#### MR. FROUDE AND SAINT TERESA.

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清潔 翻

This is, indeed, a curious biending of names, one the embodiment of a latter day sneer, the other, the latest to instructions thus communicated to her by our Divine Lord and His Blessed Mother that Teresa undertook the astonishing reforms she introduced into the Carmelite rule. She tells and fairest flower of mediæval sanctity. Mr Froude, in his many wandering into the high-way and by-ways of his-teric lore, lighted on the strange recital of the life and actions of Teresa de erself, as do also her contemporaries, what a storm of opposition she aroused by an attempt to restore the ancient austerities of the order which had been Cepeda of Avila, and was fascinated by the story. Had he confined him-self to the charming narrative he has given us of this saintly woman's marrelaxed by Pope Eugenius IV. She was decried as a fanatic, a heretic, a proud and arrogant woman, and a dis-turber of God's household. But such vellous career, replete with heart-rending trials and heroic episodes, shining with virtues of the most opposition she completely spurned, and, still obedient to the heavenly shining with virtues of the most exaited type and stamped with the strong impress of the profoundest common sense, allied to the liveliest imagination, he would have enriched mandate imposed upon her, she went about the business with a determination that nothing could resist. She reasoned with her opponents, invoked the aid and advice of Bishops and Archbishops, won over to her views the papal commissioner, and at last received the sanction of the Pope and c King Bidling Sonda for the inaug our periodical literature with a gem of the purest ray, and merited the thanks of pious Catholics and fair-minded Protestants alike. But, true to his instincts as a fault-finder, if not a of King Philip of Spain for the inaug uration of her cherished reforms. The scold, he has gone beyond limits in his cayiling, and has censured where medesty would have suggested a accomplishment of this work re-quired heroic efforts and cease-less labor day and night. It "medesty would have suggested a reflection silence. That St. Teresa was a wonderful woman, Mr. Froude "freely allows, and grants even that her sincerity was unimpeachable, her purity spotless, her wisdom unparal-led and her practical sense most her and the sense most and the sense most and the sense set of the sense and the sense most and the sense mos required journeyings, innumerable in-terviews with all classes of people, frequent and voluminous correspondence, coaxings, and expostulations, and it entailed on poor, worn out and long conspicuous in an age of dreams and visions. Indeed, he delights in exhibitsuffering Teresa, rebuffs, insults con tumely and scorn without end. Bu right souse enabled her to brush aside she never faltered, never winced, but went straight on to the fulfillment of her purpose as an arrow sped from the bow. Assuredly she did not act in obstacles, apparently most formidable, this matter like one who was giving as mere cobwebs, and to over-ride the adverse views and judgments of perear to the delusive voices of an overwrought imagination. And who can fathom the depth of that strange and sons clothed with authority, as though they were the opinions of mere chilbeautiful character, or measure her Whoever has read the wonderinfinite capacity for suffering ! Her dren. ful story of St. Teresa's life as written whole life was a prolonged mental martyrdom. She was born to suffer and the story of her woes would move a stone to tears. She had a by herself cannot but be struck by her extraordinary common sense. pervaded her whole being; It a stone to tears. She had a thorough woman's heart dominated was the warp and woof of her intellectual nature and was the by a judgment that would have been ferment in which her motives and actions found their vitality. She had a credit to an accomplished diplomat or commander. She was born with a theroughly sounded the keynote of high and imperious temper, which she learned to control only by dint of ceasehuman nature and had run her finger over its gamut from the lowest to the less and sleepless effort. Had Mr. Froude given her due credit for those highest note. And she knew how to deal with it in all its varying moods qualities of heart and intellect he and phases. She could look into the heart chambers of her contemporaries ould not have marred his otherwise charming sketch of St. Teresa by and see there what springs were in making her the victim to physchologi-cal delusions. -N. Y. Catholic Review metion, what secret recesses were being stirred, and, without revealing to them her deep intuitions, could so determine their conduct that her heaven-inspired purposes would be falfilled. For all that she had a pro-The following strange experience happened to one of the best known Fathers in the Brompton Oratory, and found distrust in her own judgment and constantly sought to direct it by the accuracy of the facts stated may be heavenly guidance through prayer. She took counsel with her Maker in all relied upon. Father X. was one day urgently requested by a strange her plans, and while her words were voman to come to a certain house in marked by cool deliberation and by the South Kensington to administer the sharpest acumen of worldly thought, acrament to a man who lay there her imagination was even then kindled dying. Hurrying thither with all to white heat, and her soul poured it possible speed the worthy Father was astonished to find that there was no self forth in raptures at the foot of the altar. Therein she proved herself a sick person at that address at all. true child of the mediæval Church, one While conversing with the servant, in whom a fervent faith was first and foremost, and gave tone and color to the owner of the house came down stairs, and on learning who the in-quirer was at once offered him his hosevery fibre of her moral and intellectual being.

