

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

No man can ever hope to be successful in life unless he build upon the broad and changeless principles of justice and truth. Yet no man is building thus unless his mind be illumined by the principles of Christianity, by the light of the Holy Ghost.—Bishop Canavin.

Make Yourself Indispensable.
It was a practical hint of great value that Bishop Garvey gave to the graduates of St. John's Parochial School, Altoona, on occasion of the recent commencement.

"Aim to make yourselves indispensable to others," said the Bishop. "Thus, when your life work, you will be such a position that when suspensions come, as come they will and must at times, you may escape. They cannot do without you."

A Good Catholic a Good Citizen.

The Catholic citizen who understands the aims and spirit of the Church must be in active sympathy with every movement for the public good. And the more he is imbued with the spirit of religion the more he conforms in his daily conduct to its teachings, all the more deeply will be interested in what makes for civic righteousness; or, in other words, "the better the Catholic, the better the citizen."—Rev. Morgan H. Sheedy.

Questionable Methods of "Making a Living."

There is a higher meaning in a vocation than making a living or seeking fame. There is something broader, deeper, and nobler in an occupation than these, which are merely incidental. Making a life is the best thing in it. It should be a man-developer, a character-builder, and a great life school for broadening, deepening, and rounding into symmetry, harmony, and beauty all the God-given faculties within us. There are a thousand indications in you that the Creator did not fit you for what is wrong, but only for the right. Do the right, and all nature, all law, and all science will help you, because the attainment of rectitude is the plan of the universe. It is the very nature of things. Reverse it, and all these forces are pledged to defeat you.

To the young men who have written for advice let me say that, if you are making money by forcing yourself by sheer will power to do what you loathe, what does not engage your whole heart, or that into which you can not fling your entire being, because you fear that it is not quite right, you can do a thousand times better in an occupation which has your unreserved, unqualified consent. If you refuse to do the reward, no money will increase your success—power a thousand-fold.—O. S. Marden in "Success."

Our Duties as Catholic Citizens.

Let me point out briefly what are our duties as citizens at the present time.

The present is for the Catholic people of this country a time of great responsibility. We are now well over the period of prophecy in the time of results and fulfillment. The past our fathers in the faith wrought, and we know how wisely and well they builded. The future will be of our making. There is much to be done. Great things for the glory of God, triumphs of our country, and the welfare of religion are to be accomplished. It is ours to share in this work. There are many pressing and perplexing problems in social, industrial and educational life to be solved. Ours it is to help in their solution.—Rev. Morgan Sheedy.

Some Helpful Thoughts.

A good character is the best tombstone. Those who loved you, and were helped by you, will remember you when for-get-me-nots are withered. Carve your name on hearts, and not on marble.—C. H. Spurgeon.

Leave your faults alone; it is sufficient to see them when the light discloses them, and not to spare yourself then in your efforts to correct them. Your temptation will turn to your benefit. A real union with God, which is a simple and humble love, diminishes our imperfections. Remains united to God, and bear all He sends you in the way of crosses and trials.—Lacordaire.

Every difficult lesson mastered in school, every finished task, or anything else done as well as it can be done, gives so much added power for the next lesson or task; likewise every slighted lesson, every half-finished task, or every slipshod piece of work weakens the power for the next undertaking.—Success.

Do not be afraid to be kind; do not be too selfish to be kind, for we give of kindness to others, shall kindness be meted out to us again.

Man's ideal is the truest expression of his nature, and the most potent agency in developing its powers. If the ideal we aspire to be below us, life's aim will be downward, and the nearer we approach its realization, the smaller and littler we become. But if our ideal is above us it will of necessity appeal to the very best and noblest in our nature and call for the exercise and development of our highest faculties and powers.—Rev. Thomas A. Powers.

No man is made only for himself and his own private affairs, but to serve, profit, and benefit others.

Personal nobility greater than reward. Do not choose that occupation which has the most money in it, the greatest promise of material reward, notoriety, or fame, even; but choose that which will call out the man in you, and which will develop your greatest strength and symmetry of manhood, greater nobility! Manhood is greater than wealth and intellectual life, were being mortified, and she was not learned enough in spiritual lore to know how far safer are those paths Divine Wisdom makes for us than any we can fashion for ourselves.

There is no impossibility to him who stands prepared to conquer every hazard. The fearful are the failing.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

STORIES ON THE ROSARY

By LOUISA EMILY DORRIS.

The Assumption of Our Blessed Lady into Heaven.

LUCY'S OFFERING.

