

regrets of the whole Christian world.

We find the next Pope of that name in our own century. He was worthy to succeed the Pontiff who had conquered the "Conqueror of Nations," the saintly Pius VII. The whole reign of Leo XII. was a struggle against Liberalism. He repeatedly condemned secret societies. The year of his death was signalized by the Catholic emancipation in England.

And now a Leo is Vicar of Jesus Christ, the two hundred and sixty-third successor to St. Peter. Although a king without a crown, and a ruler without a temporality, there is no king whose sway is felt so far, or whose authority is founded on so secure a basis, for it rests on the love and faith of his subjects.

APOSTLES NEVER SAW THE BIBLE.

Of the 34,000,000 people in South America it is stated that 30,000,000 have never seen a Bible. — Northwestern Christian Advocate.

In this they are like the Apostles, not one of whom, with the possible exception of St. John, ever saw the Bible. They are also like the early Christians of the first centuries, who, with the rare exception of a few of the learned, never saw the Bible or knew what books composed it. They were like Theophilus, to whom St. Luke addressed his gospel. The evangelist wrote, "It seemed good to me also . . . to write to thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, that thou mayest know the verity of those words, in which thou hast been instructed."

It will be noted here that St. Luke did not write to inform or instruct Theophilus, but to confirm him in those things in which he had already been instructed. When our Lord made belief in his revealed truth necessary to salvation He did not leave the acquisition of it to depend on the inventive genius of a Faust or a Gutenberg, who, 1,500 years after, invented the art of printing. During those 1,500 years Christians lived and died in the Christian faith, not because they had seen a Bible, but because, like Theophilus, they had been instructed by those who had been commanded by our Lord to teach them.

Were it not for the Catholic Church the Northwestern Advocate would never have seen a Bible, or have known it when it saw it. Ingratitude is a very mean kind of sin. The Advocate should be grateful to the Church from which it received what parts of the Bible it possesses. — N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

WHY THE CHURCH CONDEMNS FREEMASONRY.

The condemnation of Freemasonry by the Church is founded on the very best basis. Its secrecy is abhorrent to the broad light of the Gospel preached by Christ, and the obligation of an oath is repugnant to the teachings of Him who forbids frivolous or unnecessary swearing. Again, the Masonic association destroys human freedom, as it removes all individual responsibility. The Mason of one grade knows not the projects of the brothers of a higher grade, nor the lodges of one country the schemes, the principles or the workings of those of another.

In the Masonic society the individual is the blind, passive instrument of an order whose ultimate aims are wrapped up in secrecy. Where the ends of an institution are kept secret, and the means only are avowed, judgment is at fault, and the individual cannot estimate the extent of the responsibility he incurs for the errors of his order. But the political Catholic thinks nothing of all this. He looks on

Masonry as a powerful aid to political advancement and power.

Freemasonry is, in truth, a sort of religion, and boasts that it can make men better and happier than Christ or His Church has made or can make them. It has its ceremonial, and claims the possession of moral truths unknown to the Christian Religion. A great French writer remarks: "When we consider that Freemasonry was born with irreligion; that it grew up with it; that it has kept pace with its progress; that it has never pleased but men either impious or indifferent about religion, and that it has always been regarded with disfavor by zealous Catholics, we can only regard it as an institution bad in itself, or at least dangerous in its effects." — Sacerdos, in American Herald.

THE POPE'S RECOVERY.

Remarks Upon His Illness and Constitution by a High Medical Authority.

