

A CHINESE STORY.

The name of Pierre Loti is not one that suggests anything very Catholic, nor do we often find in his writings that which we could freely praise or reproduce. However, there are times when even the most dangerous of writers pens something that is actually good. Loti is no exception to this rule; he has written many good things, and this very fact causes us to wonder how it is that he has ever written in the anti-Catholic strain of the fashionable gentlemen of letters in France to-day. Some time ago Mgr. Morel, director of Catholic missions, asked him to write a little missionary story; he did so, and the following, taken from "The Outlook," is the result.

"In the sinister yellow country of the Extreme Orient, during the worst period of the war, our boat, a heavy ironed, was stationed for weeks at her post in the blockade in a bay on the coast. With the neighboring country with its impossible green mountains, and its rice fields like velvet prairies, we had almost no communication. The inhabitants of the village or the woods stayed at home, defiant or hostile. An overwhelming heat descended upon us from a dull sky, which was nearly always gray and veiled with curtains of lead.

One morning during my watch the steersman came to me and said:

"There is a sampan, captain, that has just come into the bay, and which seems to be trying to speak to us."

"Ah, who is in it?"

Before replying he looked again through his glass.

"There is, captain, a kind of priest, Chinese, or I don't know what, who is seated alone at the stern."

The sampan advanced over the sluggish, oily, warm water without haste and without noise. A yellow faced young girl, clad in a black dress, stood erect and puffed out her chest, bringing us this ambiguous boat, the head and the round spectacles of the priests of Annam, but whose beard and whose astonishing face were not at all Asiatic.

He came on board and addressed me in French, speaking in a dull and timid way.

"I am a missionary," he said, "from Lorraine, but I have lived for more than thirty years in a village six hours' march from here, in the country, where all the people have been converted to Christianity. I wish to speak to the commandant and ask for aid from him. The rebels are threatening us and are already very near. All my parishioners will be massacred, it is certain, if some one does not come promptly to our aid."

Alas! the commandant was obliged to refuse aid. All the men and guns that we had had been sent to another place, and there remained on board just enough sailors to guard the vessel; truly we could do nothing for those poor parishioners "over there." They must be given up as lost.

The overwhelming noonday hour had arrived, the daily torpor that suspended all life. The little sampan and the young girl had returned to land, disappearing in the unhealthy vegetation on the bank, and the mis-

sonary had, as usually enough, stayed with us, a little taciturn, but not recriminative.

The poor man did not appear brilliant during the luncheon he shared with us. He had become such an invalid that any conversation with him seemed difficult. After the coffee, when the cigarettes appeared, he seemed to wake up and asked for French tobacco to fill his pipe; for twenty years, he said, a like pleasure had been refused him. Then, accusing himself, because of his long journey, he sank back on his cushions.

And to think that, without doubt, we should have to keep with us for several months this unforeseen guest that heaven had sent us! It was, without enthusiasm, I assure you, that one of us went to him to announce on the part of the commandant that he had been refused.

"They have prepared a room for you, father. It goes without saying that you will be one of us until the day when we can land you in a safe place."

He did not seem to understand. "But I am only waiting until night-fall to ask you to send me to the end of the bay in a small boat. Before night you can surely have me put on shore, can you not?" he asked uneasily.

"Landed! And what will you do on land?"

"But I will return to my village," he said with sublime simplicity. "I could not sleep here, you know. The attack might be made to-night."

This man who had seemed so vulgar at first grew larger at every word, and we surrounded him, charmed and curious.

"But it is you, father, who will be most in danger."

"That is very likely," he replied as tranquilly as an ancient martyr would wait for him on the shore at sunset. At nightfall, all together, they would return to the threatened village, and then, at the will of God!

And as we urged him to stay—because to go was to go to a certain death, to some atrocious Chinese death—this peasant, who had been refused, he became indignant, gently but obstinately and unchangeably without long words and without anger.

"It is I who converted them, and you wish me to abandon them when they are persecuted for their faith? But they are my children!"

With a certain emotion the officers of the watch had one of the ship's boats prepared to take him to shore, and we all shook hands with him, when he went away. Always quiet and now insignificant again, he confided to us a letter for an aged French priest in Lorraine, took a little French tobacco and went away.

And as twilight fell we watched in silence over the heavy, warm water the silhouette of this apostle of freedom, so simply to his obscure martyrdom, we got ready to leave the following week. I forget for where and from this time on events gave us to rest. We never heard more of him, and I think for my part that I never would have thought of him again if the Catholic missions had not insisted one day that I write a little missionary story.

