Jews. "Indeed !" said the Baron, blandly,

not losing his temper in the least. "What do you say to accompanying me to that privileged spot? In the absence of others of our sort, we should soon make our fortunes.

The young man suddenly remem





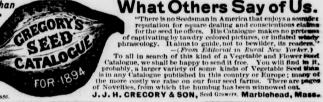
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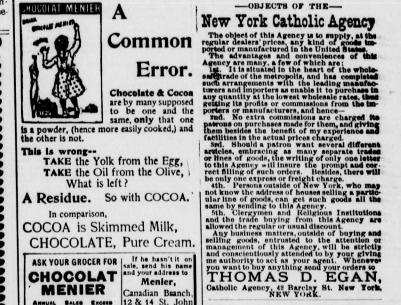
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The Drnnkard's Will.

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of their lives as much sorrow as the human heart can bear. I leave to my brothers and sisters as much mortification and injury as I

could bring upon them. I leave to my wife a broken heart, a life of wretchedness, poverty and shame, to weep over my untimely death.

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For Boils and Skin Diseases. in perfect sympathy. Presently Lillie chanced to glance at the little communicant's white gown, DEAR SIRS, -- I have been using B. B. B. for boils and skin diseases, and I find it very good as a cure. As a dyspepsia cure I have alse found it unequalled. MRS, SARAH HAMILTON, Montreal, Que. which, though fresh and dainty as loving hands could make it, was un-Minard's Liniment for Rheumatism. mistakably well worn, and in some

Lord was as pleased with her as if she were dressed like a princess, because "Why," exclaimed Constance, "here she is such a good little thing come the first communicants of St. "Come, Connie, don't preach !" ob-They must be just jected Eugenia, impatiently. "Be-sides, how could she have looked pretty going home from Mass. How happy they all are, and how pretty in their in a mended dress? I wish you could white dresses !" "They do look lovely," assented see the one I'm going to have! It's to be of white silk—the best that can

occasion.

be got at Brown's." 'It won't be any more beautiful than mine. I'm to have tulle," said

Lillie. material, and the veils are coarse cot-"And I-" continued Constance.

"Mine is to be trimmed with point-"Well, I suppose they couldn't afford lace," broke in another. "And I'm to wear mamma's diaany better," returned Constance, re

monds," beasted somebody else. "You can't," demurred a quiet girl,

gretfully. "I declare there's Annie Brogan, who had not spoken before. "Sister Agnes said that we are not to be whose mother works for us !-- don't you know ?" cried Lillie, darting toward a girl who had parted with several others allowed to wear jewelry or silk either at a cross-street and was walking on

and that, though the material for the dresses may be of as fine a quality as we choose, they ought not to be showy As Constance did know, she hastened to greet her, and to vie with Lillie in congratulating her. "O Annie, what a happy day for you !"—"What a favored girl you are !"—"I almost envy you !"—"We have three whole or elaborate.

"That is all very well to say," an-wered Eugenia. "The nuns can swered Eugenia. "The nuns can enforce these rules in their boardingschools, but hardly in a day-school like this. We'll wear what we please, or weeks to wait yet." This is about what they said, again and again, what our mothers select. Mamma has decided to get the white silk for me, within the next few minutes; while Annie turned from one to the other, because so many of our friends will be with an added gentleness of manner, a present, and she wants my dress to be smile upon her lips, and a more the handsomest of any.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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