Says the London Lancet: "Plain living and high thinking" have "scored" again, and the nonagenarian Pontiff, after an illness followed by an operation which within 24 hours brought ten thousand telegrams of inquiry to the Vatican, has been allowed to leave his bed, and, seated in his arm chair by the now historic window, to look out on that world from which he has been excluded for more than 21 years. His case in all its incidents and surroundings is a memorable one. Other Pontiffs, indeed, have shown marvellous vitality, though out of the total of 263, 16 only have seen their 81st year. His immediate predecessor, Pius IX, lived until he was 90 years of age, and alone of all the Popes "surpassed the years of Peter" (25) on the Papal throne. Clement XI died in his 93rd year. Paul IV, elected at 89 years of age, lived four years afterward, and Gregory IX died all but a centenarian. But none of these Popes, except Pius Nono for a few years, was a "prisoner" confined to a "palace and garden," as Leo XIII. has been since February, 1878. They could all leave the Vatican for the Quirinal, and both these palaces during the dog days for Castel Gandolfo, that superb villa overhanging the Alban Lake, well nigh 10,000 feet above sea level. Change of air and change of scene were open to them. But Leo XIII. has never stirred beyond that Mons Vaticanus which retains the insalubrious character given it by Martial. None of them, moreover, in their 90th year had to undergo the enucleation of an inflamed cystoid tumor of a quarter of a century's standing, and all this amid the cares of a spiritual empire infinitely greater in number and complexity than the busiest of them ever knew.

Of course, in the present case, the "personal equation" counts for much. Leo XIII. comes of the ancient stock of the Peccis, mountaineers of the Latian and Neapolitan frontier. From his youth up an indefatigable scholar, he relieved the seclusion of the study with open air exercise, and during the many years he was Archbishop of Perugia indulged in field sports, mainly with his gun. Then, again, he was happily gifted with the "mens æqua," of his favorite poet, conducing to that even flow of the circulation which is marked by "the pulse of longevity." Over and above this constitutional characteristic, he has always had the "will to live," which in the physical sphere is the counterpart of what the greatest of American psychologists has in the religious life called the "will to believe." This effort of volition, conscious or unconscious, is

quite compatible, as in Leo's case, with absolute courage in face of death.

Indeed, before and after the operation the Pontiff's cheerfulness almost rose to gaiety, expressing itself in pleasant sallies, doubly pleasant for his consultants to hear. It may or may not be truly stated that he congratulated himself, as a hopeful element in the prognosis, on his "having youth on his side." But he certainly spoke and acted as if he had—as if, indeed, he fully shared Professor Mazzoni's belief that after the operation he had at least as many years in store as would suffice to falsify the words whispered into his ear on coronation: "Non videbis annos Petri." His example adds another to the many instances of patriarchal years attained by hard-working men, professional and other, in whom "mind and soul according well," with a physique unbroken by excess and braced by manly exercise, have resulted in that "old age" immortalized by Wordsworth as "beautiful and free." That poet himself and his official successor, Lord Tennyson, the Duke of Wellington and the Emperor William I. are typical examples of that serene "sunset of life," which, succeeding its "fitful fever," shed so rich an after-glow on their decline.

LOVE IN A CAR.

THE LOVE OF OTHERS, TOO, BUT IT HURRIED THE CAR.
Commercial Advertiser.

Human nature doesn't change, in spite of modern improvements. All the world loves a lover still, even though it does know that life is a cell, society an organism, and love merely a manifestation of natural force, like lightning, for instance, or the tide's ebb and flow.

It was a rainy, depressing day, and we were a sulky lot of passengers in an elevated car bound down town. He was the only good-looking young man in the car as far as I could see. My view of him was a good one, the opposite seat; at the end, next the door. All the other seats were full, and people were standing, soggy and steaming, and savagely rude, in the aisles. At the station where she got in, however, the fat female monster next me got out, and she promptly put her mother into the vacant place. I took it for granted it was her mother because they ignored her so utterly when they found each other and began to talk. He looked up idly as she came in, then he was on his feet with a flash and a flush of recognition and delight. He reached out his hand and touched her lightly. She turned with that perfunctory smile that a strange man gets when he gives up a seat. Then she flushed and flashed, too, and ripped out a delighted:

"Why! how do you do?"

And she gave him her hand, which he kept in his—quite proper under the circumstances—till he got her safely into his seat.

