

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est, Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname).—St. Pacian, 4th Century.

VOLUME XXII.

LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1900.

NO. 1352.

The Catholic Record.
London, Saturday, Nov. 17, 1900.

THE MEMORY OF THE DEAD.

Oh it is sweet to think,
Of those who are departed,
While murmured Aves sink,
To silence tender-hearted,
While tears that have no pain
Are tranquilly distilling,
And the dead live again
In hearts that love is filling.

Yet not as in the days
Of earthly ties we love them;
For they are touched with rays
From light that is above them;
Another sweetness shines
Around their well-known features;
God with His glory signs
His dearly ransomed creatures.

Yes, they are more our own,
Since now they are God's only;
And each one that has gone
Has left our hearts less lonely.
He mourns not seasons fled,
Who now in him possesses
Treasures of many dead
In their dear Lord's embraces.

Dear dead! they have become
Like guardian angels to us;
And distant Heaven like home,
Through them begins to woo us;
Love, that was earthly, wings
His flight to holier places,
The dead are sacred things
That multiply our graces.

They whom we love on earth
Attract us now in Heaven;
Who shared our grief and mirth
Back to us now are given.
They move with noiseless feet
Gravely and sweetly round us,
And their soft touch with out
Full many a chain that bound us.

O dearest dead; to heaven
With ardent sighs we gave you,
To Him—be doubly fervent!
Who now in Him we save you—
Now get us grace to love
Your memories yet, more kindly,
Henceforth only to love,
And trust to God more blindly.

F. W. FABER, D. D.

Catholic Columbian.

TRUE SPIRITUALISM.

Communion of Saints—Remembrance of the Souls.

ELENOR C. DONNELLY, TRANS.

There is at present extant—as there has been for many years—a fatal form of delusion known as Spiritualism, which is begotten of falsehood, and fraught with manifold dangers to the souls and bodies of its votaries.

Millions of men belong to so-called spiritualistic circles. They consult "mediums;" and strive to hold forbidden intercourse with dwellers in the unseen world. But all the marks and signs of this cult betray the influence and workings of evil spirits.

Spiritism is, as it were, Satan's travesty, his diabolical counterfeit of the Communion of Saints. It is his ingenious mockery of the real, genuine Spiritualism, taught by the one, holy, Catholic, apostolic Church of Rome, when she enjoins upon her children a firm belief in God, in the immortality of the soul, in the holy Guardian Angels, the Saints of God in general, and in a place of purification in the other life.

May we all hold fast, firmly and unswervingly, to this true Spiritualism: May we strive to increase the honor of God, the number of the saints in Heaven, the joy of the Church, and the certainty of our own salvation, by having, especially during this month of graces, to the assistance of our suffering brethren in Purgatory! These afflicted souls are, alas! so poor: whilst we are so rich in the resources which they lack. Let us, then, from the fullness and sweetness of our abundance, endeavor to alleviate their pains, and lighten their poverty.

The Latinized word, Purgatory, is more expressive of the place or condition of purification. Many suppose fire to be the sole torment of the Holy Souls; but it is well to remember that there may be many other forms of suffering in that abode of pain.

The doctrine of Purgatory is highly conformable to the dictates of sound reason, as well as to the noblest sentiments of the human heart. For, if there were no middle state of souls, what assurance could we have for ourselves, after death, as well as for those dear ones who have gone before us into eternity, debtors, in some degree, to divine justice?

This consoling doctrine of Purgatory is confirmed by Holy Writ, as well as by tradition; and the decisions of the councils of the Church. Even the Catholic custom of the Month's Mind of the faithful departed has its warrant in the old dispensation. For, "when all the multitude saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for him thirty days throughout all their families." And of Moses, we are told: "The children of Israel mourned for him in the plains of Moab, thirty days."

The scriptural term "mourning," it is well to remark, did not simply mean tears, sighs and natural sorrow for the dead. The mourning of the Hebrews implied certain prayers and penitential exercises for the souls of the departed, which the orthodox Jews practice even at the present day.

Among these exercises may be mentioned the observance of the precept of sitting on the bare floor a certain length of time after a relative's decease, the tearing of the garments worn when assisting at the deathbed, the prohibition against shaving at such times, and the burning of lamps in memory of the dead.

Eusebius, in his Life of Constantine the Great, tells us how that Emperor piety desired to be buried in the church erected by himself in Constan-

tinople, for he cherished the hope of participating thereby in the prayers of the church. Behold! as his corpse was being conveyed to the grave, an immense concourse of people accompanied it, testifying their love for their departed ruler not only by sighs and tears, but also by their fervent prayers for the repose of his soul.

The language of St. Ambrose, in his discourse over the remains of the Emperor Theodosius, is well worthy our consideration. "I have loved him during life," said he; "therefore, I will accompany him after his entrance into the Land of the Living, and never leave him until, by tears and prayers, I have brought him into the holy mountain of the Lord."

Very beautiful, too, are the words of St. Jerome to Pamphilus, at the death of his wife, Paulina: "Other husbands scattered over the graves of their wives, violets, roses, lilies and purple flowers. Oar Pamphilus moistens the ashes and the venerated bones of his beloved spouse with the balm of almsdeeds. Through their color and savor, he warms up the sleeping ashes, knowing that it is written: 'As water quenches fire, so almsgiving expiates for sins committed.'"

In Purgatory is completed the expiation for faults, which had been interrupted on earth. There, God subjects the beloved, precious soul to a final purgation, in order to cleanse it from the most trifling blemish, and conduct it, "yet so as by fire," to that degree of perfect purity requisite in order to behold God face to face. There, it is decreed that the entire Holy Church should come, as it were, to help in this work of justice and mercy—drawing near to intercede for her suffering children, and to expiate their shortcomings.

Having, at the particular judgment after death, already gazed upon the infinite beauty of God; and being now altogether detached from earthly and sensual ties, the faithful departed ardently long to possess the One Supreme Good. In short, they are homesick for heaven; and we all know what an anguished homesickness is.

Yet, all the burning desires, all the inexpressible longings of a child for his parents and on his earthly home are trifles compared to the violent yearnings of the Poor Souls for the heavenly Jerusalem and the fatherly Heart of God.

That loving Creator has implanted in the human breast an irrepressible desire for happiness, which can only be appeased by Himself. Now, that the delights, as well as the cares of life are left behind, this impulse is powerfully awakened in the departed soul, urging it so strongly toward God that, if not arrested, it would fly to Him more swiftly than an arrow shot from the strongest bow, flies to its mark.

This vehement yearning, this ardent longing for its heavenly Home and its heavenly Father, constrains the suffering soul the more, because it is in the grace of God, and well knows that it shall rest eternally in Him.

But invisible powers, the divine Justice, and its own culpability, hold the poor soul back. * * * The saints who have written on this subject knew only too well how great is the power of passion over weak human nature, how feebly the sensual man comprehends spiritual things, how easily self-love limits sacrifices for God, and how even the best of us pride ourselves upon the little good we have done, instead of fearing and trembling lest our manifold imperfections should cause us to miss the eternal reward.

Blessed Henry Suso tells us that when he was acquiring an intimate union with God, he began to regard the pains of Purgatory as trifling. He was lovingly admonished, however, by the Divine Spirit, that reflection upon that subject is the beginning of all wisdom, and the way to everlasting bliss.

It was enjoined upon him that he should steadfastly contemplate those torments, and not madly consider them as trifles. The divine revelation assured him: "Truly, you sit like a bird upon a bough; or, stand as a man upon the shore, beholding the swift-passing ships, wherein he must, one day, journey to the distant land, whence he shall never more return."

In this, as well as in the views of many other great saints and servants of God, is embodied a most profound truth, and one in the highest degree worthy our attention and esteem. But the love of God, as well as His justice, must be taken into account in our considerations. This is so much the more necessary for poor, sinful, frail man if he would not become discouraged, or be driven to downright despair. —Thoughts on Purgatory.

"MARY WITH THE NECKLACE."

Many of our readers say that they read with pleasure and edification Francis W. Grey's lines in the October number of the Carmelite Review on "Old Mary with the Necklace." In fact it is a treat to read anything from the pen of this excellent English writer. It may not be out of place to say that Mr. Grey is a cousin to Lord Halifax, and we beg our readers to pliously remember all the intentions of this zealous churchman and devout client

of Mary. Referring to the incident of "Mary with the Necklace" reminds the writer that some years ago in a pastoral capacity he gave a Rosary to a good old colored lady who but a few weeks ago—in the Rosary month—went to her reward. She passed her last days in a house of public charity, and the local newspaper honored her memory by saying she died a "Romanist" since till the last—in her hundred and second year—"she held fast to a pair of Catholic beads."—Carmelite Review.

THE AIM OF SOCIETY.

