

A Dream of Lilies.

She dreamed that on a hill top bright and still
A garden, girt with thorny hedges grew.
Wherein no flower bloomed but the pure white lily.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER.

A Pen Picture of the Great Apostle of the Indies.

Everything connected with any one of the saints is of interest to us. Every little additional trait of character, or fresh fact coming to our knowledge about his outward form and bearing, which brings him nearer to us for every-day use, is a real assistance to our devotion.

less numbers of idolaters. But the work, stupendous as it was, was not done, after all, only a part of the gigantic plan of spiritual conquest he had projected in his boundless ambition for the glory of God. He died at the comparatively early age of forty-six on the lonely island of San Chan, in sight of the kingdom of Jesus Christ. It was the intention of the Saint, if God, not satisfied with the desire, had not taken him to his reward when barely one month of the plan had been executed, to work his way home again by Russia, and to reconquer the North of Europe with the Catholic Church.

LAZY MONKS!

How They Wasted Their Lives in Inglorious Inactivity.

HOW THEY FOSTERED IGNORANCE IN THE "DARK" AGES, AND WHY THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TO-HUMANITY.
Lying books, coarse cartoons and vulgar pictures are made the convenient medium to slander and calumniate the monks of the middle ages, whose lives have been maliciously distorted, and whose works are almost uniformly belittled and ridiculed.
Lazy monks, forsooth! We are indebted to the Catholic Church and to the middle ages for all that we possess of ancient and classic literature, and of course, also for the preservation and multiplication of the Holy Scriptures. These greatly maligned men were the teachers and schoolmasters of their time; they were the artists, authors, architects, agriculturists, builders, colonizers, scientists, and inventors in every age and country.

OUR GREAT PLAGE SPOT.

One of the most striking facts in these United States of America is the increase in the number of divorces; full of dread significance, too. For ten years the epidemic of marital separation has been sweeping the country, and now the tide is swelling. To one who has noticed the records of the courts as they casually appear in the papers, all the proceedings seem clothed at first in a kind of grim and dour mockery; wedlock gaily entered into, and suddenly and as gaily disrupted; broken on the altar of divorce, like harpings from the four corners of the world to some foul feast. But now that time is past. Like some monstrous growth of fungi, this moral disease, appearing small, and low, and contemptible a while, has taken on larger proportions, and threatens the whole social organism with frightful gangrene.

VICE-REGAL VISIT.

The Princess and His Excellency at the Gloucester Street Convent.
On Saturday afternoon Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise and His Excellency the Governor-General, attended by Miss McNeil and Captain Bagot, A. D. C., paid an informal visit to the Convent of the Congregation of Our Lady on Gloucester Street. The party were received at the main entrance by the Rev. Mother Superior and other members of the community. After some time spent in minutely examining and criticizing in work, the productions of the deft hands of the young lady boarders, the party were conducted to the distribution room, on entering which they were received with a musical performance on pianos, harps and organs. The hall, it may be remarked, was decorated in a most beautiful manner, with pots of natural flowers, geraniums, etc., while at intervals were suspended scrolls bearing suitable inscriptions of welcome and good wishes. When the distinguished party had seated themselves a little more at ease, the young Princess with a bouquet of beautiful flowers, in a few delicately composed lines, which breathed the same kind greetings and prayers, and which visibly affected Her Royal Highness. This grateful act was succeeded by the rendering of an appropriate Latin ode in a splendid manner by the young ladies. One of the young ladies, Miss Foley, then advanced and read an address to the distinguished couple in French, and she in turn was succeeded by Miss Costigan, who read an address in English. Both addresses were models of conciseness, while saying all that could have been extended over folios; their rendering by the young ladies named afforded excellent proof as well of the care bestowed upon their training as of their own elocutionary talents. His Excellency replied in English and French on behalf of his royal spouse and himself. A grand instrumental performance brought the more formal part of the reception to a close; but the visit did not end there, as both the distinguished visitors expressed a desire to be introduced to all, even from the little May Emmonee up to the eldest of the young lady graduates, making in each case a kind enquiry as to their status in their classes, and the progress being made. More than one lesson was learnt from the visit—that affability and simplicity of manner, as well as of dress, are not incompatible with true gentility. The visitors took their departure leaving behind them a "red letter day" in the minds of the devoted daughters of the Venerable Mother Marguerite Bourgeois and their pupils.—Ottawa Citizen, May 7.

God's Providence.

On a certain occasion, after the celebrated Father Leung had preached in one of the churches of Paris a beautiful discourse on Providence, a man accosted him, saying: "I have heard your sermon; it certainly was very fine, but I cannot perceive the force of your arguments; I do not believe there is such a thing as Providence, for I receive none of its cares or benefits."
"What! are you such an unbeliever?"
"Ah, Father, facts are stubborn things; my wife and three children work hard, and have never injured any one; yet I am reduced to such distress by the failure of one of my debtors that, not being able to bear such misery, have determined on committing suicide."
"And how on earth did you come to church, if you entertained such a wicked purpose?"
"I happened to pass by when the people were entering, and I followed them."
"And you still think there is no Providence? What but a special Providence could obtain the whole contemplating self destruction, you should enter a church, and hear a discourse just suited for you, and that you should be induced to come and deposit your griefs in my bosom?"
"Well, I admit," said the poor creature, after a slight pause, "that there is something remarkable in this; but, still, how am I to meet my creditors, whom I owe \$225? How is Providence provided for that?"
"Listen. I believe you to be sincere, though unfortunate. Here are \$725, given to me the other day by a lady, after a sermon on alms, to be disposed of in works of charity; take it in God's name, and recognize in the gift the effects of His all-wise Providence."
The poor man repented of his wicked intention, and we hope, ever continued to adore the Divine Providence.

The Sons of St. Ignatius.

The name of the cities and towns which are scattered through western America bear witness to the faith of those who founded them. Jesuit missionaries were the first to explore those vast regions which are now rapidly becoming the seat of a great empire. There is not a continent nor a country which does not bear upon its name record of the heroic zeal which had its origin in the heart of St. Ignatius. The bones of the Jesuit martyrs are found in all lands, from Canada to China; and the Order is to-day doing its noble work with all the devotedness which characterized it in the first century of its existence. The Arabs have a proverb which says that "it is only at trees which bear golden fruit that stones are thrown."

W. L. CARRIER.

There is not and there cannot be, any smoking tobacco superior to the "Myrtle Navy" brand. A wrapper of higher appearance and higher price is possible to get, but all wrappers are very poor smoking tobacco, and but a single leaf is wrapped round a plug. The stock used in the body of the "Myrtle Navy" plug is the very best which money can purchase. The power of the Virginia soil can produce nothing better, and no other soil in the world can produce as fine tobacco as that of Virginia.
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