

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

RELIANCE

Not to the swift, he race; Not to the strong, the fight; Not to the righteous, perfect grace; Not to the wise, the light.

But often faltering feet Come surest to the goal; And they who walk in the darkness meet

The sunrise of the soul. A thousand times by night The Syrian hosts have died; A thousand times the vanquished right Hath risen, glorified.

The truth the wise men sought Was spoken by a child; The alabaster box was brought In trembling hands defiled.

Not from my torch, the gleam, But from the stars above; Not from my heart, life's crystal stream, But from the depths of love.

—HENRY VAN DYKE

A LENTEN SUGGESTION

To most people, especially the young, the seven weeks of Lent seem interminable. The seasons of merry-making, theatre-going, and general amusements, which come in with such a rush after Christmas, is now brought to a standstill for all who are worthy of the name Catholic.

Now every one, the young and the old, should bear in mind that something is required of them during the season—all, in imitation of our Lord, must make some sacrifice.

"I don't see any harm in going to a theatre during Lent; it isn't a mortal sin," says some young simperton. No, it is not a mortal sin; but it shows that you have very little love of God in your heart—for you are likely one of those who maintain that you cannot fast.

Lent is the time of self-denial, penance and prayer, and therefore, parties, balls and public amusements are out of place. Your evenings should be spent at home with your family. Interest yourself in good reading or in works of charity.

Strive to conquer resentment, over-sensitiveness, coldness, unkind, suspicious, harsh words. No one becomes holy in a day, and, on the other hand, no one usually separates from God by a sudden rupture.

ONE DAY AT A TIME The future is divided into days. Each day the sun sets. The lamps are lighted as it grows dark; and at ten o'clock the day is finished. It is so absolutely finished that the unconsciousness of sleep comes to seal our senses and suspend our thought and action for six or eight hours before the beginning of a new day.

We virtually die with the last hours of Monday and remain buried in slumber until Nature wakes and stirs us in the early hours of Tuesday. No other periods of time, not the years, nor the centuries, are separated by such a wall of division as that which separates day from day.

Sufficient unto the day! We are to live our lives as life is given us,—by days. Yesterday is done with and tomorrow is not yet here. We are presently responsible only for today. Let not remorse for the past burden you—forget the things that are behind. Nor let the weary prospect of the years to come discourage you—you have troubles enough at hand without borrowing those put on next week's calendar.

Cardinal Gibbons to boys An editor recently met Cardinal Gibbons, reports Our Young Folks, and wishing his boys to profit by his interview, he asked him: "What qualities, your Eminence, do you consider most desirable in a boy? What qualities show him to have a real promise for the future?"

"Faithfulness, plodding, perseverance, persistence in doing whatever is set for him to do. These things will gain him success where genuine would fail—is nothing more than infinite hard work. That is the best genius—hard, steady, careful work. It is the real genius."

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

ROSARY TIME IN IRELAND

At the fall of the night in Ireland when spring in the land is fair, At the fall of the night in Ireland when passionate June is there, When woods are ruddy in autumn or hoary with winter's rime, At the fall of the night in Ireland 'tis Rosary Time.

With book and beads in her fingers the mother goes to her place, The holy candle beside her, the peace of God in her face, And out of their chosen corners the voices of children chime.

At the fall of the night in Ireland at Rosary Time, Outside the song of the robin is hushed in his sheltered nest, The wind with rainy sweetness is sighing itself to rest.

The world with her oldtime longing swings low to a minor rhyme At the fall of the night in Ireland at Rosary Time.

Oh, many a dream of beauty shines up from the lowest sod, And many a golden duty binds men to the feet of God, But the sweetest passion of lying is stifled to a choral sublime.

At the fall of the night in Ireland at Rosary Time.

TWO HONEST BOYS

An example of honesty is always instructive, whether it be given by a child or by one of mature years. A school teacher, who takes great interest in the moral growth of her pupils, writes as follows: "In a country school a large class were standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the word to the scholar at the head, and he missed it; I passed it to the next, and the next, till it came to the last scholar, the smallest in the class, and he spelled it right—at least I understood him so—and he went to the head, above everyone else, and glided out like a flash."

SAFETY FIRST Safety first is the motto we see emblazoned on every side. It is intended to warn people of the danger of taking chances on their bodily safety. Dangerous accidents have been due in the majority of cases to carelessness. Hence public service corporations, railways, and electric roads who have to pay large sums for damages take this means of saving careless people from themselves.

EVERYDAY SCHOOLBOYS One day a poor old woman drove into town in a rickety spring wagon. She tied her horse to a post near the school house. It was about as bad-looking an old horse as you ever saw. The woman hobbled away with feeble steps to sell a few eggs which she had in a basket. Just as she was out of sight the bell rang for the noon hour, and a crowd of jolly, noisy boys rushed out of the school house. The air in a moment was full of their shouts and laughter.

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REASON FOR PRESENT CRIME WAVE The attempt on the part of our public authorities to check the advance of crime throughout the country seems to be meeting with but little success. Extreme measures repressive and punitive have been adopted, but they serve only to drive criminals from one locality to another. One city is no sooner freed from such criminal operations than they break out in another, showing that what appears on the surface is but a symptom of a deep seated disorder.

THE TEACHING CHURCH In The Hibbert Journal of October, 1920, A. C. McGiffert, D. D., President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, makes a plea for a teaching church. His plea is based on the findings of two committees, one British and one American, concerning the extraordinary and lamentable ignorance of the soldiers (of the late war) about Christianity.

LEAVES ON THE WIND New Volume of Verse by Rev. D. A. Casey. \$1.25 Postpaid. Catholic Record LONDON, CANADA

WHY NOT MAKE YOUR WILL? It is a business arrangement which we should not neglect, and it is a simple matter. If you should accidentally be killed without making your will, your estate might be distributed contrary to your wishes. Endless sorrow and litigation is often caused by the failure to make a will.

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PEACE BEGETS PEACE First keep thyself in peace, and then thou wilt be able to bring others to peace. A peaceful man does more good than one that is very learned. A passionate man perverts even good into evil, and easily believes evil. A good, peaceable man turns all things to good.—Thomas a Kempis.

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