A Notable Address at the Franciscan Congress in Rome.

A: The recent congress of the Franciscan Tertiaries in Rome, Rev. Father Cathbert, O. S. F., delivered a notable address on "Modern Democracy," in which he stated:

"I suppose there are none who deny that during the past century the world has entered on a new phase of social and political existence. As Cardinal Manning once said, the Church has to deal now not with dynasties but with peoples. The old order has passed away, at least in western Christendom, when kings were absolute and were able to impose their will upon their subjects with no other justification than that the king so willed it. It is now the recognized principle of modern states that the people do not exist for the king or government, but the king or government exists for the people.

"The people have assumed the final voice in the destiny of the state: at least they profess to have done so; and now they assert their freedom and supremacy in all departments of social life. In trade and commerce, capitalism and trades unionism are both evidences of the people, being but two sides of the same shield, competitive industrialism.

"The cry of the people for education and the breaking down of so many social conventions are incidents of a new order of things. Nor can we determine with any complete accuracy of detail how far the transformation will go or into what channels it will run in the future. Modern democracy is still young, and it has the infinite possibilities of youth for good or evil. That it should be impetuous and inclined to go too fast is only to be expected of its youth; that it will sober down in time with a growing sense of responsibility as attached to the possession of rights is also to be expected and confidently hoped for. In any case we must recognize the fact that the idea of democracy now rules the western world and that Catholicism has to deal not with a feudal nor an absolutist regime, but with a new world whose faith in the social and political orders is pinned to democratic freedom. There are some who decry a new order of things as though it must necessarily be evil. Such an attitude is not only foolish in itself, but mischievous. A new order may, of course, be evil; it may also be good. Generally speaking, it is neither wholly evil nor wholly good; but a mixture of both good and evil—it will have its own special vices. But if you wish to eliminate the vices it is absolutely necessary that you first acknowledge the virtues peculiar to a people or an age that you get rid of its special vices. If modern democracy needs converting—and it very much needs converting—do not think it will be converted by wholesale denunciation or by the process of universal snubbing on the part of those who stand for religion; but conversion requires a generous recognition of its good qualities conjoined with a sympathetic understanding of its needs and difficulties and even of its methods. Democracy to day is full of energy; it is intelligent, it is manly, it is truthful, and if religion would successfully appeal to it, the appeal must be to its intelligence, its vigor and its love of truth. There are, indeed, elements even in modern democracy which exhibit none of these good qualities, large numbers of men who are neither vigorous nor intelligent nor appreciably anxious for truth. These live in the age, but are not of it; they have but little influence in the building up of life, social and political; they are ruled by the more vigorous and have no place in the world's history. But the Church has to take hold of the vigorous elements in society; she has to incorporate into her own life the vigor and intelligence of the modern and not merely the elements that are effete and nerveless. These will seek in religion only an excuse for their idleness and apathy. The others will demand a presentment of religion as will appeal to the energy of their nature; a robust spirituality that demands efforts and sacrifice and intense personal conviction. It may perhaps be well to note that intense sacrifice goes hand in hand; and the assent of the intellect is necessary to support a great moral effort. I make bold to say that if at the present time religion has lost its hold on the mass of the people, it is because it has not made a sufficient demand upon the best qualities of the modern age and has become too exclusively the refuge of the weak. Modern democracy, if ap-

pealed to in the right way, is capable of yielding a spiritual harvest, equal to any yet gathered into the store-houses of Catholicism. And the harvest is fast ripening. Everywhere there are signs of a turning toward religion and toward the Catholic religion; but the apostles are needed who shall know how to teach the multitude and to inculcate to them the stirrings of religion. To this apostolate Franciscan Tertiaries have been specially called in these latter days by the voice of the Sovereign Pontiff. In his well known encyclical letter of Sept. 17, 1882, Leo XIII invited the Tertiaries to put themselves in the van of social and religious reform, and many a time since he has repeated the invitation. Tertiaries, then, have the highest sanction when they set themselves to emulate the example of their brethren of old and gain the new world to Jesus Christ. For this is their proper vocation, to establish the kingdom of Christ in the hearts of the people and bring men to live by the rule of the gospel.

"It is necessary to fix this truth well in our minds. We hear in these days a great deal about Social Reform and philanthropic works. Tertiaries, among others, are being earnestly advised to throw themselves into some form of social or charitable work, and in fact wherever we find Tertiaries being really revived we find Tertiaries coming to the fore in the work of social reform, just as they did in the thirteenth century. But the end of all this social effort, we must not forget, is the revival of Christian life and the realization of Christ's kingdom upon earth; the ultimate object, for men men's hearts to their Saviour; for in spiritual union with Him they can alone find the key to life and enduring joy.

"We must fix this principle well in our minds, lest in the hurry and anxiety of work we forget and turn aside to the worship of merely temporal comfort and prosperity. The greatest need, in truth, of modern democracy is to know Jesus Christ and His gospel of life. Our present world is very pagan, worshipping the visible and present, and thinking little of the invisible and future. A vast number of men and women in all classes of society, but especially in the working class, have especially in the working class, have no faith at all; many have but a cold and fruitless faith. Even among those who with their lips profess the Catholic faith, how many are wanting in that genuine devotion which consists in the following of Christ, in the setting before our eyes of the life of Christ as the standard of our own daily life, and in the endeavor to transform ourselves into Christ by frequent meditation and persistent hope. This is the devotion which proves our faith; and how few have it! Now the very primary object of the Third Order is to establish this genuine devotion to Jesus Christ in the world; to lead men to take Christ into their daily lives. In so far as the Third Order does this, it is not merely a social influence, but a religious influence; and we may take it as a fact proved by history that social reform is real and persistent only when based upon religious motive.

"The motive of all true Christian effort is love of Jesus Christ and of His holy gospel; if this motive is wanting, the effort will have but transitory effect; it will be like one of those African rivers that disappear after a while in the desert sand. The reason why the Third Order should be of special value in these days is that it places social work upon its only persistent basis—devotion to the person and the teaching of Jesus Christ. This following of Christ must in the first place affect our way of looking at things. The true follower of Christ takes an unworshipful, spiritual view of life as opposed to the material view now so common among the nations. The chief object of the modern world is to make money, acquire power and live in luxury."

FAULTS OF THE IRISH RACE.

Archbishop Ireland's View.

In a visit to Blackrock college, just before sailing for New York, Archbishop Ireland made an address to the students on the Irish in America. He said that what he had seen of young Irishmen in America led him to believe that they were somewhat inconspicuous. They changed from year to year. They undertook one thing and then another, and never succeeded. Whatever career in life a young man chose, he should hold on to it. Another fault that he had noticed among young men of Irish blood was that they feared hard work and were afraid of labor in what might be called a menial form.

Young Irishmen wanted to be successful all at once, and to ascend to the top of the ladder right off, or in a few days or years; and when they did not get to the top of the ladder, they immediately gave up.

Young men of other races would begin at the lowest rung of the ladder, and if they could not get to the second, they would stick to the first with wondrous adhesive power until they were sure of being able to step up; and if they never reached the second rung, you would always find them sticking to the first.

He frankly confessed that he had often found that young men of Irish

blood, no matter how well educated, were not able to keep up in the race with men of other nationalities. Was it because they lacked mind? Not at all. They had mind so bright that if others had it they would make still greater advances.

Was it lack of generous heart? No; if anything, their generosity of heart carried them too far. Was it lack of power of arm? Not at all—God had given them healthy and strong limbs. What was it, then? They lacked perseverance—steadfastness. They lacked that devotion to work which never allowed itself to be discouraged by difficulties, and they lacked thought for the future. Irishmen were a little too poetical. They wished for the sweetest and best that life could afford. They aspired to high regions, and thought hard work rather degrading. But in America they were very successful, as a rule. And why? Largely because of the well known principle in America that labor was honorable, no matter what it was.

Another fault which held down the Irish race was love of drink. If the Irish people in America and their descendants for generations had been faithful to the counsels of Father Mathew, they would control the country—no doubt of it.

THE FRAUD OF PALMISTRY.

Catholics are not permitted to consult fortune-tellers, and so-called "seers," for the purpose of securing a knowledge of future events. The future belongs to God, and any attempt to pierce the veil which He has drawn between us and coming events, must be regarded as sinful. Among these "seers" and "fortune-tellers," the biggest humbugs are the alleged "palmists," who trade upon the unparalleled credulity of the public, with infinite profit to themselves.

One of these who recently visited this city calls himself Dr. Carl Louis Perin. He conducted quite a thriving business among gullible people. He had his own stenographer, but found it necessary to hire an assistant. From this young lady, who was unsparing in her denunciation of the trickery of the wily "Doctor," something of his plans was learned. He had several formulas, supposed to be "readings," and of these many hundred copies were made; these he sent out in response to impressions of hands received by mail.