HOUSEHOLD NOTES.

FOOD FOR HOT WEATHER.

Midsummer menus should be the very antithesis of winter ones, all heating, stimulating foods giving place to that splendid variety of health-giving good things which the season brings to us. Three months of vegetarianism would do every one good, but since we are not all inclined to such radical changes, there is left to us the sensible change to lighter meats, which proves as delightful as beneficial. Lamb, veal, poultry, boiled and broiled, ham, bacon, and, above all, fish, give a wide range of choice.

Fish is the ideal summer meat- food both for health's sake and enjoyment, and those who live where they can command it in perfection are to be congratulated. For hot weather breakfasts, there should always be one dish that has a "snap" to it, something to provoke appetite. This is just the role for delicately-prepared salt fish dishes (prominently among them haddie), for curries, and other highly-seasoned dishes that are not heavy.

Bacon should rarely be left off the breakfast menu. It is the finest relish accompaniment to other meat dishes, and alone it covers the breakfast-meat item if accompanied by such things as fried tomatoes, an egg dish plain or elaborate, or something of that character.

When tomatoes are really in market they should be in evidence in some form for breakfast, dinner and supper, for summer gives us no vegetable more enjoyable or healthful. Notwithstanding all the attacks made formerly upon its healthfulness, it is now firmly established as medicinal to the greatest degree. Who that loves them ever grew tired of them? For breakfast, they are best simply skinned and sliced, to be eaten with salt, pepper and natural "vinegar" which is their juice; for dinner or luncheon, they are perhaps most properly served cooked or in salad; for supper, in salad or plain sliced. For any meal, and particularly for breakfast, they are delicious fried if properly done. Never roll them in crumbs or dip them in batter, but roll them until well coated in flour well seasoned with salt, pepper and sugar. Fry to a rich brown on both sides. The slices should be

Nervous troubles are cured by Hood's Sassafras, which enlivens and purifies the blood. It is the best medicine for nervous PEOPLE.

thick, three to a medium-sized tomato. The salad feature in midsummer menus cannot be overdone, breakfast being the only meal when it is irrefragable. Almost everything that comes from the garden is available as salad material, and there are dressings with and without oil which cover the whole range of possible tastes, making salad enjoyment a grateful possibility to every one. It is salads which should really take the place of meats in the summer time, being sufficiently nourishing for the time, and more wholesome.

Our systems require for vigorous health all the elements which the succession of vegetables afford us; therefore we should eat freely of them all, from the first tender green of early spring to the tubers left us for winter's consuming. There are organic salts, acids and other elements in them which in no other form will so perfectly assimilate. Green vegetables preserve their color better if cooked uncovered in rapidly-boiling water. Wilting or too old vegetables may be rendered more palatable by the addition of a tiny bit of soda to the water in which they are boiled, but this is done to the detriment of their wholesomeness.

As for fruit, we should be as busy as the birds in its enjoyment the whole summer through. Certain most mischievous ideas are current as to the wholesomeness or digestibility of the various fruits, and if the dicta of "authorities" were accepted we should cut off everything from early berries to late apples. Nine-tenths of the "disagreement" talked about is purely imaginary, and if it were half true we should still eat our fruits as they come in their season. The stomach may be forced to develop strength as any other part of the body. It should be given something to do, for nature is always ready to take a rest if we give her half a chance. The custom of cooking fruit to make it digestible is to be deplored, for most fruits are really more digestible without cooking, because of the sugar required to make them palatable if cooked.

Cooking fruits to make enjoyable desserts is quite another question; shortcakes, cobblers, roly-polies, dumplings, and even fresh-fruit pies have their proper place in summer menus, and not to have them is to miss much enjoyment. Fresh fruits may as well be prettily served as to have no thought for their "appeal to the eye." A crystal dish border-

ed with fresh green leaves (those belonging to the special fruit if possible), with fruit heaped in the centre, surely seems more—and is more—than the same fruit served without any regard to its appearance.—Woman's Home Companion.

