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AN EXCELLENT MOVEMENT.

In the present issue we publish two articles, one of which is illustrative of the information contained in the other.

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GOLDWIN SMITH ANSWERED

A Catholic in the New York Sun Brings Him to task for Needless Assertions.

The following appears in the New York Sun:-The famous dictum of the Count de Maistre "History and especially church history, for the last three centuries has been a grand conspiracy against the truth," seems to find a new application in the case of Mr. Goldwin Smith, who ventures to give a "summary" of the "Progress of Religious Thought," during the last century in the columns of your paper for April 11.

I do not propose to go over the entire field covered by so distinguished a servant. That were a needless and fruitless task, as he does not attempt to substantiate any of his statements. We are supposed to take the will for the deed in any matter treated by an eminent authority. My task in the present paper is to call the attention of your readers to one or two of the many needless assertions made in the course of his article, and, in a dispassionate way, to state a few facts as we find them in history.

The first assertion is as follows:-"The Church of Rome, to meet the storm of the Reformation, reorganized herself at the Council of Trent on lines practically traced for her by the Jesuits. A comparison of Suarez with Aquinas shows the change which took place in spirit as plainly as a comparison of the Jesuit's meretricious fane with the Gothic churches shows the change at religious taste."

Now, Mr. Editor, I presume Mr. Smith knows something about the history of that famous council, even if his knowledge has been derived from the infamous apostate, Sarpi. The question is merely a matter of dates. (The first session of the Council of Trent was held on December 13, 1545.)

The Reformation. Lastly, let him peruse the brief appendix to the work of Rev. Alfred Young, C.S.P., "Protestant and Catholic countries compared, for a list of American converts. It would be very amusing to your readers if Mr. Smith were to give them a psychological study of the conversion of the French literature, Brunetiere. Now, Mr. Editor, in all earnestness, I never remember to have read anything which approximates so nearly to omniscience on the part of its author as the second part of the above assertion, or retained a part of them not so much from conviction, still less from speculative conviction, as because its alliance is congenial to political and social reaction." The author of "The Imitation of Christ" says:-"Man sees the action, God judges the intention." If he had only known Goldwin Smith, methinks he would change the second part of this statement and say: "Professor Smith judges the intention." But he was a medievalist.

Again, I find this very broad assertion, which seems to meet with Mr. Smith's favor; "The four Gospels and the Acts, which comprise the historic evidence, are all anonymous, all of uncertain authorship. . . . In not one of the five cases can the existence of the book be traced to the time of the events or to a time so near the events as to preclude the growth of fable in a highly superstitious and totally unscientific age."

This sounds big, and to the shallow-minded is more convincing than if it were an infallible utterance of the greatest of Popes. But what has the great leader of the Nationalists to say on the question? Here are the conclusions arrived at by Dr. Harnack, whose authority has more weight than ten men of the calibre of Professor Smith. I quote verbally from the "Dublin Review" for January, 1899:-"The table represents Harnack's views, and I record the items without comment."

REVIEWS. The Observations of Henry, by Jerome K. Jerome. This collection of short studies will provide several hours of diverting light reading. Henry's writer with Mr. Jerome's well-known free observation. It is in a good and a pleasing style. Toronto, The Copp Clark Company.

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OBITUARY. MRS. THOMAS WALSH. It is with feelings of deep regret that we announce the death of Mrs. Thomas Walsh, nee Ann Kerwin, who passed away at Grafton, Haldimand Township, on April 10th.

BENZIGER'S MAGAZINE. With the March number Benziger's Magazine was greatly enlarged; the April issue was a fine one and the May number improves still more on these preceding months.

A TIMELY BOOK. From the press of William H. Young, New York, in blue cloth binding with gold letters, comes a pretty book for the month of October upon which Catholics are now entering.

BALTIMORE CATECHISM. Messrs. Benziger Bros., New York, have issued Klauder's revised edition of the Baltimore Catechism, complete in three numbers, the first for small children, and the second and third for larger children and adults.

A PRETTY BOOK. A dainty volume for a gift - a charming book for all the year round - is Milly Aveling, the latest and certainly the best work ever written by the late Sarah Trimmer Smith.

CURRENT MAGAZINES. Two notable articles appear in the Catholic World for May. Dr. William Seton writes on the Higher Education of Women and Pusterity, and Thomas Scanlon on Workingmen and Life Insurance.

MR. EDWARD HORAN. Almost, April 27 - Mr. Edward Horan, one of the oldest, if not the oldest resident of the town, died yesterday, after a brief illness, aged 93 years.

DONALD GILLIES. On the 8th inst. Mr. Donald Gillies, of Marden, passed away. Mr. Gillies was born on the present Gillies homestead, west of Marden, about sixty years ago, and lived all his life on that farm and the adjoining farm subsequently purchased by them, so that he was widely known.

MRS. ELIZABETH FINN. The death occurred on Monday at the residence of her mother, 27 Denison avenue, Toronto, of Mrs. Elizabeth Finn, widow of the late James Finn. Deceased had been ailing for nine past years. She is survived by her mother, three sisters and two brothers.

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Spring Weddings One cannot live through May without being reminded of weddings; weddings of course suggest Furniture, and Furniture as naturally calls to mind the name of this establishment. We've been in business a great many years now, but never before have we had on view so complete and extensive an assortment of everything in our line necessary to the comfort and convenience of those about to set up housekeeping.

BLAKE'S LIST OF NEW Catholic Books "The Dharma of Gotama, the Buddha and the Gospel of Jesus Christ" (being a critical inquiry into the alleged relations of Buddhism with primitive Christianity.) by the REV. C. F. AIKEN, S. T. D. Catholic University of Washington.

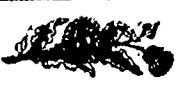
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AN IDYLL OF THE SEA



The light lay luminous and calm on a wide gray sea; a little girl in a shabby serge gown, with eyes filled with some of the wonder and glory thereof, sat stitching—most incongruous of occupations—at the pier head, while the waters dapped and gurgled in eddying currents at its base.

ly, "What—who—to whom I am indebted?" "My name, do you mean? Forrester—Captain William Forrester, R. N."

be busy. I hadn't expect you there." The girl tripped away, brightly and unfeigningly glad at the new development in her existence. The captain for once did not follow her with his eyes, but, standing at the edge of the pier, he dropped the white roses into the water, reverently as a coffin is dropped in mid-ocean, then watched them float outward on the swelling bosom of the tide till they faded into a tiny speck in the gathering mist.

sufficient income. I withdraw my words; I am a dishonorable villain, designing and cunning. Let me go, Mary, before I lose my last remnant of self-respect."

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