From here Perin went to Cincinnati and Covington, where he was equally successful. The attention of Archbishop Elder being called to the advertisements of the palmist by a Post representative, His Grace made the following statement in regard to palmistry:

"The claims of so-called palmistry are contrary to religion. If marks in the hands and the face may show something of past habits or present dispositions they can not foretell of future marriages and other matters claimed in some advertisements. To seek such knowledge in this way is sinful."

Dr. Perin has also had a Kansas City career. In connection with the Kansas City Journal, he ran a palmist department, that brought in a bushel of money. Then the Kansas City Star took a hand, and published the following telegraph special:

"Hutchinson, Mo., May 16.—There is considerable merriment here over an exposé of Dr. Carl Louis Perin, brought about by a local jester. He obtained an impression of the left palm of John Moore, who was recently convicted here of crushing the skull and cutting the throats of his five children. This was sent to Dr. Perin, with questions which resulted in the following answers in the palmist's columns in last Sunday's Kansas City Journal: 'No. 8131, Hutchinson, Kas.; will live to be 71. Little or no sickness of serious nature. Would make a success as a journalist, as you have literary ability. Will raise your children in happiness. Lucky day, Thursday. Make no change at present.' In view of the fact that Moore is an epileptic and has been for ten years, the sickness clause seems to be a little off, and as for a journalistic career Moore is certainly the most illiterate wretch on earth. He can neither read nor write, and his ignorance is really wonderful at this age of the world. As a matter of fact Moore did raise his children 'to happiness' as fast he could swing the hatchet. The advice given Moore to make no change at present is probably all right. He is well guarded in the penitentiary, Moore was convicted on his 'lucky day.'"

"Chillicothe, Mo., May 15.—Dr. Carl Louis Perin, the palm reader, has been cleverly trapped by a lot of Chillicothe practical jokers. Several days ago the impression of the palm of the town idiot was taken and sent to the doctor with \$1 and ten questions about the idiot's character in the future. In the palmistry department of a Kansas City newspaper Sunday appeared the following reading of Jones' palm:

"Chillicothe, Mo.—Live to be seventy-four. Little or no sickness of serious nature. Success as a politician. Two marriages; raise three children in comparative happiness. Die fairly well off. Lucky day Friday. Travel extensively, and go abroad once. Make no change at present."

"This 'reading' has knocked out all faith in palmistry in Chillicothe. The man has been a helpless idiot from his birth."

Palmistry has been called a science, and there is no doubt but that it is an interesting study, pursued with the proper spirit. But a little knowledge in the hands of a charlatan may be put to very evil use. Used as a mere pastime, as a pleasant diversion, there can be no harm in it, and as such it is not condemned.—Catholic Columbian.

Since the creation of the world God has been better served because of His kindness, than because of His power.—St. Gertrude, O. S. B.

A PARISH BIGGER THAN IRELAND.

The Montana Catholic.

An American priest who has a parish larger than the whole of Ireland in area is a visitor at the parochial residence this week. His name is Father T. B. Hayes, and his parish includes a part of Montana and North Dakota and stretches for hundreds of miles through Wyoming. Father Hayes is a young man of about thirty years and was ordained at Cheyenne by Bishop Lenahan May 17, 1899.

During the first year of his priesthood Father Hayes traveled over 10,000 miles to discharge his clerical duties, looking after the spiritual welfare of his scattered flock. On one occasion he rode 143 miles on a train, 35 miles by stage and 215 miles on horseback to baptize a child. On another occasion Father Hayes rode 500 miles on horseback through the mountain region of Wyoming to attend to the spiritual needs of a few scattered Catholic families. Father Hayes is an athlete of the type so much sought after in a crack college team. He can make 20 or 30 miles at a good pace and frequently walks from his home at New Castle on Sunday morning, 18 miles, into the mountains, where there is situated a small mission, saying Masses at both places on the same day. The reason this particular walk is made is the fact that the trail is not a passable one in several places for even the most rugged and practical mountain climbing pony.

"I consider Wyoming a great State in its infancy," said Father Hayes a day or two ago. "It has wonderful possibilities and only needs capital to take a front rank among Western States. The main branch of the Burlington Road being constructed within the confines of the State is sure to do great things toward the development of its great natural resources. The coal fields of Wyoming for one thing are scarcely excelled in value anywhere in the United States. The people are a fine, hospitable class, and wherever I travel I am made welcome in the home of Catholic and non-Catholic alike."

OUR BELOVED DEAD.

There is no family that has not contributed its quota to the grave. There the bodies are interred to return to the earth from which they sprang. We grieve over their dissolution and corruption, and are helpless to prevent the process of decay. We look on, with breaking hearts, as the form grows rigid and cold in its coffin, and, frantic with impotence, we watch with unutterable agony the clouds being thrown on them to cover them from view.

But this teaching of religion comforts us in that time of sorrow—we may be able to aid their souls to reach the joy of the Lord!

O then we raise our eyes towards Heaven and the weight of grief is lifted off us, as we think that our beloved dead are not altogether lost to us, that their spirit is conscious of us still, that our soul can commune with theirs in prayer, that we can yet give them proofs of our affection, that we can shorten the period of their purgation and hasten their entrance into the abode of bliss.

This belief consoles us in our bereavement. It serves to keep green the memory of the departed. It is a binding together in God the hearts of the living and the dead.

Blessed doctrine of Purgatory, thou recallest us of hope, thou biddest us abandon selfish woe and be busy at good works in the name of the dead, thou givest us fortitude to say: "O death, where is thy sting! O grave, where is thy victory!"—Catholic Columbian.

BRAVE SOULS WHO CHOOSE THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW WAY.

Some are tempted to think lightly of the devotion to the Sacred Heart, as something that is only suited for women and children and that is not for them. They are mistaken; it is exactly suited to them, and if they will only step, and take a little time to investigate and study this devotion, they will find it is exactly what they need. It will help them in all their trials, temptations, sorrows and afflictions; it will give them strength and courage to do their work well; it will hold them up when they are despondent, and will turn their sorrows into joy. In a word it will change their whole life, and make it really and truly a genuine Christian life. When they practice it, their vision will be cleared and they will see the right thing to do, and will be given the grace to do it. By this devotion they will be enabled to save their own souls, and to help save the souls of their relatives and friends.

Strive to make the devotion to the Sacred Heart a part of your lives, and from this time forward learn to use it daily. Go to the Sacred Heart when tempted, when discouraged or sorrowful, and relief will always be had.

The stayer wins whether the weapons be drawn or brains. The best work is done by hard work.—Bp. Spalding.

The Catholic Record

Published Weekly at 454 and 456 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

Price of subscription—\$3.00 per annum.

REV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVE, Author of "Mistakes of Modern India."

WOMAS COFFEY, Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey.

Messrs. Luke King, John Nigh, F. J. Neven and Joseph M. King, are fully authorized to receive subscriptions and transmit all other business for the CATHOLIC RECORD.

Agents for Newfoundland, Mr. T. J. Wall, St. John's.

Rates of Advertising—Ten cent per line each insertion, agents measurement.

Approved and recommended by the Archbishops of Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, and St. Boniface, the Bishops of Hamilton, Peterborough, and Oshesburg, N. Y., and the clergy throughout the Dominion.

Correspondence intended for publication, as well as that having reference to business, should be directed to the proprietor, and must reach London not later than Tuesday morning.

Articles must be paid in full before the paper can be stopped.

When subscribers change their residence it is important that the old as well as the new address be sent us.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1900.

The Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD, London, Ont.

Dear Sir: For some time past I have read your estimable paper, THE CATHOLIC RECORD, and congratulate you upon the manner in which it is published.

Its matter and form are both good; and a truly Catholic spirit pervades the whole.

Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend it to the faithful.

Blessing you, and wishing you success, Believe me, to remain, Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ, F. D. FALCOSO, Arch. of Larissa, Apost. Deleg.

London, Saturday, Nov. 17, 1900.

A. REV. P. P. A. POLITICIAN.

A special despatch to the Toronto Globe from Winnipeg states that the Rev. J. C. Madill, who is well known in this Province as having been the president of the now defunct P. P. A., busied himself greatly with the recent election, having taken the stump, to the great disgust of many members of his congregation who are opposed to his politics.

Our readers will remember that Mr. Madill took a prominent part in the election of the only two avowed members of that association who secured seats in the Provincial Legislature, being the members for the two ridings of Lambton.

AN ACT OF JUSTICE.