ABOUT SOAP.—There is a good deal of nonsense about the use of soap. Any good soap that is manufactured by the use of pure oils is efficient and harmless if it is properly used. Almost no soap will ever chip or roughen the hands if the latter are thoroughly rinsed in clear water. Not one person in a dozen washes his hands properly, because of the neglect of this important part of the operation. Another point about soap cake should be rinsed before being returned to the soap dish. Dirty soap dishes and cakes of soap with crusted suds upon them can be found in many otherwise neat homes. The best soap dish for cleanliness and economy is a rubber one. This is quickly scoured out every morning, and there is no fear of its clinging to a moist cake of soap and dropping, as metal or china may. Powdered soap in a shaker is the most sanitary and economical kind to use in a family. A further desideratum for the washstand is powdered pumice for the washstand in a common salt shaker. A dust of this on the fingers when washing will quickly remove ink and other stains.

TO FIT A SHOE.—"People would find less difficulty in suiting themselves with ready-made shoes," said an experienced shoemaker, "if they would stand up to have them fitted. Nine persons out of ten require a particularly comfortable chair when they are having shoes tried on, and it is difficult to make them stand for a few minutes when the shoe is being tried. Then when they begin to walk about they are surprised that the shoes are less comfortable, than when they were first fitted. The reason is simple. The foot is smaller when one sits in a chair than it is when one is walking about. Exercise brings a constriction of the quantity of blood to the feet, which accordingly swell. The muscles also expand. These facts must be borne in mind when one buys one's shoes, or discomfort and disappointment are sure to be the result. People who make shoes should be able to measure the feet of their customers. The result will generally be the discovery that they have feet of different sizes."

People look round at a nice head of hair on the street, so rare has that beautiful ornament become at the present day. Why is this? It certainly is not LUBY'S Parisian Hair Renewer, which is an almost infallible remedy against premature grey hair. Only 50 cents a bottle.

HALF HOUR WITH CATHOLIC PRESS.

INFLUENCE OF RELIGION.—We have frequently and editorially expressed the opinion that the heads of governments—be they governors, premiers, presidents, emperors or kings—should see the safest of all policies for them to pursue is one that fosters and encourages religion and religious principles. The Church is the only true friend of the rulers, as of the ruled in this world. All others are enemies in one form or another. That our idea is not altogether barren of merit we have a proof in the comments of the general press upon the recent murder of Italy's King. Referring to that sad event, we find the "Monitor," of San Francisco, saying:

"The policy which engenders and fosters anarchy and nihilism, is primarily responsible for such acts as the 'removal' of King Humbert. Political assassination is the legitimate fruit of a system which deliberately aims to stifle religious influences."

It is exactly the same idea that we find more extensively expressed in the current number of the "New Maria," the able edited organ of Notre Dame, Indiana, has always some very just remarks and appropriate comments to make. The following speaks eloquently:

"The sad death of the King of Italy, cut down by the hand of an assassin without a moment's warning, gives new emphasis to a lesson as old as human history. As a mere matter of policy, and apart from all question of conviction, the rulers of nations ought to be the staunchest friends of religion. The forces of anarchy and revolution are growing strong under the very eyes of kings; and these forces are recruited not only from the ignorant and criminal classes, but from among men and women who talk smoothly and read

much. Education, popularly so called, has not kept these people out of the anarchist camp; religion alone, by teaching the sacredness of human life, the respect and obedience due to authority, and, above all, by holding out to the poor and the oppressed the hope of a future life in which the seeming wrongs of this life will be righted,—religion alone can prevent the spread of anarchy. For years the Italian Government has been at war with religion, and has pointed out this great conservative force as the enemy of popular liberty; to-day Italy shudders on the brink of a cataclysm. And when the younger generation, the product of purely secular schools, appears on the scene of action, worse things will be."

Whenever we read of governments persecuting the Church we cannot but recall to mind the fact that they are "sowing the wind," and that inevitably they will "reap the whirlwind." The only wonder is that clever and trained minds, like those of leading statesmen in certain countries, have not yet discovered that their own salvation depends upon the Church's influence, and that by hostility towards religion, and by the dagger and charge the pistol against their own lives.

A TERRIBLE LESSON.—A twelve-year-old boy, Noble Drumm, deliberately hanged himself at Frazeyburg, near Zanesville, Ohio, on August 2. His suicide is attributed to the separation of his father and mother, both of whom "married" again and had no use for him with their new families in their new homes. His deadly sin is a cry against divorce.—Catholic Columbian.