Then he attached himself to the strap above it and hung over her, and she turned up her pretty face to him and they talked. The shabby man in the next seat, who had been dozing wearily, woke up and began to look rested; and the shabby Russian next him, with the anarchist chevelure, and the jolly Kris Kringle nose, leaned forward all smiles and sociable interest. And the other people hanging on the straps who had been facing the way the train was going, faced about so that they could see as well as hear. Not that anything in particular was said, anything at least that the carload of listeners should not hear: Where she had been and was going; would she be at that meeting to-mor-

row night? Yes; would he? Of course. Whereupon they both laughed, quite softly and decorously, but everybody recognized the ring in the laughter, and in the tones of speech. The little touch of Eden humanized the car.

And the mother next me smiled happily in her neglect, and I—what! Rector street? Was it possible?

CATHOLIC ORPHANAGE.

Free Press.

The adjourned meeting of the members of St. Mary's and the Immaculate Conception parishes was held Thursday evening, when the committee appointed at the last meeting submitted their report. They proposed that the presbytery now occupied by the Oblate Fathers of St. Mary's church be selected as a temporary orphanage home. The committee estimated that the annual cost for an institution capable of accommodating 40 boys would be \$3,250. Besides this, \$400 will be required at once to provide the necessary furniture. In order to raise the above amount it was recommended that an association be formed, with an annual membership fee of \$5. It is expected that \$1,000 will be secured from government and municipal grants.

After some discussion and remarks complimentary to the committee for their work the report was unanimously adopted.

His Grace Archbishop Langevin said he felt certain from the enthusiasm shown at both meetings that the undertaking would prove a success. He hoped that by next July the Gray Nuns would have the institution in full working order.

The meeting then adjourned to meet again at the call of the committee.

FREE

This hand some boy's watch with a chain and charm for selling two doz. dainty packets of it if it is a trope. Rose and Violet Perfume at 10c. each. If you have a pretty lady's watch with a chain or guard for selling three dozen. Write and we will send the perfume. Sell it, return the money, and we forward your watch all charges paid.

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I have used Ripans Tablets with much satisfaction. I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a car or go into a crowded place without getting a headache and sick at my stomach. I heard about Ripans Tablets from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found relief from them, and she advised me to take them. I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial to the benefit of others.

Mrs. J. BROOKMAN.

I want to inform you, in words of highest praise, of the benefit I have derived from Ripans Tablets. I am a professional nurse and in this profession a clear head is always needed. Ripans Tablets do it. After one of my cases I found myself completely run down. Acting on the advice of Mr. Geo. Bowser, Ph. G., 58 Newark Ave., Jersey City, I took Ripans Tablets with grand results. Miss BESSIE WIDMAN.

Mother was troubled with heartburn and sleeplessness, caused by indigestion, for a good many years. One day she saw a testimonial in the paper endorsing Ripans Tablets. She determined to give them a trial, was greatly relieved by their use and now takes the Tablets regularly. She sleeps a few cartons Ripans Tablets in the bed, and says she will not be without them. The heartburn and sleeplessness have disappeared with the indigestion which was formerly so great a burden for her. Our whole family take the Tablets regularly, especially after a hearty meal. My mother is fifty years of age and is enjoying the best of health and spirits; also eats hearty meals, an impossibility before she took Ripans Tablets.

ARTHUR H. BLANKEN.

A new style packet containing TEN RIPANS TABLETS packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores—FOR FIVE CENTS. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (120 tablets) can be had by mail by sending forty-cent note to the R. P. A. N. S. CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 18 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (TEN TABLETS) will be sent for five cents. R. P. A. N. S. TABLETS may also be had of some grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at some liquor stores and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.

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TRADE MARK

My seven-year-old boy suffered with pains in his back, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he did eat did not agree with him. He was thin and of a sallow color. Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, bowels are in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions.

E. W. PRICH.