

SAINTS OF THE MONTH.

[By the Editor of the School and Home Magazine.]

ST. POTITUS, BOY MARTYR, Jan. 13, 168.
The many boys who read the Magazine will be pleased to know something of the way that boys, in the early ages of the Church, suffered for the Christian faith and became martyrs. They ought to know more about the history of the early Church, and they would find beautiful examples of manliness and heroism which show the ideals of truth and honor which all true boys should set before themselves. St. Potitus of Sardinia was a mere boy when he heard the gospel of Christ preached and he gave up his Pagan worship and became a Christian. His father was very rich and loved his Pagan idols so much that he did all in his power to win his son back to their worship; but he failed, for Potitus only grew stronger in his faith in Christ, so much so, that he worked many miracles, even to the healing of the Emperor Antoninus' daughter who was possessed by an evil spirit. The Emperor promised to become a Christian if his daughter were cured but the promise was given in deceit. In the name of Jesus Potitus drove out the evil spirit from the girl and those present cried out "Truly the God of the Christians is a great and mighty God." The ungrateful Emperor ascribed it all to magic and witchcraft, and commanded Potitus to offer sacrifice to the gods of the Empire. He refused and was cruelly beaten and cast into prison, where he was left without food in order that he might starve to death. The Emperor hearing that he still lived passed judgment upon him, and when he found him still persisting in his Christian faith he had him subjected to every form of torture, even casting his torn body to the wild beasts in the Amphitheatre, but the furious animals did not touch him. The Holy Boy cried out to the tyrant: "What sayest thou, O Caesar, to these wonders? Hast thou not experienced sufficiently the might and power of my Lord Jesus Christ?" The Emperor, enraged, ordered other tortures of seething oil and molten lead, but still the martyr praised God. His eyes were plucked out and finally he was beheaded, even after he had prayed to God to relieve the Emperor of an intense pain which he was tortured with. Thus this boy of thirteen years showed his faith in Christ, by suffering all these tortures rather than deny Christ. He gave up the world and its comforts in order to save his soul. God rewarded his goodness by giving him the courage and constancy of a man. How much boys of to-day should learn from such an example, and know how to suffer anything rather than deny a single article of their holy faith. Martyrs like Potitus are the true boys and should be loved by all Christian boys.

ST. AGNES, GIRL MARTYR, Jan. 21.
We have a beautiful model for our girl readers in the life of St. Agnes, the Roman girl of thirteen years who consecrated her virginal purity in her own blood. Her parents were of a noble family and were Christians, so that Agnes grew up as a Christian maiden, filled with every virtue. She was very beautiful, and attracted the attention of the governor's son, who was a Pagan. He besought her parents to allow him to marry her and brought many costly presents. Agnes answered that she had another bridegroom who possessed her love. By this she meant Jesus Christ, to whom she had consecrated her virginity. The governor even pressed his son's request, but he received the same answer. He was then told that Agnes was a Christian. This sufficed to have him order her arrest, and the following day she was brought before the tribunal. Mild words, great promises, and harsh threats, all were used to influence this girl of thirteen years to marry the Pagan or become a Pagan vestal and offer sacrifice to the gods, or else she would be exposed to the vilest sins. The young martyr spurned every proposal and announced fearlessly, "Thou hopest in vain for my consent. I will not slight my bridegroom nor break my word and faith with Him. I will neither offer sacrifice to the Goddess Vesta nor to any other false god or goddess, but I adore and pay homage only to the one true God. To threaten me with the disgrace of being sent to a den of licentiousness does not frighten me; for I have an angel of the Lord for a protector, who will defend me against every violence." God did defend her virtue, and an angel of God protected her, so that the gov-

ernor's son was struck lifeless when he attempted violence to her. By her prayers he was restored to life and became a Christian. She was accused of magic and condemned to be burned alive, but like the Hebrews in the fiery furnace she was untouched. A sword was thrust through her throat and the young girl martyr died, exclaiming, "Receive, O Lord, my soul which has cost thee so much and which thou hast loved so much." Do you wonder that this beautiful saint has been an inspiration to goodness in all the ages of the Church? St. Jerome tells us that the fame of St. Agnes had spread among all nations, and that hymns and praises, both in prose and verse, had been written of her in all languages. Every Christian girl should honor St. Agnes for her noble battle against impurity. How beautiful her character! What a model for the Christian girl!

THE PRIESTHOOD.

Archbishop Ireland on the Education of Its Members.