The distinguished convert, the late Marquis of Bute whose death occurred recently, was extremely charitable to the poor; and the last act of his life was to purchase one of the old monasteries which had been confiscated in the reign of Henry VIII., and after putting it into a complete state of repair and restoring it to its former beauty, to present it to the Church to be put to its original use. These old monasteries had fallen into the hands of English noblemen, and no fitter reparation for the injustices done to religion in the sixteenth century could be done than for a nobleman of the present day to give back a property which had once been consecrated to God and His service.

A GREAT EVENT.

In another part of this week's CATHOLIC RECORD we reproduce from a contemporary an interesting sketch of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Order of the Sacred Heart, which will be fittingly commemorated by the Religious and their pupils in the four hundred convents scattered throughout the civilized world, on the 21st of the present month.

To the festivities at the Sacred Heart Academy which was founded in this city nearly half a century ago, are invited the numerous students who during that time were privileged to receive their education within its precincts. The important event will be commemorated in a most appropriate manner, and we believe it is the intention of the old pupils to present a substantial gift to the convent as a testimony of gratitude to their beloved teachers, whose highest endeavor it was to build well and strong the foundations of noble characters, and to whose blessed influence in childhood and in youth they were able to enter the battle of life well equipped with the armor of true womanly goodness and nobility.

It can in truth be said that during the half century which has elapsed since the Order was established in this city it has accomplished an incalculable amount of good, for besides the admirable training of its numerous pupils, enabling them to adorn the highest positions of society and to be models in the home, not to speak of the many privileged ones who have themselves chosen the better part, it has likewise been the fruitful source of charities without number. Truly, then, it is not to be wondered at that God's blessing has descended upon the convent and its inmates! And the reputation on the coming Feast of Our

Lady's Presentation will, we feel assured, be a bright and joyous one for both religious and pupils, marking as it does a wonderful epoch in the history of the Order of the Sacred Heart. The former students will again visit the old familiar scenes of their childhood—and once more will be renewed the delightful intercourse of the long ago—and pleasant reminiscences fraught with innocent pleasures will be recalled to enhance the joy of the happy present. And many a fervent prayer will be said for the departed teachers and companions who have gone to their reward. Thus, in the renewal of by-gone memories, and in the participation of the delightful religious, musical and literary celebration which is to commemorate the centenary, we have no doubt the 21st November will be for the ladies of the Sacred Heart a day of unalloyed happiness.

That the Order may be as prosperous in the future as it has been in the past is the earnest wish of the publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD.

A PAPAL ENCYCLICAL.

Despatches from Rome state that the Holy Father has issued an encyclical letter to the Bishops of the Catholic world, the date of which is Nov. 1, and the subject "the Redeemer."

The Pope makes reference in this encyclical to the great assemblage of Catholics in Rome during the Holy Year from all parts of the world. This demonstrates, he says, that the nations of the earth are marching towards Christ, our Redeemer, and he exhorts them to seek Christ, who is the "way, the truth, and the life."

The despatch quotes the following as part of the encyclical:

"As Christ's coming to the world reformed society, so the latter in turning to Christ will become better and will be saved by following His doctrines and the divine law, by discontinuing revolt against the constituted powers, and avoiding conflicts."

If nations acted on these principles, the Holy Father declares, they would all love one another as brothers, and obey peacefully their superiors. "Neglect of God," the encyclical continues, "has led to so many disorders, that people are continually oppressed with fear and anguish." It urges the Bishops of the world to make known effectually to all mankind that our Redeemer and Saviour can bring salvation and peace to the earth.

It has been known for some time that an encyclical was being prepared by the Holy Father, the subject of which was announced to be "Peace," and it was said that it would contain a touching appeal to nations to cultivate peace in the settlement of disputes, instead of appealing to the arbitrament of war so frequently, as has been the custom in the past.

It was stated that the encyclical would represent that the losses incurred even by the nations which are victorious in war are great, and are surpassed only by the disasters which fall to the lot of the vanquished.

From the short summary given by telegraph of the Encyclical which has been issued, it would seem that it is the same one which was expected to treat of peace. As a matter of course, the Holy Father, as the representative of the Prince of Peace, burns with love for the people of all nationalities, but it is to be feared that worldliness has so powerful an influence over the nations that his advice will not be so fruitful in results as is to be desired. Nevertheless it is right that the truth should be told in order that the Christian nations may know their duty. This knowledge will of itself fructify to some extent, even though its effects fall short of what they would be if it fell upon attentive ears. It is, however, a consolation that the Holy Father sees hope for the future in the fact that so many hundreds of thousands have visited Rome during the year of Jubilee, and have thus proved that the faith of the nations in the power of godliness, and the efficacy of Redemption is, growing stronger with the lapse of time.

Rome is always attractive to travelers who are there brought face to face with the history of over twenty-six and a half centuries, but the celebration of the Holy Year of Jubilee has brought from all parts of the world, not mere sight-seers, but a concourse of devout pilgrims who have manifested the liveliness of their faith in thus visiting the Eternal City for the purpose of gaining the spiritual blessings which are offered to pilgrims who perform piously the devotional works necessary for gaining the Plenary Indulgence attached to the Holy Year.

Not a week passes without thousands of pilgrims arriving from different countries. During the hot summer months the number of visitors decreased

considerably, but during October it rose again, and it is expected that the great influx will continue to the closing of the Holy Door, which will take place on Christmas Eve with great solemnity.

The first visit of the pilgrims is made in almost every case to St. Peter's Basilica, and when there the pious visitors, after making the sign of the cross on themselves with the holy water which is in the font near the door of the church, kiss devoutly, according to custom, the toe of the bronze statue of the Prince of the Apostles which is near the door of the church, and then proceed at once to the chapel of the Most Blessed Sacrament to return thanks to our divine Saviour for their safe arrival in the Holy City. After this they make their visits to the other basilicas to fulfil the conditions of the Jubilee, praying for the intention of the Holy Father. These visits are made by some on foot, and by others by the trolley cars which now run to all parts of the city, and out to St. Paul's church, which is two miles from the nearest gate of the city, which also bears St. Paul's name.

Thoughtful people cannot entertain any doubt that this visit of so many thousands and hundreds of thousands of pilgrims to the city which is the centre of Catholic unity, will have the effect of strengthening the tie which binds them to the Catholic Church, and that the Holy Father is correct in his statement that it is an evidence that the people of the world are coming to Christ.

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT.

Whenever the 5th of November comes round, we are sure to be treated to parades of Orangemen who go to some church or other where a frantic sermon is delivered by one of their chaplains on the bloodthirstiness of Catholics, who are accused by the preacher of having endeavored on the 5th of November, 1605, without provocation, to blow up the British Parliament House while the King, Lords and Commons were assembled to make wise laws for the government of the country, and the permanency of the glorious Protestant religion.

Until recently, the Church of England too encouraged these misrepresentations of history, having had a special service of thanksgiving for the delivery of the country from the wiles of the bloodthirsty Papists. It is one of the things for which Queen Victoria deserves high credit that she abolished this absurdity. Nevertheless we deem it desirable to say a few words in explanation of what really occurred on the celebrated 5th of November, 1605.

First let us assume that the history of the matter is just what is usually published in our books of history; and what are the facts?

On the day mentioned culminated the Gunpowder Plot, when Guy or Guido Fawkes was arrested in a vault under the House of Lords at Westminster where thirty six barrels of gunpowder had been stored, which were to have been exploded at the moment when King James I. was opening the houses of Parliament.

Fawkes, a tall and powerful man, and of determined character, undoubtedly had the intention to put the design into execution, and at the moment of his arrest he had on his person a watch, a tinder box, and some touchwood: everything necessary to carry out the plan which had been decided on.

The explosion was undoubtedly prevented by Fawkes' timely arrest; but the question arises, what justification have the Orangemen of to-day to keep up the memory of this plot, and to represent it as a plan of the Catholics of England to seize upon the government of the country after having succeeded in destroying the King, Lords and Commons of the realm?

From all that can be learned of Guy Fawkes, he was of resolute, but not of bloodthirsty character. We are told even that when he belonged to the army of Flanders, where he assisted in the taking of Calais by the Archduke Albert in 1598, he was greatly in the confidence of the Archduke, and his society was sought by those who were most distinguished for nobility and virtue.

How is it, then, that we find this same Fawkes engaged in the desperate Gunpowder Plot of 1605?

We have not a word to say in defence of that undertaking. It was a monstrous attempt at wholesale slaughter, but it is fair to add that it was planned by a few men who were goaded to desperation by the most cruel penal laws which diabolical malice ever conceived.

To understand the situation, it must

be remembered that when James I. came to the throne of England, the laws against Catholics, and especially against priests, were most severe and relentless. Under Queen Elizabeth one hundred and fifty priests and fifty laymen were put to death for their religion, a much greater number had been imprisoned, and thousands were plundered of all their property by heavy fines of £20 per month for not attending Protestant worship. In fact a royal proclamation was issued just before Queen Elizabeth's death commanding under pain of death that all Catholic ecclesiastics should leave the country within three months.