Mr. Charney went off to sit with his wife before she went up to bed, and the girls rose soon afterwards.

"Are you going to Benediction, Mary?" asked Lucy.

"No, I cannot," said Mary. "I have to see mother in bed, as Anne is out to-night."

"Why did she go out when you could have gone to Benediction if she had been at home?"

"Her sister is not well and she wished to go and see her."

"I should have thought she could have gone at some other time. In May one wants so to go to Benediction, and it's every night, you know."

"Yes, I know," said Mary.

"My flowers looked lovely. I met Miss Lomax just as I was taking them this morning, and she said that if I could send a few more on Saturday, she would see that they were used for putting round the statue of Our Lady when they carry it round the church."

"That will be very nice," said Mary.

"Aren't you going to send some, Mary? You did last year—it seems so funny. You don't seem to care!" said Lucy.

"I do care, Lucy," said Mary, "but I have no money just now that I can spend. Isn't it time for you to dress if you are going to church? Phil is going with you, I suppose. You know mother does not like your going alone," she added, anxious to change the subject.

"It's all right, Miss Prudence," said Lucy, laughing. "Really, one would think you were fifteen years instead of fifteen minutes my senior. But, Mary—"

"Yes," said Mary, turning as she had her hand on the door.

"Oh, never mind!" said Lucy. "Now here is Phil. Phil, I shall be down in two minutes, wait for me, please."

"Look sharp, then," said Phil, "for I can't be late in choir, and if you don't come quickly I shall go without you."

"You won't dare," called out Lucy as she ran upstairs, and returning quickly, the brother and sister went to the church, which was ten minutes' distance from their house.

They had hardly got outside the gate when Mary was heard calling Phil, who ran back impatiently.

"Well, what is it?"

"You haven't taken your mauffer. Here it is," said Mary.

"Oh, bother!"

"Yes, but you must try and remember, Phil, for the church is so hot in the evening and you know what catching a cold means with you. Now be off."

"Rot," said Phil crossly. "Bothering about muffering myself up like an old man."

"Well, I suppose you are rather delicate," said Lucy, "and certainly this cold wind is most abominably cold."

They soon reached the church and Lucy went into their own seat, after kneeling some time at the shrine of Our Lady, and thinking, as she did so, that her flowers were the best of any there.

It was fortunate, so she reflected, that her godmother had sent her a couple of pounds lately, telling her it was a little private present, and that she need not tell any one of it unless she wished to do so.

As Mary saw her brother and sister go off to the church for the Benediction, which was daily in the month of May just commencing, she looked rather wistful, for she would dearly have liked to have accompanied them. However, she felt that she could not have gone as matters were, and it never seemed to occur to Lucy to try to take her place in any way.

There was no end of small things to do that evening besides seeing Mary and Charney comfortably settled for the night, and it was nearer 11 than 10 before Mary shut the door of her little room at the top of the house. Next to hers was Lucy's room, just the same size, and both with a pretty bow window giving out on the pretty garden.

Mary was tired, but she gave her best attention to her night prayers, which were usually very brief indeed. She always managed to get a little time before dinner when she said her evening prayers and besides leaving very little for bedtime. However, that day she had not been able to get the time, so she made up for it now. When she came to her beads her thoughts were turned to the Glorious Mysteries and she kept to the good old habit of making a very brief meditation on each.

The rosary was a favorite devotion of Mary's, and had been in her convent school. She was a girl to whom all spiritual things were very attractive, and she loved prayer, the services of the Church, and reading about holy people and things; and she would have liked very much to have been able to spend more time in both occupations. She had not home duties when possible, she went to duty Mass when possible, and now and then to church and in her little room to which she had so looked forward as being part of her daily life had to be planned and arranged for, and obtained very often at the sacrifice of some pleasure, but seldom of a duty. The girls at school used always to say she would certainly be a nun, but she knew well that she had no attraction at all to that life, though perfectly alive to its beauty. She wanted to live a holy life in the world—that was her secret ambition—and it surprised her when she found her prayers answered by a succession of unlooked for home duties, lying in her way and manifestly her own, instead of gaining time for all she thought would help her so much more than they. All help her so much more than they. All her inclinations, both for her spiritual and her intellectual life, were being mortified, and she was not learned enough in spiritual lore to know how far safer are those paths Divine Wisdom makes for us than any we can fashion for ourselves.

TO BE CONTINUED.

"WHAT WE OWE TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH."