In a pastoral letter announcing the annual collection of his Diocesan Seminary, Archbishop Ireland writes thus of the education of the priesthood:

The building-up of the priesthood of the Church is the chief act of Christian piety, the most meritorious before God and the most fruitful in holy results that we can perform. The priest is consecrated in Christ's name to be the teacher of divine grace. He is the ruler and leader of the people, who look up to him for guidance and inspiration. Where is the priest, there is the Sacrifice of Calvary; there are the sacramental channels of divine grace; there is the source of heavenly light and of heavenly life. The action of the Church of Christ upon the world is through the priest, in whom her power becomes active, and upon whom she relies for the exercise of this power. The Church earnestly desires that her priests be multiplied; each priest is a new medium of action for her in glorifying God and saving souls. And since the more thorough the fitness of the priests for their vocation, the more abundant and the richer shall be the fruits of their ministry, she demands that those of her sons who are called to the dignity of the priesthood be prepared for their office during long years of prayer and study. The priest, indeed, cannot be considered a mere passive instrument of divine influences. Vast room is left for his own personal energy, for the play of personal qualities of his mind and heart. Whatever the priest, he is Christ's minister, and sacramental graces flow from his official acts. Most true, however, must it ever be that the greater his personal power the wider shall be the sphere and the more marked shall be the result of his ministrations.

The diocese which possesses a numerous and well-trained clergy finds all heaven's blessings showered upon it. Good works of all kind spring up as if by magic; schools and churches are built, asylums for the afflicted cover the land; the sacraments are frequented, the Gospel is announced to Catholics; the full power of the Church is brought into action. In every age and country the tide of religion ebbs and flows with the action of the priesthood. Hence all our energies must be bent, if we would correspond with the designs of Almighty God, to increase the number of priests, and to bestow all possible care upon the levites of our seminaries.

But the building up of the priesthood presupposes ability to dispose of large material means. The expenses of educating seminarians must be paid, as a rule, from the Diocesan Seminary fund. This is true in nearly all cases of students in the preparatory course. The expenses of the clerical education of young men are heavy and parents usually are unable or unwilling to bear them. The nation educates its military officers, and so the Church must educate the priests who are to serve her, and to devote to her in love their strength and life. Vocations to the priesthood, heaven be thanked, are not wanting, and few things prove better than this fact the vigor and the fecundity of the faith of our people.—*Catholic Union and Times.*

Handsome Features.

Sometimes unsightly blotches, pimples or sallow opaque skin destroys the attractiveness of handsome features. In all such cases Scott's Emulsion will build up the system and impart freshness and beauty.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Very Rev. Michael McCabe, V.G., of Providence, died Dec. 14.

Rt. Rev. Bartholomew Fitzpatrick, abbot of Mt. Mellary, Ireland, is dead.

The Jesuits have given up the Osage Mission parish in Kansas and will be succeeded by the Dominicans.

St. Hyacinthe's Church, New Bedford, Mass., was recently dedicated. The impressive service was performed by Bishop Harkins.

The Catholic petitions in favor of the denominational schools are pouring into the English Parliament. A goodly number have already been presented.

Rev. Francis Dent, who had a controversy with the Franciscan Order in Brooklyn, has discontinued all his suits and will submit to ecclesiastical authority.

The distinguished Dominican, Padre Guglielmotti, who lately died in Rome, left behind several unpublished works which are to be brought out by his order.

The first Catholic Church in St. Louis was erected in 1770, and was under charge of the Rev. Father Gilcart, a native of France. Rt. Rev. Joseph Rosati was the first Bishop of St. Louis.

Archbishop Ireland has been invited by the Jesuit Fathers in charge of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Chicago, to deliver a lecture on "Education." He has accepted and the date will soon be announced.

Very Rev. Joseph Sasia, S.J., of San Francisco, arrived in Rome recently on a special visit to Pope Leo. He will travel through the Holy Land before coming back to America, and will also visit his home in Italy.

Easter Sunday, 1894, will fall on March 25. A double feast will then occur, as that of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin is also kept on that day. It is many years since those two feasts thus came together.

On November 12, the congregation of Rites, gathered in presence of His Holiness, published the solemn decrees which recognize the authenticity of certain miracles, wrought through the intercession of Ven. John of Avila and Ven. Antonio Grassi.

A new church is to be built in Cedarhurst, Long Island. The work is to be in charge of the Rev. Patrick McKenna, who is pastor of the church at Fenhurst. It will be completed by next spring. There is now a large Catholic congregation at Cedarhurst.

Rev. Henry Giesen, C. S. S. R., one of the Redemptorist Fathers of this country, died Dec. 16 in the monastery of St. Michael's church, Chicago. Father Giesen was well known in the south and west, where for years he has been identified with the mission work. He was born in Hirsch, province of Limburg, Holland, September 16 1826.