CHINESE FANATICISM.—So much is written about China at this moment that it would be difficult to add anything original, or of importance to the heap of literature devoted to the contradictions of the Celestial Empire. About Chinese fanaticism, we read in the "Catholic World" this striking paragraph:

"There are over a million Catholic Christians in China, and if the instruction of the Boxers becomes a restrained rebellion, the thousands, Father Gaillard, S.J., writes from Peking in April last,—his letter is published in the 'Etudes,'—saying that the Boxers are capable of anything in the way of devastation. Their leaders work with a frenzied frenzy, and persuade them that even if they die in the blessed work of killing the foreigner they will rise again the seventh day. In the strength of this fanaticism they are equal to any amount of slaughtering."

SOCIALISM DISCUSSED BY FR. SHEEDY.

Rev. Morgan M. Sheedy, of Altoona, Pa., gave a very able lecture recently at the Columbian Catholic Summer School in Detroit, on the subject of "Socialism and Socialists." Considering this as the great question of the coming century, the lecturer said that the social aspect of modern thought lends color to the poetry, the art, the literature, the philosophy, the politics and even the religion of the age. Socialism in the form or another is the chief factor in the forces that are silently transforming the old order, and no student of contemporary events can fail to be interested in its origin and developments.

The speaker then defined socialism in its general sense to be the attempt to better the condition of the less fortunate classes of society. "It aims," he said, "at making this earth, that for so many is a step-mother, a true mother for all who bear the human form."

As there are various forms of socialism so there are different kinds of socialists. Among Christian socialists he reckoned the late Cardinal Manning and Cardinal Gibbons, who would reform society by inculcating in the minds of the rich and poor alike obedience to the gospel. When Leo XIII. issued his encyclical on labor he was styled by capitalists a socialist, but a type far removed from the author of "Progress and Poverty."

After dealing with individualism and capitalism, the two great evils of our present industrial system, Father Sheedy reviewed the condition of the workingman during the past century in Europe and America. He traced the growth of socialism, the terroring to the socialist societies of France, Germany and England. He sketched the life of Karl Marx, the leader of modern socialism, and outlined the theory of surplus value.

In England the growth of socialism has been very rapid during the past few years and is constantly increasing. It has its representatives even in the House of Commons.

In the United States, continued Father Sheedy, we are far from being free from the presence of socialism, even in its more deadly form of anarchy. Having detailed all the movements that will be the outcome of the socialist order of things to-day, the speaker asked what part the Church is going to take in these movements, and how can she exert her influence for good in these troublous times.

The answer is, she can guide the movement to ends of holiness and peace, as she has done in great crises in the past. From his frequent utterances on this subject, it is evidently the wish of Leo XIII. that the Church should set herself to improve and educate the masses, and thus aid in bringing about a peaceful solution of the social problem. This work is being done in Germany by Catholic associations modeled after the ancient guilds. These associations have grown strong and powerful, and are the mainstay of conservatism in Germany. The speaker then urged that students of the Catholic Summer School should become familiar with the facts and forces at work in our present industrial system, to learn the nature and aims of contemporary socialism, so that they may aid in

making the transition from the old order to the new tranquil and benevolent.

He concluded by saying that the Catholic Church, which has redeemed the evils of society in the past, has still the power to redeem present evils; that there is no misery that the great mother of Christianity will not move heaven and earth to take away.

CATHOLIC SPIRIT IN ENGLAND.

The Catholics in the Tower Hamlets have fittingly opened the School Board campaign in the largest and most central parish—St. Mary and St. Michael. A surprisingly and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Johnson street schools on Sunday evening. Father Amigo, the rector, in the chair. Among those present were the clergy of the mission, Father Beckley, M.L.S.B., Mr. P. Considine (lay hon. sec. Tower Hamlets Catholic League), Mr. Keenan (Wapping), Messrs. Kelly, Murphy, Day, Whelan, Leahy, Dove, Littleton, Mooney, Quinn and McCarthy.

Father Amigo, in opening the proceedings, explained the object for which the meeting was called, and urged on his people most earnestly the importance of at once setting to work in canvassing and getting ready for the fight on November 29th.

Father Beckley delivered an address on School Board work generally, and promised to do his utmost to carry the Catholic banner to success in the forthcoming election. He said he was proud to be the candidate selected by the priests and people, and hoped that they would all work cordially and earnestly, and put him in November into the position to which he was co-opted as the successor of the late lamented Mr. Costello. He sincerely believed a great Catholic work was now put on foot, and that if they lost the position gained in 1897. Though a friend of his had told him he should require 25,000 votes to win, still he was sanguine his friends could make a big effort, if fully roused, and if the time between now and the election was properly used, he was quite sure the result would be satisfactory.