pitality, while one of the attendant She reasoned with nuncios, heads of priests should proceed down the street religious houses and papal commissionand endeavor to discover the real house where the last rites of the Church ers, in fearless and convincing tones, and won over to her views the most were required. In the meantime his obdurate listeners by her plain and host informed Father X. that it was a curious coincidence that he matter-of-fact statements, and while her whole exterior gave evidence of a should have singled out this particular impassioned heart, cool head and an un her soul was often either a prey to torturing misgivings, or was rapt in ecstasies of heavenly delight. Our Divine Lord and His Blessed Mother repaid the saint's heroic fidelity to duty by numerous consoling apparitions, and assured her that her noble and unselfish work was welcome in their sight. This part of St. Teresa's history Mr. Froude has not been able to under stand, and he finds it much easier to ascribe to an unbridled imagination borhood. or an unduly sensitive nervous system, or an irritable heart, or a disordered stomach, those mysterious communings with God, than to their true and obvious source. For if there is any one saint in the calender whose charac ter and genius should relieve her from the suspicion of being a victim to an ill poised mind in what she report the portal. concerning herself, that saint is surely Teresa de Cepeda of Avila. Her judg ment in all matters is so sure, so true so direct and accurate that it is im possible to conceive her as yielding t those morbid sensibilities that charac terize dreamy and ill-balanced wome And so well was she aware herself that the devil often assumes the garb of an fore !-- Catholic American. angel of light for the purpose of making havoc with weak and sickly minds, that she constantly warns the members of her communities against giving ear to so-called revelations and would not even permit some of the Sisters to read her own autobiography lest they should imagine they might be favored with divine apparitions and communications. "People fancy," she writes, "that to have 'revelations' implies exceptional holiness. It im plies nothing of the kind. Holiness can be arrived at only by act by acts of virtue and by keeping the com-mandments. Therefore, I will not have my Sisters read my own books, especi ally my autobiography, lest they look for revelations for themselves in fancy ing that they are imitating me. The best things that I know of came to me by obedience, not by revelation. Sisters may have real visions, but they must be taught to make light of them There is a subtle deceit in these ex-periences. The devil may lead souls to evil on a spiritual road." Is this the language a woman would make use of who could not distinguish be-

st the 14

THOUGHTS FROM LACORDAIRE. MADE THE CARDINAL HAPPY. tween the plain and outspoken words of God poured audibly and distinctly How A Clever Valet Pleased His Aged You believe not, and you conclude into her ear, and the vapid imaginings of a silly fancy? It was in obedience from this that faith is impossible ; for The attachment of master and ser-

my part. I conclude that you do not do what is necessary in order to arrive at The attachment of master and ser-vant sometimes deserves to be called one of the tender relationships of life, says "Francesca" in Ave Maria. A little story told of Cardinal Fleury well faith, and I will prove it in a few

words. The first cause of incredulity is voluntary ignorance. Faith can no more than science be acquired without a certain application of mind. When the mind is not applied, it is inert, it illustrates this. He possessed a valet so faithful and attached that to him were accorded many unusual priv-ileges, which enabled him to make the Cardinal's life more pleasant and ceases to be a power ; it is, as regards the object before it, as if it were not. peaceful. What are mathematics to an intelli-One day the master, now grown gence which has never reflected on the very old, addressed Barjac, the ser-vant, in a somewhat disconsolate way. laws of number, of quantity, and of motion? What is philosophy to a man who has never asked himself what is "I am ninety," he said. "I think death has forgotten me. My useful-ness is over, and it cannot be but a being, what is an idea, what is the bsolute, the relative, cause or effect ? short time before I am imbecile and

And for the same reason, what is faith helpless, to the soul which has never seriously thought upon the necessary relations of the creature with God ?

It

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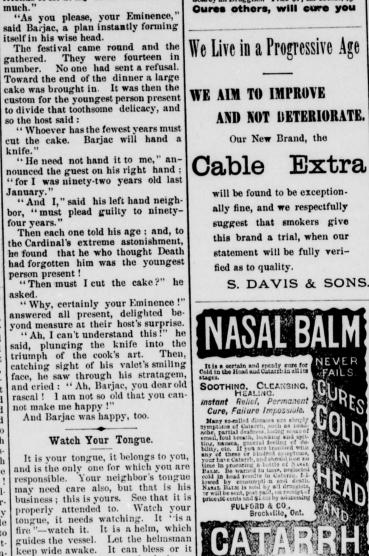
helpiess." "Why. my dear master," replied Barjac, "you are not old. A little sociability will do you good. May I have the pleasure of arranging a quiet dinner for you and your friends on the approaching festival?" "Arrange whatever you like," said the Coading! Let me ask you, at what age and what studies did you decide that re-ligion is an error? Was it at forty? No, you decided it in the flower of your age, at the moment when, casting off the apparel of childhood, reason and the Cardinal. "And the list-" celebrated together their "And the list-"Invite whom you choose. Only don't bother me about it. At my age even the exertion of selecting a dozen friends to sit at my table would be too passion oyous advent to the agitated surface of your being. Up to that time, simple and submissive, a pious wor shipper of the thoughts of your mother you had questioned nothing, denied much. nothing, you lived by a faith as pure as your heart. But scarcely had the as your heart. But scarcely had the double puberty of man caused its sharp sting to be felt by your sense and your intellect, when, without taking gathered. time to mature your power, and im-patient of the mysteries of Nature and the mysteries of God, you became shamed to believe, while at the same