A METHODIST MINISTER'S BROAD AND GENEROUS TREATMENT OF THE SUBJECT—DR. DIMMICK'S SERMON.

Remarkable in many respects was the sermon preached last Sunday in Wesley chapel, perhaps the most prominent Methodist church in Columbus, by its pastor, the Rev. B. F. Dimmick.

It is not often that the claims of the Catholic Church receive such fair, clear and comprehensive treatment in a Protestant house of worship, and this discourse is all the more noteworthy because of the rather distorted vision of some past incumbents of Wesley's pulpit in their view of Catholic subjects. Dr. Dimmick has performed a distinct service to the cause of Christianity, especially, if his words are fruitful as they deserve to be, in the direction of promoting more cordial and brotherly relations among all followers of the Crucified One. Taking for his text "What We Owe to the Catholic Church," Dr. Dimmick said in part:

"I offer no apology for asking you with me to thoughtfully and seriously consider the contribution that the Roman branch of the Church Catholic has made to our common Christianity and to the progress of civilization."

ROMAN CHURCH STOOD ALONE.

"For centuries the Roman Church was the only organized representation of Christianity in the world. During all this time she stood as a bulwark of defense against all foes that assaulted our holy Christianity. But for her, the Church of God would have perished from the face of the earth."

"During all the centuries of darkness and heathenism in the world this Church preserved the essentials of the doctrines of Christianity. We have the fundamentals of Christian doctrine, such as belief in one true God and in His Son, Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord."

"Roman Catholicism has never wavered from her steadfast adherence to the divine incarnation of the Son of God. In His vicarious death, in His resurrection into heaven and in His divine rulership as the King of kings and Lord of lords over the world."

CONTRIBUTION INCALCULABLE.

"A Church that has given the world the example of so many holy saints as has the Roman Church has made a contribution to the uplifting of the race that is incalculable. She may go too far in her adoration and worship of her saints, but no one will deny that she has gone very far in presenting the world with rare Christian lives."

"The world would be very poor if there had not lived in it such characters as Fendón, Pascal, Thomas A. Kempis, Savonarola, Faber, Newman and a host like them. Of such the world was not worthy."

"Her long list of martyrs, who counted not their lives dear unto themselves, stand as a divine attestation to the power of Christ to save unto the uttermost. While it is true that there have been times when this branch of the true Church has in large measure been recanted to her Holy Trinity, it is also true that there has never been a time when she has not had living witnesses to the truth as it is in Christ. She has always had her holy men who have lived the incarnate life of Jesus."

"The Church of Rome has given us splendid examples of zealous missionary spirits. Among the successors of St. Paul as world missionaries such names as Xavier of India, Raymond, Lull and Lavigne of Africa, the Jesuits of Canada and the United States, and Father Damien must be placed with those like Jordan, Taylor and Thoburn."

"She has always been able to get the poorer classes into her fold in large numbers. She is solving the vexed questions, 'How to Reach the Masses,' and 'How to Save the City.'"

"In every city of our land she maintains large churches. She seems to have little trouble with the downtown portions of the great cities."

THE DEVOTION OF HER PEOPLE.

"The devotion of her people to the Church is an example to our Protestant people. Every Catholic Church has services at 5 or 6 o'clock Sunday mornings and great congregations attend, while there is no Protestant church in the world that is trying to keep up a service at that hour, and for the very good reason that it could not be done."

"We do not claim that those early hours are the best for church services, but we simply claim that the Catholic working people get out to church at that early hour while many Protestants cannot get out in the morning at all, on the plea that they work hard during the week and need the Sunday morning for rest."

"Protestants are mainly drawn to the services by the attractions of the preaching and music, while Catholics go purely from a sense of duty and for the purpose of worship."

LIBERALLY OF SUPPORT.

"The devotion of the people of the Roman Church is shown by the large contributions they uniformly make to the Church and its benevolent works. They are poorer than almost any other church, yet they build more fine churches than any other church, at the same time carry on more lines of charity, such as hospitals, orphanages, schools, etc., than any other church."

"Her orders of Sisters are doing a great work for the poor and suffering of humanity."

"In this they have set an example that is being followed by other churches."

"In her form of Church government the Catholic Church excels the other churches. It may be a little severe and autocratic at some particulars, but the truth remains, however, that it is the most perfectly organized Church in Christendom."

CHURCH RETAINS AUTHORITY.

"With her people the Church has not lost all authority, and her people are willing to keep her commandments, at least as faithfully as the citizens of a nation are expected to obey the laws of the government."