When James came to the throne, the Catholics entertained some hope that these laws would be moderated, and in fact James promised to moderate them, but instead of doing so all the laws of Elizabeth's reign were put rigorously into force, and though the majority of the English Catholics bore persecution meekly, there were some restless spirits who felt the deepest resentment against the king and his advisers and the Parliament which enacted these laws.

Catholics, however, were not the only sufferers under the penal laws. Non-Conformists in general, and especially the Puritans, were also subjected to severe penalties, but the laws against Catholics were the most oppressive, as the avowed object was the extermination of the Catholic religion. Then a new Act of Parliament was passed to provide for "the due execution of the statutes against Jesuits, seminarians, priests, and recusants."

Catholic colleges were already not allowed in England, and it was now decreed that every person who should thereafter study in any foreign college or seminary, that is to say, in any Catholic college, should be incapable of inheriting, purchasing, or possessing lands or property of any kind in England.

During the year 1605 there were indicted in the County and City of York alone, about 1000 "Popish recusants," in Lancashire 500, and in like proportion throughout England, making a total of 6,126. Is it wonderful that some of those thus hunted should have recourse to desperate measures for self-protection or revenge?

Robert Catesby was one of those who felt resentment. He had suffered for his religion, and had even abandoned it, by conforming to the Established Church of England to escape persecution, but taking courage again he determined to cling to the ancient faith, and to devote himself to the relief of his fellow Catholics after his own fashion.

Catesby had been fined £3,000 during the reign of Elizabeth for engaging in some intrigues with the hope of relieving the Catholic body, and when he found that James proposed to continue Elizabeth's persecuting policy, his resentment was unbowed, and the Gunpowder Plot was the plan he decided on to obtain the desired relief.

At first Catesby secured a following of four other men, of whom Guy Fawkes was one. Afterwards five others were induced to join in the conspiracy, and these ten desperate men were all who entertained for a while the thought of carrying out the horrible design; but neither the Catholic laity in general nor any Catholic priest participated in it in any way, though any honest-minded man will admit that there was very great provocation. The idea of the conspirators was, we may presume, that in the confusion which would follow the accomplishment of their design, a change of government would follow under which the persecuted Catholics might experience some relief, as it seemed impossible they could be in worse condition than they were in already.

We have said above that we do not and cannot approve of Catesby's plot, and the Catholic Church has never approved of deeds of such a character; but we maintain that it is a gross injustice to attribute Catesby's design to the Catholics of England in general, and a much greater injustice to hold the Catholics of the present day responsible for it, as the Orangemen are so fond of doing. The responsibility rests rather on the King and Parliament who by unjust and cruel laws goaded these hot heads to desperation, and on the men, Orangemen and so-called ministers of religion of to-day, who upheld such oppression.

It was undeniable that Cecil, the Prime Minister of King James, had a knowledge of the plot ten days before the date fixed for its accomplishment, as he was informed of it by one of the conspirators who betrayed his accomplices, and to suit his own purposes, and to create public alarm, he deferred the public discovery till the critical moment when Parliament was about to assemble, so as to turn public indignation more strongly against the whole Catholic body, who were perfectly innocent in the matter, so that he might have an excuse for introducing into Parliament still more oppressive laws than were already in force; and this he did; and so pleased was he with the success of his plans that King James used afterward to call the 5th of Nov. "Cecil's holiday."

It is here further to be remarked that Lord Montague, a Catholic peer, ten days before the assembling of parliament, received a warning to absent himself, as a terrible blow was impending. The fact that he at once laid the letter thus received before Cecil and the King showed that the Catholic body had no complicity in the conspiracy. On the contrary, the Catholic Lords and Commons were in as much danger as the Protestants, as no one but Lord Montague received such a notice. In fact there is good reason to believe that this notice was sent to Lord Montague from Cecil himself, who wished to implicate him and other Catholics, but the plan did not work, as Lord Montague at once revealed what he knew of the matter. This made it useless to endeavor to implicate others, and no more such letters were sent.

It is generally stated by Protestant historians that the first knowledge of the plot was gained through the letter to Lord Montague. If this version of the history be correct, it was due to the loyalty of a Catholic; that the catastrophe was averted, and very poorly he was compensated for his fidelity, whereas the event was made a pretext for greater severity than ever in the anti-Catholic penal laws.

As we have here treated this matter at some length, it will be necessary to take some notice of the fact that Father Henry Garnett, the Superior of the Jesuits, was among those executed for complicity in the plot. Does not this show that the Catholic Church was implicated in it? We are sometimes asked.

To this we answer that at a time when all priests were subject to the death penalty merely for being in the country, it was not difficult to find a pretext on which to execute Father Garnett. He was in no way an accomplice in the plot, and there was no proof implicating him. The most that was laid to his charge was that Catesby had consulted Father Garnett as to the lawfulness of taking vengeance on the King and Parliament for the iniquitous laws which were in force against Catholics. Father Garnett had disapproved of all plans of vengeance, and had even gone to the trouble of obtaining the theological opinion of the Pope and of the General of the Jesuit order in regard to such plans, which were unhesitatingly condemned both by the Pope and the General.

Father Garnett was not aware of what was intended, though it appears he was made aware under the strict secrecy of the confessional that certain persons were inclined to vengeance, but he had no knowledge that they would attempt to put any such designs into execution. This is evident from his letters, which have been preserved.

On July 24 he wrote to the General of the Jesuits that he had on four different occasions prevented a disturbance, and that he believed he should still be able to hinder any outbreak, unless that (beyond his control) the Catholics of some particular province should rise in insurrection in which they might be joined by those in other provinces, "for," he continued:

"There are not a few who cannot be strained by the bare command of his Holiness. These persons protest that no priest shall henceforth be privy to their designs, and they complain more especially of us (the Jesuits) and even some of our friends join in this complaint, that we oppose an obstacle to their success."

On August 28 he wrote again:

"For anything we can see, Catholics are quiet, and likely to continue their old patience, and to trust to the King and his son to remedy all in time."

This is the last evidence available to show that Father Garnett had any knowledge of any insurrectionary intentions, and even so, the only knowledge he had of the matter was to the effect that such intentions, if they had existed, were no longer entertained.

In any case, it is impossible for him to use knowledge obtained through the confessional only to betray those who consulted him on a matter of conscience.

There are two lessons taught us by the saints of God. The one is that they and we, religious and secular, as our names may be, are bound, by law of our supernatural existence, to love each other's perfection; the other is that we rejoice in each other's works.

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THE CENTENARY OF THE SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART.

Mother Madeleine—Sophie Barat, its Foundress.

The history of the Society of the Sacred Heart is coeval with that of the Nineteenth Century, begun, as it was, on the eve of it. Its development is one of the marvels of an age of rapid growth alike in the spiritual and the material orders.

It has averaged four foundations a year, since now, on the eve of its first centenary, it counts four hundred convents. Thus does it rival the early glories of the Order of St. Benedict, and it has even a wider field than it had at the outset wherein to plant its sturdy saplings.

Convents of the Sacred Heart are spread all over Europe and North and South America.

The Society has crossed "the summer of the world" to plant itself in Australia and New Zealand. It is known in Asia and Africa. But such is the fidelity of the Order to its primitive spirit and customs, that passing from an American convent to an English or Irish one, and thence to Paris, or to Athens, or to Sydney, New South Wales, one finds but a duplicate of the mother home and family ways, set against a new landscape.

The Society of the Sacred Heart is founded primarily for the education of the children of the nobility or the wealthier classes, though the scope of its labors includes schools for the children of the people, and at need, orphan schools, and schools for the deaf-mutes.

Its convents are ordinarily edifices of great architectural beauty, with noble churches attached, recalling the stately ministers with which the daughters of St. Scholastica adorned the face of Europe in by-gone days.

To say nothing of the famous houses in France, the motherland of the Order, we need but call in our own land, the familiar names of Manhattanville, Kenwood, Eden Hall, St. Michael's—to bring before the eyes visions of religious loveliness, and sweet traditions of piety and scholarship.

Like the Jesuits in their influence on boyhood, the Nuns of the Sacred Heart, whose rule is modelled on that of St. Ignatius Loyola, have a wonderful gift for attracting feminine youth, to form it to virtue.

The history of their schools, wherever established, is largely the history of families of honor in the State and in the Church; and the influence going out from them has helped to keep home and social life pure and sweet.

Yet, a hundred years ago, these four hundred convents, this multitude of consecrated virgins, these myriads of pupils of every nation and tongue, this distinction, wealth, and influence that inhere in the very name of the Society as a corporate body, were only in the germ in the brain and heart of the young daughter of a humble vine-dresser of an obscure French village.