Incapable of any act worthy of a man, you passed judgment sovereignly upon God and man; you doubted, denied, knife. apostatized, despised your fathers, ccused your master, summoned before your tribunal the virtues and sorrows January of ages-in fine you transformed our soul into a desert of pride. Then, this ruin completed, you choose for your end one of the ambitions of man, the glory of arms or that of letters, are still less high, as chance led you,

than future. You learn no more be one day the effective hero to of of your dreams; you sacrifice your days and your nights to this egotasked.

istical image, reserving for them but a secret and unknown part to the other egotism of man, voluptuousness. And never during this sad and checkered dream, did religion appear to you but as a futile souvenir of your early years, a weakness or a hypocrisy of human-ity. You did not design to give to it one hour of study, or one desire; and if sometimes, attracted by a celebrated name, you opened a book or crossed the threshold of a basilica, you did so with the haughtiness of a mind which had judged, and had no idea of reversing its decree. O confidence of youth

in error ! O security of souls who have yet seen of life but the early dawn ! Oh, how good God has been in not calling you away in that hour of ignor ance and enchantment ! For already you are no longer subject to its crude certitudes ; time has brought back to you doubt and the obscure present ments of truth. You see that your un can curse ; it can poison or heal ; it can belief was born of a puerile act, and pierce hearts or blight hopes; that, for your honor and your repose, ow discord, or separate chief friends. it needs a ratification. This second labor it is, this labor of



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time you lost that other shame which s the divine guardian of innocence.

and every effort of your faculties was directed towards the idolatry of your



number, as he was himself a Catholic though he was somewhat ashamed to admit that he had not been to Mass since his mother died and was now afraid to go. Father X. assured him he need have

no apprehension, and finally persuaded his friend to resume his church going on the following day. The messenger at this point returned, and declared he had been totally unable to find any one lying at death's door in the neigh-The search was accordingly abandoned, and the Father returned to the oratory-his mission unfulfilled. The following day Father X. was again summoned on the same errand This time there was no doubt concern ing the mansion, but the owner lay dead ere the little procession entered It was the very house where the Father had sat on the pre vious afternoon, and the lifeless body tretched on the bed was that of his late entertainer. Standing on a table near at hand was the miniature of his mother, and Father X. was startled and amazed to recognize in her features those of the strange woman who had fetched him to her son the day be

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return and examen, which lays the oundation of faith in man, and main-Faith is also, tains it in humanity. Faith is also, indeed, a gift of childhood; it strikes its roots into the soul which has just do it.

been born; but it is the slow action of life which brings it to maturity. When man has seen man during ong years, when he has known his eebleness and his misery by experiences which no longer permit him to doubt, and already the grand figure of death places nearer to him the final prophecy, then naturally his gaze be comes more profound. He discerns nore clearly the trace of the divine,

because he knows better what man can not do, and, moreover, the wearisome-ness of present things evokes in him a relish for things unseen. Therefore it is that a writer, whose name escapes me, has excellently said : "At twenty, we believe religion to be false; at forty, we begin to suspect that it may e true ; at fifty, we desire that it may be true ; at sixty we no longer doubt its truth." Light and life progress with equal pace, and death, in dis-abusing us of all, completes the progressive revelation which commenced in our regard on the lips of our mother. The child and the woman are the van-guard of God; the man of mature

years is His apostle and martyr ; you, young men, you are but the deserters of a day.

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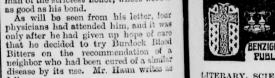
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follows: DEAR SIRS,—I think I have been one of the worst sufferers you havo yet heard of, having been six years in the hands of four of our best doctors without obtaining permanent relief, but continually graving worse, until almost beyond hope of re-covery. I tried your Bitters and got relief in a few days. Every organ of my body was deranged, the liver enlarged, hardenel and torpid, the heart and digestive organs scriously deranged, a large abscess in my back, followed by paralysis of the right leg, in fact the lower half of my body was entirely useless. After using Burdock Blood Bitters for a few days the abscess burst, discharging fully five quarts of pas in two hours. I felt as if I had received a shock from a powerful battery. My re-covery after this was steady and the cure permanent, seeing that for the four years since I have had as good health as ever I had. I still take an occasional bottle, not that I need it but because I wish to keep my system in perfect working order. I that I need is but because I wish to keep my system in perfect working order. I can think of no more remarkable case than what I have myself passed through, and no words can express my thankfulness for such needed to account. for such perfect recovery. Welland P.O. In this connection the following letter from T. Cumines, Esq., a leading draggist of Welland, Ont, speaks for itself: Mersrs. T. Milburn & Co., Toronto. GENTLENEN,—I have been personally acquainted with Mr. C. C. Haun for the last 20 years, and have always found him a very reliable man. You may place the utmost confidence in anything he says with regard to your medicine. He has on many occasions within the last four years told me that it was marvellous the yay

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