"I would not want an exact duplicate of her ecclesiastical machinery in the Protestant churches, still we cannot but admire a church that is able to hold in her grasp with such loyal devotion the many millions which are within the pale of this great Church."

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"The Church of Rome has been always a strong force in favor of public morals and the family. It has always been against the terrible public evil of divorce. No church has held its people to the sanctity of the marriage band as has the Church of Rome."

SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE.

"If the family is the foundation of society, then the institution that preserves the purity of the family life is rendering a great service to the world."

"We can learn much from the Catholic Church as Protestants. In many particulars she sets us a worthy example."

"We need Rome—purified Rome—in the protection of labor against the hand of capital, and to fight the great social and political battles of our age."

Acknowledgment is made to the Ohio State Journal, July 18, for the foregoing abstract from Dr. Dimmick's sermon.—Catholic Columbian.

OUR LADY'S ASSUMPTION.

On the 15th of August the Catholic Church celebrates solemnly the feast of the Assumption of Mary, by which we believe that the Blessed Virgin immediately after her death was taken up into Heaven.

"There was for her no waiting; no fear; no decay; no time in Purgatory; with soul and body she was carried at her death by angels' hands into the presence of the Most High. She closed her eyes on a world of created things, and opened them to behold the Beatific Vision of God—that joy which it hath not entered into the mind of man to conceive."

"We are often inclined to look upon Mary as altogether separate from ourselves, and consequently we do not find the encouragement that we ought in this Assumption into Heaven."

"It all came to her," we say, "because she was the Mother of God, and in that she must ever stand alone on a height to which no other creature can attain." But in that we err. Mary's reward came to her as it comes to us all, as the result of merit. That she was the Mother of God was the pure gift of God; but that she was pleasing to God and secured her eternal salvation, was because she corresponded on her own part to divine grace.

And our Blessed Lord, seeming to think that we would place the Blessed Virgin on a plane where she could not be our example, impresses this truth on us. When a woman of the crowd cried out, as He was passing, 'Blessed is the womb that bore thee, and the breasts which thou hast suckled.' He answered, 'Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.' No one doubts that Mary kept the word of God. And her blessedness consisted in her own faithful adherence to the law of God, to His inspirations, to His requests from the days of her childhood to the hour of her death."

So the lesson of it is plain to all—Mary's destiny is a type of our own. She was a girl, a woman, a creature as we all are, lived here, lived even as we all must live, working out her salvation through the duties of every day. That she worked it out perfectly is proof that with God's help perfection can be reached, and should encourage us to endeavor to work out our salvation perfectly."

If Mary is the Daughter of the Most High, so are we all the "Sons of God." And if we are faithful sons, so shall our reward be even as Mary's—life everlasting, life glorious in Heaven for eternity."

THOUGHTS ON THE SACRED HEART.

Take care to stir up in yourselves deep veneration for the Most Kind Heart of Jesus, that Heart so overflowing with love and mercy.

It is the Heart of Jesus which inspires all our sacrifices, sanctifies all our sorrows, and is the source of all our virtues.

In every peril, in every difficulty, throw thyself confidently upon the Heart of Jesus; cast thy anxieties upon Him, because He has a care of thee.

My child! If thou dardest to be proud, measure thou, on the one side, the abyss of thy heart's misery, and on the other, the depth of My Heart's love. Deep was calling on the love of My Heart, and wilted that I should be humbled to the deep, that I might snatch thee from the abyss.

Repentance is the golden key that opens the palace of eternity.

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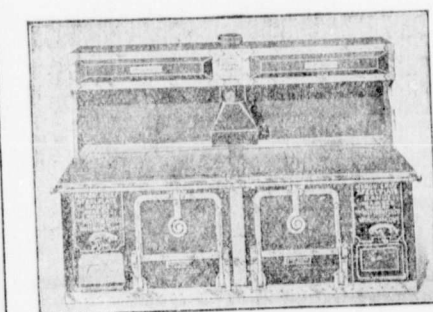
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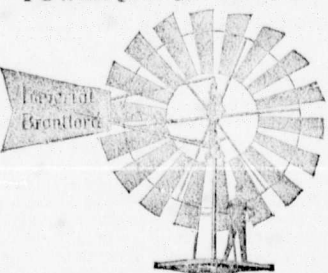
"It is equally your duty to provide for a wife and family. The college men who deliberately leads a single life whose social circle is the club and whose religion is a refined and fastidious epicureanism, is not a man. It would not be worth while maintaining colleges and universities for the production of froth like that."

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