Seven years before, for the fruitful sign of those who sowed the wind, the whirlwind broke on France, and the visible Church was all but obliterated from the land. The court of the Fourteenth and the Fifteenth Louis rivalled the iniquities of the courts of Pagan Rome. The nobility were oftentimes forgetful of humanity in their dealing with their fellow-mortals of low estates.

God suffered the outraged people to arise in their wrath against both.

At last, the people in wicked Paris, at least, lost sight of God, or tested Him by their cruel fellow-man.

When at last, the ruin was cleared away, and the Church began her work of reconstruction, God brought down the eyes of the proud by raising up examples and teachers for the nation from among the lowly.

Conspicuous among these was the child of the plain people, Madeleine Sophie Barat, destined to receive the religious obedience of princesses, and to train the daughters at lordly houses in the ways of learning and virtue.

But the daughter of the vine-dresser was lowly only in her origin. As King Cophetua adorned the poor maiden of his choice with his own cloth of gold and jewels for her espousals, so did the King of kings adorn this child of His Heart with the choicest gifts of person, character, and mind.

She was fair to look upon and most delicate and fascinating in all her ways; yet for her feminine daintiness and charm, she joined a man's robust intellect and capacity for prolonged mental application. She had a horror for the slightest untruth; and her humility was real, because founded in justice.

She was trained to domestic duties, like her glorious countrywoman, Joan of Arc, and her strong and brilliant intellect might never have had its meet development were it not that she found a tutor in her elder brother and godfather.

Louis Barat was studying for the priesthood in that troubled last decade of the eighteenth century in France. During his vacations and occasional enforced retirement in his parents' house, he applied himself to the training of his sister's mind, grounding her not only in the usual branches of education, but in the sciences and in Latin and Greek.

As soon as some degree of quietude had descended on Paris, he took her thither, and gave her a still severer training in learning and virtue, so that, when on Nov. 21, 1800, she consecrated herself with her companions to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord, being then not quite twenty-one years of age, she was what would be called even in these days of female colleges, a learned woman.

In less than a year, the building com-

munity were asked to take charge of little boarding school, in Amiens, which had been declining steadily under its previous management. The year also brought the Society two of its most notable early members, Genevieve Deshayes and Henriette Grizard.

The school in Amiens had been in charge of the aunt of the latter. The pupils were diverse ranks in life, though perhaps the "well-born," he would have it, were in the majority.

The school was reconstructed on very advanced plan—for those days—and Madame Sophie Barat was placed in charge of the higher classes. The religious were at that time known as "Ladies of the True Faith" or "Ladies of Christian Instruction," the name and emblems of the Sacred Heart—to which they had made their consecration, being considered edifying, as they were emblems of the Vendéens!

The house was poor and small. The best of it as well as the best of everything else, was given over to pupils, and the nuns endured great hardships in following their vocation.

In 1802 Sophie Barat, then scarcely twenty-three years of age, and youngest member of the community, was chosen Mother Superior by votes of her Sisters. The decision announced to her by the venerable Father Varin, who had been the father of the little Institute, as he was also of that other teaching order, Sisterhood of Notre Dame, founded about the same time.

Scarcely was the gifted daughter the vine-dresser installed as "Mother" than the daughters of the old nobility of France hastened to become her children in the modest convent at Amiens. We find the names of Mlle. du Ternay of the family of the Chevalier Bayard, Mlle. Catherine de Charbonnel, Mlle. Philippe Duchesne, afterwards foundress of the order in America, Euphrosyne Jouve, her niece, and many others.

Meantime, the fame of the Nuns' teachers grew; their services were ardently sought, and new houses were opened. By the year 1806, it was evident that the form of government of society and its rules and constitution must be definitely fixed, and must thus befitting a work with a grand future. This was duly done under the direction of Father Varin. The election of a Mother General resulted, the choice of Madame Barat, by majority of one vote.

Father Varin then withdrew himself from the government of the Institute, and it remains ever since in the hands of a monument of the administrative ability of women, which would surpass any claim reality the wildest claims of certain non-Catholic women who make for practical recognition in line. Think of the general government of four hundred establishments scattered over the world, and representing an educational apostolate among every nationality, rank and condition in the hands of one woman and counselors. Think of the human dominion required for the administration of these vast temporalities greater than those of any ancient Abbess, who also ruler of vast estates. Think of the spiritual wisdom required for maintaining of holy discipline in piety and contentment, among a body of women far more than average in intellect and ability. Think of the mental breadth and flexibility demanded for the chief direction of these schools and pious confraternities.

Yet, the vast system moves with a jar; the ranks depleted by death are filled promptly, and the society, large as it is, borders without effort, all this wonderful work was built by a daughter of the people, who little more than a girl when a full of authority scarcely ever before conceded to a woman, was put into slender hands.

She exercised her office for fifty years, or until her death, in 1865. She was spared, therefore, to work all her ideas, to perfect all her plans, and see the world-wide spread of the Society.

What was the secret of her marvellous success? It may be found in watch words—"Courage and endurance." It may be found further in her self-effacement. When she was the Blessed Mother of the Magnificat, she would say: "that is mighty hath done great things in me."

She loved her own low estate, was happy when anyone remembered the cottage at Joligny, and the humble line from which she had stepped. Space falls us to speak of the sweet and magnificence of her virtues, and were based on His Who had said: "When I am lifted up, I shall call all hearts to Myself."

Her paucity will be present from many altars on the centenary of her Society. The Church has to set its seal upon the heroism of her virtues, and she has already the honor of venerable. May her Beatification come as an early glory in the centenary of her Order.—K. E. Boston Pilot.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

November 21.

The Presentation of our Blessed Virgin is a mystery full of beauty, yet a which can hardly be called its own. It is a lovely sight in truth to see, is the miraculous maiden of three old, mounting the temple steps of the gravity and dignity of age, offering herself to the House of the full use of the most comprehensive and majestic intelligence which the world had ever known at that early age.—Father Faber.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS. THE STORY OF LITTLE BLANCHE

A Breton Tale. H. Horn, S. J., in American Messenger of the Sacred Heart for November. THE ATHEIST AND LITTLE BLANCHE.

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

Next night she was more feeble than ever, but she began again, "Papa, do you think God will make me better?" He paused for a second, then said, "I think He ought to do so." She waited a minute, then said, "Papa, if I die do you think I shall go to Heaven?" "Yes," he replied almost involuntarily. "I am sure you will." "I shall so want to see you come, Pa," she said, and sank back exhausted. That same night he sat beside her, and for the first time he saw that speech was beyond her. He sat down at the bedside and took her little white hand in his. The diamond pines of the window were shadowed by the moon into the corner of the room. The patch of light moved slowly across the wall and lit up in its passage the pale, lifeless face of the little one on the bed. Then it moved along and had reached the other corner, but the father still sat with his face turned to the window. Was he asleep? Did he not know that the hand he clasped in his was dead? Yes, he knew it, indeed. He had felt the pulse stop. He felt the hand growing cold, but he dared not look; he dared not stir. His little Blanche was dead. What was he thinking of as he sat with his brow set and his body motionless? Had grief robbed him of sense? Was he unconscious and dreaming of happiness now passed? No, he was quite conscious. He had expected the little life that was all the world to him to go that night. It had gone, and now he was realizing his loss. He was running over in his mind all her words, all her habits, all, in fact, that he knew of her. He was talking again to her in the library. He was listening to her prattle. She was asking him again to bless her. Then he remembered that there must be a funeral. Where? At the church? Should he not take her up in his arms, and go and bury her in his own woods, where he might go daily and mourn over her grave? Should she be buried in the churchyard, the place of all places that he never passed through? No, that could not be. Then there rushed upon him a flood of old memories. How years before, he had stood beside a little sister's grave, while the priest had blessed it, and there had been white flowers put upon the sod, and all had said that she had gone straight to Heaven. Yes, he would like people to say that of his little Blanche—and a stronger reason still—Blanche herself would have liked it. Yes, she must be buried in the churchyard. She must be looked on with kindly eyes by the country people. What ever he was, his little girl should not be thought an outcast and a sinner. So he wandered on in thought, ever sitting quite still, until the rays of morning began to glimmer and the moonlight began to fade. Then he rose heavily, took one long look at the little form on the bed, kissed the cold brow, and with teeth clenched to stop the rising sobs, walked out of the room.