The Catholic Citizen, of Milwaukee, is making a noble and patriotic fight against that criminal conspiracy which seeks to nullify the constitution and defy the laws of the nation. The A. P. A. has no right of existence in our country, and has met with condemnation both by secular and religious papers, Protestant as well as Catholic.

The Rev. Fathers Rudolph McCarthy and John Finegan, of the Franciscan (Capuchin) Order arrived in New York by the steamship Bourgoyne on Sunday morning last. These fathers are well known in Great Britain and Ireland, where they have been giving missions and retreats for the last ten years. They are now sent to the United States by their Superiors for the same purpose.

Hood's and Only Hood's.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is carefully prepared from Sarsaparilla, Dandelion, Mandrake, Dock, Pipsissewa, Juniper berries and other well known remedies, by a peculiar combination, proportion and process, giving to Hood's Sarsaparilla curative powers not possessed by other medicines. It effects remarkable cures when other preparations fail.

HOOD'S PILLS cure biliousness.

Excitement at Honolulu is said to be at fever heat over the tension of political affairs. It would require but small provocation to start a riot. It is reported in California that Minister Thurston will urge the establishment of a republic.

THE WORLD AROUND.

Cholera has re-appeared in Liege, Belgium.

A bill to admit Arizona as a State has passed the House of Representatives.

John P. Hopkins, Democrat and Catholic, was elected mayor of Chicago Tuesday.

Prof. Charles Louis Michelet, a well-known German philosopher and author, is dead.

The Northern Pacific Hotel, the Winnipeg, will close during the winter in the city of the plains.

Martin Costello, the Roby, Ind., prize-fighter, has been sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

The Sudanese Mahdists and tribes under the Sultan of Samia are fighting each other fiercely just now.

Mrs. Edwina Booth Grossman is preparing a book of reminiscences of her father, the late Edwin Booth.

Fourteen of Ottawa's leading merchants have been fined for infraction of the early closing by-law during Christmas week.

News has reached San Francisco that the British Government intended to and probably has taken charge of the entire group of Gilbert Islands.

J. K. Armstrong, who embezzled \$30,000 of Tipton, Ind., county's money while treasurer, has been convicted and gets one year in the penitentiary.

Paul Schwartz, alleged to be the only holder of a chemical secret for making cheap high grade steel, died at Pocomo, Pa., and the secret died with him.

The Lehigh strike cost the Firemen's Brotherhood \$128,000. With the exception of the Burlington strike, which cost \$1,500,000, it is the costliest on record.

David Stout, a farmer living near Indianapolis, thought a hole in the ground in his cellar was a safer place for his gold than a bank, and now he mourns the loss of \$10,000.

The heirs of the Italian Mafia who were hung in New Orleans by a mob are suing the city for damages in the United States Court. Verdicts for \$5,000 each are given.

Chicago is trying to feed her poor, but objects to feeding all the tramps that have headed for that city under the impression that they will receive free quarters and free food.

Jacob Schaefer, the billiard "wizard," won the series of championship games ending Saturday at New York. His last game was with Ives, when he broke the record with a run of 566.

Repressive measures have not abated the activity of anarchists. It is proposed to hold a mass meeting in Berlin on the 27th inst. Threats have been made to blow up the Paris Bourse.

After years of litigation, the famous Davis will case has been settled at Chicago, and \$11,000,000, the estate of Andrew J. Davis, the Montana millionaire, will shortly be divided among the six heirs. The lawyers got \$300,000.

A few days ago a party of eighty-five nihilists were surprised in a house at Moscow, and in the fight which followed fifteen policemen were wounded. Five nihilists committed suicide rather than be captured, and twenty escaped.

Victor Schoelcher, the well known French statesman, author and traveller, died in Paris, of pneumonia, aged 88. He was known as an ardent anti-slavery worker and established the laws of emancipation for negroes under French ownership.

A vigorous enforcement of the non-interference to American commerce in Brazil by either insurgent vessels or those of the existing government has been definitely determined upon by the administration, and will be upheld by a strong naval force in southern waters. The President and Secretary of State have concluded after numerous conferences and from recent information received from Minister Thompson, that a crisis is pending in the republic, and that steps must be taken to assert the rights of the United States and prevent serious damage to the vast amount of trade which annually comes from Rio.

EXCELS ALL OTHERS.

Dear Sirs,—Your Burdock Blood Bitters excels all other medicines that I ever used. I took it for biliousness and it has cured me altogether. Wm. Wright, Wallaceburg, Ont.