Mr. Considine moved the following resolution:

"That this meeting pledges itself to support Father Beckley's candidature at the coming School Board election, and to do all in its power to secure his return."

Mr. Considine, after complimenting Father Beckley on the absolute unanimity which marked his selection, appealed to the Catholics to be true to themselves and their priests and not to allow themselves to come between them and victory. He said the Catholic vote, if fully polled, was strong enough to put Father Beckley at the head of the poll, and if he suffered defeat it would be entirely due to the neglect of his own people.

Referring to the way of influence by one or two Catholic members on the School Board, but Catholics had to remember that it was absolutely necessary that their interests should be safeguarded by having some one to watch over them. Considine, aroused, it would be in the highest degree unwise to depend on outside support, and that made it the more necessary that Catholics should stick closely together, and adopt as a motto: "I am a Catholic, and will plump and work for Father Beckley."

Mr. Keenan seconded, and appealed to Catholics to sink political differences, and each work as if on election day, and each work as if on election day, and each work as if on election day.

The resolution was carried with acclamation. Father Beckley returned thanks, and was given three hearty cheers.

Mr. Mooney moved the following resolution:

"That we shall urge on our neighbors to see that they are registered as voters, and that we shall endeavor by every means in our power to get votes, or promises of votes, from non-Catholics as well as from Catholics."

Mr. Day seconded, and pointed out that voters for the School Board election could be registered up to the week preceding the election.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Considine, in reply to an inquiry, pointed out that the Tower Hamlets Catholic League was, and was strictly non-political; that it was not, as was erroneously imagined, bossed by the priests, and that the proportion of clerical to lay delegates was, approximately, one to four.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Father Beckley for his address.

Father Amigo was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his conduct in the chair, as well as for the spirit and earnestness he is putting into the preparation for the election. This time, at any rate, the parish of St. Mary and St. Michael will not be found wanting.

A meeting of the Parish Election Committee will be held in the Johnson Street Schools, on Sunday next, the 29th inst., after evening services. Father Amigo will preside, and hopes to see all the members present.—London Universe, Aug. 4.

NOTES ON INVENTIONS.

Among the recent inventions is a new thing in hats. It consists of a plurality of crowns, one of which may be peeled off after the other, so that, if desired, a man may change the color and style of his hat several times a day to meet any occasion.

A German firm has recently announced a discovery by which any character of fabric may be made fire-proof. The process is said to be cheap, and it adds but little to the weight of goods.

A window sash which dispenses with the necessity of putty is the invention of R. N. Whipple, of North Adams, Mass. The glass pane slides into thin places and fits snugly into grooves.

Among the features proposed for the St. Louis World's Fair for 1903 is a gigantic watch, so big that persons may walk through the works and thereby become familiar with all the parts of a pocket timepiece. It will be nearly seventy-five feet in diameter. The hair spring will be as thick as one's wrist, and the main spring three hundred feet in length. (Communication from Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, New York Life Building, Montreal).

THE DEADLY FEVER.

Dr. Conan Doyle writes in the "British Medical Journal":—"The outbreak of enteric fever among the troops in South Africa was a calamity the magnitude of which had not been foreseen, and which even now is imperfectly appreciated."

"We naturally did not dwell too much upon it while war was in progress, but it was appalling in its severity, both in quantity and quality."

"I know of no instance of such an epidemic in modern warfare. I believe that in one month there were from 10,000 to 12,000 men down with this, the most debilitating and lingering of continued fevers."

"I know that in one month 600 men were laid in the Bloemfontein cemetery."

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announced a discovery by which any character of fabric may be made fire-proof. The process is said to be cheap, and it adds but little to the weight of goods.

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MONEY AND
A vain man's and wear it. A generous man share it. A miser's "W" it. A profligate's spend it. A broker's "W" it. A fool's "Win" it. A gambler's "W" it. A wise man's "W" it.

HOW TO REMEDY MONGERS.—It is the famous of a bygone period one came to hear of other's misdoing. "How very sad! about finding wife or not." Then it was sure to answer so, after all, I am not. To which, More would reply, go about repeating. Sometimes she until she had druggist to the st, which was no

INQUESTIONS
Questions of the by House of Representatives and Senate.