The news of Blanche's death soon became known in all the country round. It was a great subject of talk for all the villagers that the atheist's daughter was dead and was going to be buried in the churchyard. Children had endless questions to ask their mothers about the bad man's daughter. "Was she a terrible little hunchback?" "Had the devil come and carried her straight off to hell?" "Had the atheist murdered her, perhaps?" Some good old Breton mothers, quite as ignorant as their children, were not at all sure that something of the kind had not happened. Others took a middle course and told the inquirers that the little dead girl had had such a bad bringing up that she could not be bad, but that a great part of it was not her fault. While others again of the more enlightened sort said that they had no doubt that the little thing had gone straight to Heaven, as she had been too young to do any harm. This view was backed up by some of the little peasant lads, who said that they had caught sight of the atheist's daughter plucking flowers one day, and that she had looked "quite good and just like other little girls." So with these stout supporters, and the favorable opinions of many of the better folk of the neighborhood to boot, little Blanche became quite well known and pitied by all the country side. That she had been quite good was soon generally admitted. In fact, she had died because God did not want her to become an atheist like her father. Only one thing was still considered quite probable—that her father had killed her, and they thought that the gendarmes ought to be sent to investigate the matter.

So when the day of the funeral came, all the little folk of the country were a-stray, and were waiting at a safe distance from the dark woods of the chateau to meet the little funeral cortege. They had heard from M. le Curé that the atheist was not to be there (as they had expected he would not for their own reasons) so they all followed close upon the single hearse, accompanied as it otherwise was, only by one or two grim-looking hired servants. So Blanche, closed up in her narrow box, was surrounded by the first time by a crowd of sympathetic little friends, who little knew how she

had often thought about them, and longed to join them, when she saw them playing in the distance. They were all very reverential as they formed into their self-arranged procession. Many of them clasped their small hands—that being the way most familiar to them of showing that they were engaged in a religious ceremony. There was a tiny little grave under a chestnut tree in the cemetery at the church door, and into this the body of the atheist's daughter was lowered, amid the groups of children, and the prayers were said, and so many blessings repeated over Blanche's head that her little soul must have been well satisfied. Then they threw sods on and the mourners moved off, and as they walked away the chattering recommenced, and they trooped into school to wonder over the paradox of an atheist having a daughter in Heaven.

The library now in the evening was much the same as before. The old journalist sat on his chair, and his manuscript lay on the big table. He did not get up to light his lamp when dusk set in, but sat on in the firelight. Then came his moments of sorrow and loneliness. "I might as well die now," muttered the old man to himself, "it's hard to live on with no one to care for you. It's a hard thing to think that all human solace is gone for me. Shall I get married again? Married! No! He burst out passionately "It is not any hand that can soothe me. It is a tiny hand I want. That is what I shall never get again. Never feel that little arm around my neck. Never hear that little step again. Why could not that one little life have been left to me? Why of all the little ones that might have been taken was this, my little one chosen—the one that could so ill be spared—that made my life was happy—that made me feel that I was not alone. Oh! for that little hand once more." Then he walked to the window and with a choking sensation in his throat, tapped on the frame, and muttered "God bless my little Blanche."

So night after night as the dusk came on, the old atheist might have been seen standing at his library window, muttering "God bless my little Blanche," and doubtless the nightly blessing as it rose up to the soul that needed it not, fell back on the head of the father who uttered it.

It was six months after the events I have been relating, that I came once again to the country of my childhood. I got out at the station and walked along the old rough road which led past the graveyard. There were some children playing at the gate. I passed among them, to look over the wall at the spot beneath the tree where I knew my little friend of the Chateau Noir was buried. What was my surprise when I saw beside the tomb a grey-haired man, bare-headed and evidently praying. The tears came into my eyes as it flashed across my mind that this must be the atheist, brought to a sense of a holier faith by his little dead daughter. I approached cautiously. His eyes were closed and he did not observe me. He had put his head upon the white tombstone, and was leaning his sorrow-stricken brow against it.

I crept quietly up and looked at the stone. It was a plain white marble slab, with no date or circumstances inscribed upon it, but only the words "God bless my little Blanche." My heart felt quite full as I crept quietly back to the gate. The little group of players were looking at me with wonder, as much as to say, "Don't you know the story." I knew most of it, and I guessed the rest, but I had to hear it all over again from the ready little gossips. "It's M. L'atheé," they burst out as I came quietly up to the gate, "he's praying for his little Blanche." "No, he isn't," interrupted some more advanced theologians; "he's praying to her; she does not need praying for." "He's so good now, as M. L'atheé." "His little Blanche, as soon as she got to Heaven, set to work praying for him, and he has been made quite a good man." "We're not a bit afraid of him, now," cried another with an air of pride. "I should think not," they all chimed in. "He's patted me on the head," said one. "I make him bunches of flowers, and he gives me sixpences for them," said another. In fact, it was evident that the atheist was a general favorite among the juvenile group.

The old atheist had been quite converted by the death of his little daughter. He had been found one morning praying at the grave of his little girl as I had found him, and the news had spread like wild fire through the country. There had been quite a gathering at times round the gate, watching the head bent in prayer. But the length of his prayers: generally tired even these curious watchers out, and he was in solitude as he walked back in the evening to the Chateau Noir. Then a new face had appeared in the village church, and for one Sunday at least, the congregation had been perfectly oblivious of everything else, save the presence of the converted atheist in the sacred building. Gradually the interdiction was raised from the Chateau Noir, and the woods became no longer the haunt of demons. There were soon short cuts taken through them, and old disused paths were reopened.

The connections of M. de Chauney in Paris had heard rumors that the celebrated journalist was converted, but they were incredulous. At last two young men arrived one at the Chateau Noir to see their quondam friend. His manner was cordial and affectionate, but the marks of patient suffering which he bore on his face, kept them from the question which they had come to ask. At last the con-

versation took the appropriate turn, and the old atheist owned to his change of views. After dinner they grew bold and rallied him on his sudden change of opinion. He only smiled, then suddenly looking through the window said "Do you see those children wandering through my wood. A year ago they would have been terrified at the idea of coming so near to the Chateau Noir." Another attack only produced the remark "Don't these fresh wild flowers give quite a scent to the room." When they were bidding him adieu they said with a touch of irony: "Adieu M. de Chauney, we will tell your friends that you have quite changed, and have become a great lover of nature and of little children." "Ah! it is true," replied the converted atheist. "It seems to me that I scarcely had human sympathies before, but I have now."

Another year elapsed before I again visited this part of the country. I stepped up to the churchyard, as before, and looked over the wall, half expecting to see the old man at his prayers. But the grave was deserted. I walked up, and on the stone I saw that a change had been made. Underneath the words "God bless my little Blanche," "God bless and pardon her Father" had been carved. My little group of friends were not at the gate this time, but I met some of them further down the road, and learnt the details of the atheist's death. He had been found one autumn morning lying stiff and lifeless on the tomb of his little girl. He had evidently been there all night, for the snow and leaves had drifted up and formed a shroud round about him.

For some time he had been growing feeble, and probably the cold of the evening had caused a fainting fit from which he had been unable to recover. So the two bodies were laid in one grave, and the two souls were doubtless united in heaven.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

Railroad Men Always at School.

On the railroad men go to school all their lives. They never get too old to go. Whenever there comes into use any innovation that requires technical knowledge, such as the air brake, or whenever there is a change in any of the commonly used codes, such as the hand signals used by trainmen the men are divided into squads and sent to division headquarters for special instruction. These places are known among railroad men as "schools." The methods employed combine those in use in the kindergarten, the primary department and the High school.

Perhaps the most interesting railroad school is the one sent out by the Westinghouse company to confer upon railroad men the final degree in the process of learning the air brake. This school is on wheels, and in the three years that it has been in service has travelled twice the distance of the circumference of the world, and granted certificates to nearly 218,000 railroad men. The instruction car is packed full of every kind of appliance and fitting and model that will be found in any train of thirty cars. The car is in charge of competent lecturers, and every railroad employee who has anything to do with the actual handling of engines or cars is required to attend. Engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen, galvanizers and hostlers all have their separate classes, and the conditions in the car are as nearly as possible like those they meet every day. Here in the car, however, the different parts are so arranged that they can be taken apart and viewed in section, and used to illustrate the lecture.

The men who conduct these lectures speak the vernacular of the railroad, and their talk is not always a model of good grammar and rhetoric; but what they say is practical and easily understood. Moreover, the men feel that the lecturer has actually sat in an engine and gone down a long grade with a heavy train, or that he has crawled around on the ground to fit hose. After the lecture is over the class passes into another car and is examined. There is something strangely familiar about the way these big-bearded fellows hitch their shoulders and wriggle when they are called upon to recite. This school, by the way, has engagements that will require three years to fill. There is now on its way to this country a band of German mechanics who are coming over to learn the air brake, and it is probable that they will take their degrees here.

