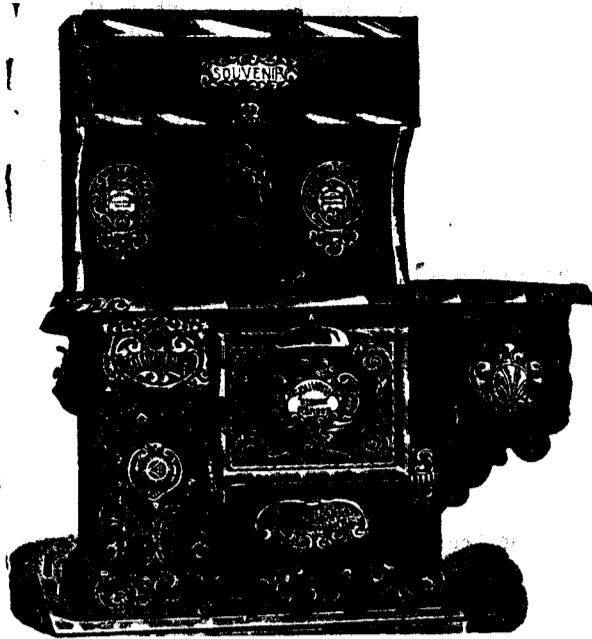


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WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

BROTHER, NOTE THE BEAM IN THINE OWN EYE.

(The Casket).
Our American exchanges have said a great deal in the past three years concerning the weak efforts made by the Catholics of the British Empire to have the abominable Royal Declaration against transubstantiation abolished. None of them has pretended to doubt that King Edward would gladly see it abolished, but constitutional changes come slowly in British countries. Catholics throughout the Empire have spoken and written and petitioned against it; it has twice been made the subject of debate in the House of Lords; but a satisfactory substitute for this safeguard of the Protestant Succession has not yet been discovered, and until it is discovered nothing will be done. But our American brethren have now a similar problem on their hands, and we are anxiously waiting to see what they are going to do about it. The election campaign of this fall brought to light the fact that in the book called "Castilian Days," published by John Hay in 1871, the present Secretary of State uses language concerning transubstantiation beside which the Royal Declaration is comparatively inoffensive. Indeed, we should need to go to the books of Chiquiquy to find a parallel for its infamous references to our most sacred beliefs, or for its slanderous insinuations concerning the confessional and the celibacy of the clergy. One influential Catholic journal thinks that no attention should now be paid to a book written when its author was a very young man; but another calls attention to the fact that the book was reprinted in 1899, and again in 1903, without any change. Now, King Edward cannot help himself in the matter of the Royal Declaration; neither can his Catholic subjects help themselves. England is yet officially Protestant, and thinks it yet necessary thus to make official declaration of the fact. But Secretary Hay can help himself; and the Catholics of the United States can help themselves. No clause of the Constitution requires him to retain those offensive passages in his book; and American Catholics are able, if they choose to exert their strength, to make him either apologize or resign his position. Blaine lost his election because he listened without remonstrance to a violent preacher's "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion." McKinley thought it better to withdraw from the church where an expatriated Canadian "hanged the Pope" as he had been accustomed to do in Toronto on the twelfth of July. Roosevelt is as reasonable as McKinley, and Hay is no stronger than Blaine. United action by the Catholic press and Catholic societies will bring about the desired result.

his order, with a Bible in his hand entered the pulpit, read his text from St. John, 20-23, laid the Bible aside and began his sermon. He was an interesting study to me. I saw in that pulpit the product of the Sherman and Ewing blood, two families Ohio will not forget; we have no better blood. He resembled his distinguished father somewhat, but lacked that precise, military bearing peculiar to an educated soldier. I saw the man who might have been a lawyer of the type of his grandfather, or a statesman like his uncle, or a military man like his father, but no! he refused all worldly opportunities for wealth and renown, and became a plain, unassuming priest, a herald of the cross. To me, there is a grandeur in such consecration and self denial, surpassing the honors that may be earned in the more secular walks of life. I thought of St. Francis of Assisi and Bernard of Clairvaux.

In address, he is accurate, cultured, showing a thoroughly disciplined mind enriched with learning from the old masters and the new. He is a good speaker, clear, distinct, simple and to the point, without much unctious, but not lacking in forcefulness. He is an earnest man, believing all he says, and says it because he believes it should be said for the good of souls. The sermon was all that a sermon ought to be; it combined truth with personality in a marked degree. It was sweet in spirit, thoroughly Christian and did good to those who listened with open hearts as well as ears. I got so much that I preached a portion of it to my people the next Sunday. It might have sounded to them like John Wesley or Bishop Asbury.

A series of such lectures blesses a community. All who heard will not join St. Mary's church, but they will love God more and be more charitable and helpful to their fellowmen. They will strive to live with less of sin and more of holiness in their lives.

