

.....The HOME CIRCLE

A LITTLE PINK TOE. Only a little pink baby shoe. That is stained and wrinkled and torn.

to take my pupils to the library, but I said to him: 'I don't wish to teach history there.'

PICTURES IN OUR HOMES.

Among the good resolutions adopted at the recent convention of the Federation of Catholic Societies in Boston was a strong recommendation in favor of good pictures—pictures uplifting and suggestive in the best sense—in Catholic homes.

In regard to religious pictures, "I refrain," she said, "from speaking about the so-called 'dubs' that many deplore, inartistic representations of Our Saviour, of Our Blessed Mother, and the saints—except to venture the assertion that such pictures may, sometimes, be too severely criticized; for in many cases, they have done what some of the greatest works of art may have failed to do.

"Not long ago I visited the home of a friend, a newly married woman, who had in her arms a little girl about a year old. On the wall of the sitting room I saw a picture—a pretty picture. The woman noticed that I looked at it rather disapprovingly, and asked: "Don't you like it?" I answered that I thought it a pretty picture.

"But you do not like it?" she went on. "I do not like it, particularly in your sitting room." "Why not?" she persisted. "Surely, Lady Hamilton was a very handsome woman."

"Oh, no; if you look it up, you will not want to tell her," I said. "You will think it wrong to tell her. But when she is old enough to study English history, and she reads the record of Lord Nelson, she will learn the story of Lady Hamilton, and she will look back to the time when her mother had that picture in the family sitting room; and, perhaps, she will wonder that her mother kept her for so many years there under the influence of Lady Hamilton's picture, when she might have had her under the influence of the Blessed Virgin."

"The closing protest of this no doubt well-meaning woman was: 'We have some beautiful religious pictures upstairs in the bed-rooms.' "And that is the way with so many. They have religious pictures; but only in the sleeping rooms. The few minutes they and their children can look about them in those rooms, they are under the influence of Our Saviour and His Blessed Mother, and the saints; and all the rest of the time they are under the influence of pictures like Lady Hamilton's. Pictures of that description are one of the kinds that are objectionable.

"Then there is still another kind which I will try to describe through another experience, if you will pardon the personality. "Some years ago I was teaching history in a high school in my home city. There was a picture hanging in the library there, that, as soon as I saw it, I wished very much to have it removed. At that time, however, there was only one Catholic on the school committee, and I was the only Catholic among the teachers; so I was afraid to protest against that picture. Time passed, and we became a little stronger. One day there were repairs being made in my class room, and the principal told me

"These are instances of two kinds of objectionable pictures for Catholic homes. There are many others that might be mentioned.

"Now, in this connection, I would like to offer a suggestion. There is everything grand and glorious about art—about Catholic art—everything to make us rejoice in and thank God for it; but, as far as I know, in our Catholic schools and academies there is not much said about it. I believe they have a fine picture gallery at Trinity College, but not many of our girls go as far as that; and, it seems to me, it would be a good idea if there could be more said in our Catholic schools and academies upon Catholic art, and upon the kind of pictures Catholics should surround themselves with in their homes. Protestants are lecturing and writing on art, and they are, in most cases, sadly misrepresenting it. I have heard descriptions and read explanations of Catholic masterpieces that were an insult to art of any kind.

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HONEY FOR THE SKIN. A very good cosmetic is pure honey strained and bottled. A very little of this is rubbed into the skin with a bit of cotton wool. This is done just after the face has been thoroughly washed and cleaned—washing is not always cleaning—and the honey applied while the face is wet. After rubbing the honey in let it dry on the face. It will be absorbed by the pores if too much has not been used.

HER TWO IN HEAVEN. "You have two children," said I. "I have four," was the reply; "two on earth and two in heaven." Thus spoke the mother! Still hee, only "gone before!" Still remembered, loved, and cherished by the heart and at the board—their places not yet filled even though their successors rest upon the same faithful breast where their dying heads were pillowed.

