

THE FABLE OF "POPE JOAN"

During the past few weeks several letters have been received at the office of the I. C. T. S. asking for some information regarding the "Pope Joan" myth...

The story of "Pope Joan" is, as J. P. Kirsch, says, "a pure figment of the imagination." Gibbon said "Two Protestants, Blondel and Bayle, annihilated her."

Here is the true account of the matter: (1) The myth of the woman Pope was not definitely put into writing before the middle of the thirteenth century.

(2) The first to adopt the myth seems to have been the French Dominican, Stephen (d. 1261), but it did not become widely known till about 1290 or 1300.

The Chronicle of another Dominican, Martinus Polonus (d. 1378), was chiefly instrumental in popularizing the story. His work, though popular in its accounts of contemporary Popes and Emperors, is worthless...

In this issue, we are running an announcement showing cash prices on Page Wire Fence, of known high quality to many of our readers...

(4) Dollinger proves by several examples how similar myths grew (e. g., there was one to the effect that eunuchs, and even a woman, had occupied the See of Constantinople)...

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emy of Rome. Now, the fact of a female Pope would, if true, have been a deep disgrace to Rome, and a heavy blow dealt at her authority...

A GENEROUS GIFT.—Quite recently the deed of a fine piece of property situated in a most picturesque part of the city and overlooking the Bay was given by Mr. James Whalen of Port Arthur to the Sisters of St. Joseph in that city, as a site for an Academy.

BIRTH O'NEILL.—At Holly Park, on Oct. 25th, 1913, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Neill, a son.

DIED QUINN.—On October 31st, in Albion Township, Mr. John Quinn, aged ninety-eight years. May his soul rest in peace!

FACE TO FACE The years have ripened such a day, And time has garnered every leaf; The sun strikes yet aslant the door, Its mingled beams of joy and grief; The orchard tree whose kindly arms Bent over you, while full of care, Still flings its boughs athwart the path Where oft you told your beads of prayer.

Face to face, your soul and mine, Drink in the joy a mother gives, Born of the highest, holiest love; That stirs all life—in Heaven lives, Face to face, our spirits then; Found rapture in the lowliest thing; Our dreams were twined our life was one, We touched Heaven's spheres on ardent wing.

Face to face, God's faith abides, And links your soul in Heaven to mine; Life's tabernacle he do us love, Sacred and sweet as chalice wine; No shadow drear, nor earthly pain, Can dim love set in Heaven's grace, Till in the spirit's world's no more, Our ripening love's ends face to face.

—THOMAS O'HAGAN IN "The Magnificent"

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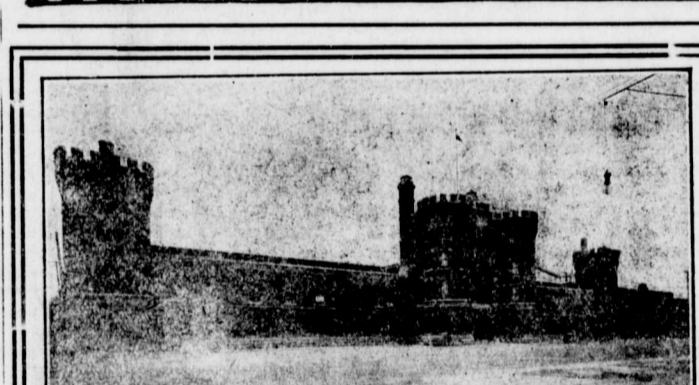
Toronto, October 23rd, 1913. JAMES MASON, General Manager.

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