I was glad I went to hear Father Sherman. I love his name, his character and his work. May Our Heavenly Father give him many years of usefulness among us.

My friend, Father Heintz, who has recently gone to St. Peter's, invited me to call at the rectory, hard by, and meet Father Sherman. But I thought he was weary after the duties of the evening and might not enjoy a visit from a "heretic" like me.

T. G. DICKINSON.
The Parsonage, London, Ohio.
December, 1904.

PIUS X. AND CHILDREN.

Pius X., although benevolence and good will incarnate, has hitherto had little experience of children. He has just had his first lesson in their likes and dislikes, and remained somewhat astonished.

Some Lauretane nuns were received by him, and took with them two children, about four and five years of age. They dutifully knelt and kissed his hand, and answered shyly the questions put by him. But, this done, conversation became rather difficult, the Holy Father finding himself actually embarrassed before their timid reticence. Finally the nuns had the happy inspiration to make the little ones repeat the prayer for the Pope which they say every evening, and which touched the Pontiff very much. "Good children," he said, "come here; I have something for you," and when the highly expectant youngsters came to his knee he presented each with a silver medal, and was much astonished when the effect was less joyful than he anticipated.

"Is there anything the matter?" he asked, helplessly, of the anxious nuns; "don't they like them? Come here, little woman, and tell me what you would like the best in the world."

"A doll," answered the child, promptly; "a big yellow-haired doll."

"And that you shall have," replied the Pontiff, immensely relieved; and, in fact, his sister went out the next day and got two of the best which money could buy, so that the children have cause to remember Pius X.

After the audience the Pope, speaking to his secretary, said that a royal audience is not half as fatiguing, and that he feels for fathers with large families.

A METHODIST MINISTER'S OPINION OF FATHER SHERMAN.

(Catholic Columbian.)
We have received the following letter from Rev. T. G. Dickinson, a Methodist minister of the Southern Ohio Conference, now located at London, in reference to the recent mission for non-Catholics given at Chillicothe by Rev. Thomas Ewing Sherman, S. J. The kindly and generous spirit manifested, will commend the communication to all readers:

Dear Friend: Not long since I was visiting in Chillicothe among my former parishioners of Walnut Street Methodist Episcopal church. When evening came, my friend inquired what I would like to do. He said we could hear a lecture on art that was being given by a literary club in the city, or we could go down to St. Mary's church and hear Father Sherman, who was delivering a series of lectures. I said, "by all means let us hear Father Sherman," for I had wished for years to both see him and hear him.

I never knew him, but I had associates in college among Lancaster boys who were associates of his. They knew his worth as a scholar and his devotion to the Cross of Christ. One of these friends remarked to me, "Tom will honor his Church, and be a type of man who will make a Cardinal." So may it be!

We went to church. I felt at home in this house of God, for I had often before been in St. Mary's. I saw many members of my church and all the churches and the holy place was well filled with the intelligence, culture and spirituality of Chillicothe.

The introductory service was brief, a prelude on the organ and a prayer. Father Sherman in the plain garb of



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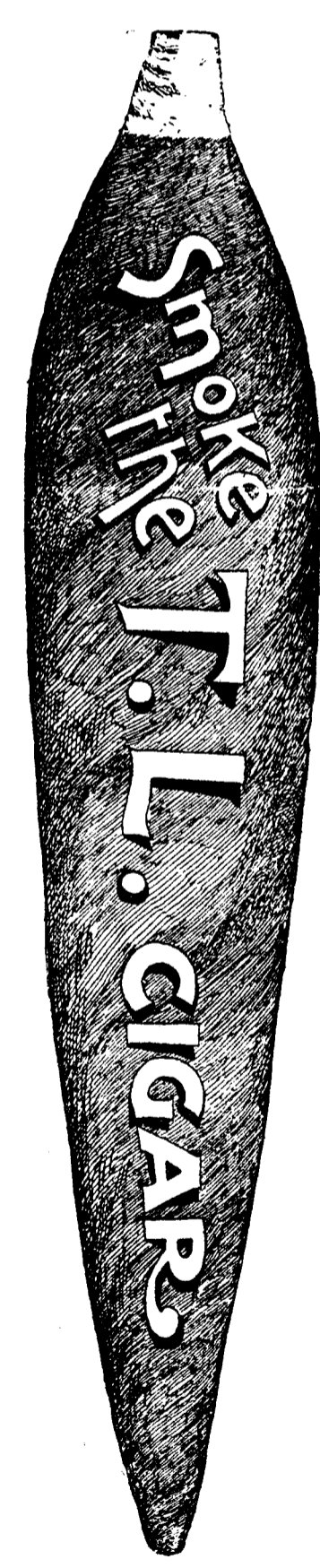
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