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THE ART OF KEEPING UP APPEARANCES. No matter how old a woman's clothes are, if she takes good care of them they will help her to make a good appearance. If she keeps the bottom of her skirt well bound, if she keeps the spots sponged off her dress, if she presses her dress skirt where it gets really wrinkled, if she dusts her hat and freshens the bows, if she throws away a veil the instant it develops a hole, if she mends her gloves, and if they are washable, keeps them clean, if she polishes her shoes and by occasional visit to the cobbler, keeps the heels straight, she

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will pass muster even if the time when she had a new outfit has been so long past that it is forgotten. But if, when she undresses at night, she throws her clothes in a heap on a chair or on the floor, if she leaves her hat in the hall or on some convenient table or chair, if she hangs her coat by one sleeve or even by a loop in the middle of the collar. If she does not clean her shoes or wash her gloves, it is no wonder that she looks like a tramp. A skirt should be brushed and hung on two hooks by its two loops. A coat should be brushed and hung on a wire coat hanger and put away in its box or on a hook in a clothes press. Shoes should be put on their trees every night. So treated, shoes will last a long time and will look well to the last minute. If a shoe is damp and is put to dry on a tree it will be soft and pleasant to wear after a few hours. Shoe trees cost from 75c to \$1. But they last forever, and so are not an extravagance. A little good shoe polish is a good investment. If a man or woman's shoes are run over and shabby as to ties, and wrinkled and rusty, their acquaintances and their enemies will rejoice. A woman wants employment, it behooves her to look well to her appearance. Do not be too fancy in dress, but do be neat.—Union and Times.

pose, did not realize the consequences of contracting an invalid marriage. Any Catholic worthy of the name would rather face death than incur the invalidity of a first marriage as an excuse for a second venture. At best, these cases are far from edifying, but the fault generally lies farther back than the last act in them. The trouble is that most people are inclined to be scandalized at what is harmless enough in itself, while they never think of being discredited at the really blamable conduct that too often gives rise to those "marriage cases."

Fifty Thousand Men in Holy Name Processions. Nearly 50,000 Catholic men and boys paraded in various towns of northern New Jersey last Sunday as a part of the annual demonstration of the Holy Name Societies against the use of profanity. More than 150,000 persons viewed the processions or participated in the open air services that followed.

With golden and silken banners waving in the breeze and bearing the inscription "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain," 16,000 men in all walks of life, under the leadership of their respective pastors, paraded through the heart of

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we carry with us through life. "A young man in his way, even when he is old, he will not depart from it." Again, "as the twig is bent, the tree is inclined." A young liar, a young thief, a young shirker of duty, a young sloth, a young tippler, a foul mouthed youth, one addicted to shameful acts—such a one is just the same all through life, says the Young Catholic Messenger. These are solemn facts. Think of this, boys and girls. It's your weal or woe. Learn the right way of thinking, of acting, follow it and your success and happiness are assured.

Marriage Cases That Scandalize

It is hardly necessary to explain to Catholics that the Church does not recognize the power of the State to dissolve the bond of a valid marriage. Yet from time to time a case crops up where one of the parties to a civil divorce is married to another with the sanction of the Church. One of these cases was given prominence in the Omaha papers during the past week. The explanation is simple enough. The former marriage of the divorced person was null and void from the beginning, and was so declared by competent Church authority. That left the person in question free to marry—not by virtue of the civil divorce, but because there was no former marriage to prevent it.

The Church recognizes or establishes certain impediments as a bar to valid marriage. Where such impediments exist and have not been removed, the parties may go through the form of entering a marriage contract, but they are not married. Some of these impediments the civil law does not take account of. Hence a marriage pronounced valid by the courts and divorce granted for other reasons may be invalid from the beginning in the eyes of the Church and before God. Where a civil divorce has been granted in the case of a pseudo-marriage that is really invalid from the beginning, there is nothing to prevent one of the parties from marrying again after the fact of the invalidity of the former marriage has been established.

There will always be some who do not understand the facts in such cases when they do arise, and who are scandalized when one who has ever been divorced is married with the sanction of the Church. That cannot be helped by those whose business it is to interpret the law and apply it to individual cases. Perhaps there is some reason, too, for the faultfinding, inasmuch as the parties in the case of an invalid marriage take advantage of a penalty imposed upon them and turn it to their own profit. But they are comparatively rare, thank God! Most of them are converts who, let us charitably sup-

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