In an item headed "Murphy's Lantern" the Lexington (Ky.) Leader tells how Superintendent W. J. Murphy of the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific examines his trainmen on their proficiency in the train rules. He uses a stereopticon to show pictures of life-size signals of all kinds—semaphores and other fixed signals, trains with markets, classification signals, and in fact almost anything else that the men will ever be called upon to translate. Various men have various methods, although it is doubtful if many superintendents go to the length of helping the men out with lantern slides. When it comes to examining the men in hand signals the superintendent usually calls in a subordinate and says: "Here, Jim, take these men out to school." Then Jim takes them out in the yard, gives them a train to break up in a dozen different switches, and soon has them waving themselves wild. Their engineer is extremely literal; he keeps his eyes glued on them, taking nothing for granted. The men get no help or sympathy from Jim, and altogether the test is apt to be more severe than

anything they will ever run up against in actual service.

Almost all of the operators of the block signal service, which has come into use on most of the big roads, are youngsters and wherever one of them happens to be stationed he manages to attract a considerable body of youthful admirers. A bright boy in a tower will pick up telegraphy in a short time, and it is from these that the ranks of the tower operators are kept filled. As a matter of fact, almost all of the operators in the country to-day have picked up telegraphy themselves. Before the boy gets a chance, however, he has to go to school at division headquarters, where the chief of the service examines him in telegraphy on the electric bell code, and tries to "stick" him with original problems.

Patient Effort.

There seems to be increasing difficulty in getting young men to engage in hard study and the patient effort which is necessary to the conquest of any real branch of learning. It is easy to point out to them the remarkable success obtained by unlettered youths who through patient study made names for themselves in literature, art or the sciences; but boys of the present generation are imbued with the ideas that are expressed in special machinery. They want to do things in the shortest possible period of time and with the least possible expenditure of effort. They argue with some reason, but not enough to be convincing, that the development of the arts and sciences has been so great that there is no longer any necessity to study first principles. Photography takes the place of skill in drawing; machine tools replace tedious hand labor. Why, then, should any one give long years of apprenticeship to arts and industries that have been revolutionized by modern inventions? But there is a weak point in their argument. There is still, and always will be, a great demand for the artist who can draw accurately and, and for the mechanic who can fashion things by hand. The optical, chemical and mechanical appliances that have come into use in recent years to simplify and cheapen production have stimulated consumption, and there is as great demand as ever for the man who can, so to say, create, who is independent of machines and processes. The artist who is dependent upon photographs is a mere "hewer of wood and drawer of water," compared with the artist who designs and draws; the machinist who is dependent upon the lathe or milling machine is helpless by comparison with the bench hand.

In the domain of literature and science the same thing is true. One may obtain place to day in the ranks of literature and science without that broad knowledge to be obtained only by patient effort, but it is an inferior place and bears no comparison with the honors and emoluments to be won by those who have by patient study and the use of native powers obtained mastery in their special field of learning.

There is as much need as ever of patient effort by those who would rise to the head of their profession or calling. If they are contented with an inferior place they may get along in the worldly sense by some lucky speculation or fortunate move, but they will not command success, nor even often attain it.

The men who succeed are in general the men who are patiently studious, the men who ground themselves thoroughly for some special calling and devote all their efforts not so much to gaining rewards as to deserving them. The man whose motive for effort lies in the price to be won, seldom has the patience to prepare to win it; the man whose motive it is to do good work, to accomplish for the present the best of which he is capable, is the man who builds up character and reputation alike and sooner or later reaches the goal of his ambition. The world has reached a feverish and impatient age, an age of daring speculation, but it has not yet reached an age when it can do without the men who know, the men who have by patient effort mastered the art of the science they have chosen for their special study. Patient effort is still the surest means of success in life.

DISCOURAGEMENT.

One of the most active, persistent and successful agents of Lucifer is the Devil of Discouragement.

To every one who is doing good in a place intended for him by Divine Providence the Devil of Discouragement comes and whispers over and over again: "You are lost here and you are wasting time. How much better off you would be if you were over there! You could do so much more there. Besides, you're not appreciated where you are. If you were gone, you'd have no such vexations and those who now set little value on your services would learn to prize you at your true worth. No wonder you lose heart here!"

This poison of discouragement the evil spirit endeavors to inject into those whom he hopes to make his victims, and day after day he says the same thing, taking advantage of every little annoyance, every supposed slight, every short-coming of neighbors, every partial failure, every report of triumphs wrought by others.

If the tempted give up the work appointed them, desert the place assigned to them, and set out on a career for which they have no divine calling, they are undone; for, unforeseen difficulties will arise, which will be used by the Devil of Discouragement to instill further dissatisfaction and more hopelessness, until his thralls abandon

effort and yield themselves a prey to bitterness, mutinous against God, despair and impotence.

So, the question is not—Could we do more good, or be more happy, or acquire more virtue, as something else besides what Heaven made us or in some other place, or at some other employment than what have been allotted to us? No, the question is: Are we where our vocation wants us to be? If so, let us make the best of it and the most of ourselves, right there, whether it be conspicuous or obscure, laborious or leisurely, for there is where we are needed, there is where we can achieve the most good, there is where we can most surely speak of victories.

Let us send the Devil of Discouragement back to his master in hell, discouraged.—Catholic Columbian Columbus.

A PRIEST'S EDUCATION.

He Should Be Learned in an Academic Sense—Science as Well as Sanctity Needed.

In a circular letter to his clergy, Monsignor Mignot, Archbishop of Albi, lays down what the priest of the hour should know. This prelate is an authority on the subject of which he treats, for he is considered to be the most learned one in France, says an exchange. He is looked upon, moreover, as the one the most in the van of modern thought. According to him, the priest of the hour should be as deeply versed in classical knowledge as were his elders in previous generations of the priesthood. Besides Latin, he should have at least a good knowledge of Greek. He should be learned in the academic sense. From this it will be seen that Monsignor Mignot concedes to modern exigencies no iota of the traditional character of a priest's education. According to him the modern priest must be what the best before him have been in the matter of learning. But he must be something besides. After poring over Greek and Latin he must bring his mind on a level with the discoveries of the age. He must be versed in natural as in sacred science. By a few splendid strokes of the pen the Archbishop of Albi traces the progress of modern science. He shows how the heavens and the earth have in times revealed their secrets, upsetting the old order of things. In presence of this he places the priest of the hour and with the latest scientific discoveries as point of fact. "The priest nowadays," he says, "should be the most cultured man of his parish, because he is the defender of religion. He should know the ground of attack as well as that of defence. To objections unknown to our forefathers he should have ready answers. In reality, the Church instead of being the enemy of science has been its savior."

If the progress of physical science under the Church's sway was comparatively slow, Monsignor Mignot gives the reason. He shows that the Church's first object was to produce saints and learned men in the supernatural order. "But if," he says, "she did not discover the secret of the earth's motion or raise a monument in honor of physical science, she raised one incomparably more important in honor of revelation." He shows how modern scientists are indebted, as no words can tell, to the courageous efforts and silent labor of men working during long ages under the Church's shadow and often in his religious garb. Our Roger Bacon is cited as an instance, and Isaac Newton is made to say by the pen of the Archbishop of Albi that without the Abbe Picard's labors he would not have been in a position to verify the exactness of his discoveries. Admitting that modern science and the Church now work on separate lines, the Archbishop attributes this in a measure to the suppression of priests under the revolution. He shows the Church from her ruins and falling priests worthy of their sacred mission. But the time has come for something besides, he thinks. According to him the modern priest must be a man of science as well as of learning and of sanctity. "If our generation has more than ever need of holy priests, she has also need of learned ones." This remarkable address has been considerably echoed in the French press. It is likely to be a point of departure for changes in the ecclesiastical training of priests.

FILIPPINO PIETY AT CLOSE VIEW.

Mr. M. J. Dowling, a correspondent of the Minneapolis Journal, writes to that paper from Cebu in the Philippines:

"As in other towns, there are fine churches and public buildings. One of the most powerful Bishops of the Archipelago lives here in a fine palace. I saw him go down the street one day holding out his right hand, which the natives crowded around to kiss. They ran eagerly from all directions upon being told that the Bishop was passing, and fairly trampled each other under foot in an effort to touch the hem of his garment or kiss his hand."

"There is a large cathedral here, a fine convent, a good seminary, a leper hospital and the most beautiful cemetery in the island. Easter Sunday in Cebu was an occasion for great festivities. One feature was a religious procession consisting of floats drawn by natives; upon these floats were arranged the most beautiful and comely of the natives to represent Christ, the apostles, the Blessed Virgin, etc., each float representing one event in the life of Christ from His birth to His crucifixion. As the procession moved slowly through the crowded streets, natives by the thousands literally buried their faces in the dust before it. A

good band furnished the music and children's voices formed numerous choirs. It was the Oberammergau Passion Play in miniature. These festivities taught me to believe that these natives are very devoted Church people, at least they pay most particular attention to the observance of holy days and the rituals of the Church."

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