

The Catholic Journal.

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BISHOP MCGOLRICK.

His Position on State and Parental Schools.

CONCLUDED.
* * Is the Sunday-school sufficient, with home training, to meet the wants of the child? To this Catholics answer decidedly "No." To devote an hour of a Sunday to a crowd of distracted children in some stuffy room, and with all the other drawbacks known to Sunday-school teachers, is not calculated to impress the children with a lofty idea of the magnitude of the work; neither can they thereby appreciate the wonderful works of our Lord and Master. "What doth it avail a man to gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his own soul?" * * * The most powerful of all means for the influencing of life is the school; there the character is formed; there the disposition to good is fostered; there the tendency to evil is checked—and all this with consequences not only for the brief space of our mortal life, but for an eternity. Is it any wonder, therefore, why parents are so anxious about the system of educating their children, and should not such conscientious anxiety be respected?

You ask in the second place: "Have American citizens of the Catholic faith the right to exercise their independent judgment, and to send their children to the public school when they are satisfied that it is in the best interests of their children?"

To this I answer, certainly; they can do so when they are satisfied it is for the best interests of their children. But "interest" is a doubtful term. There are worldly interests, and "interests" of an eternal importance. With the explanation given above, as faithful children of the Catholic church, they would not sacrifice the eternal interest of their children for any worldly interest, and so would not endanger willingly the faith of those so dear to them.

In the third place you ask: "Is it the position of the priests of the Catholic church that American citizens of the Catholic faith sending their children to the public schools, without permission of the priests, commit sin and forfeit the right to the sacraments of the church?"

Answer: "The lips of the priest shall keep knowledge and they shall seek the law at his mouth." "The priest is the guardian of the sacraments, and if there be for his flock any proximate danger of sin, they are bound to warn them and prevent, if possible, the danger. But it must be remembered that the priest is a member of a living church and that he cannot, according to his whims and fancies, make laws; his business is to act according to the laws made by the church, and interpret and condemn as she interprets and condemns.

From all this you can readily understand that while we rejoice at the spread of education, Catholics maintain that an additional element is wanting to complete the great work of forming good and true citizens, and this must somehow be supplied.

It seems that the stronger the war now being waged against religion in France the more the Christian Brothers multiply. At a recent meeting, the president of which was the Archbishop of Paris, the Duc de Broglie showed that in 1884 the novitiate of the Christian Brothers contained but 366 pupils, whereas in 1889 the number was 675. In 1888 the collections made in favor of the institution of the Christian Brothers amounted to 530,000 francs. Last year they went up to 800,000.

AROUND THE GLOBE.

What the Church is Doing in this and Other Continents.

The Dominicans will have entire charge of the theological faculty in the new University of Fribourg, Switzerland.

It is stated as an ascertained fact that there are 600,000 pupils in Catholic parochial schools, and 150,000 in schools supported by the Lutherans.

The Most Rev. Archbishop Elder has raised to the sacred dignity of the priesthood the following Franciscan Fathers: Revs. Anthony Heithoff, Sylvester Froesch, Jacob Archinger, Bernard Wetzler and Anselm Webber.

Father Pamphile de Veuster, the brother of Father Damien, is to preside at the annual Catholic Reunion in the City Hall, Birmingham, England, on January 20. His address will be upon the condition of the lepers of Molokai.

The venerable Father Felix, Redemptorist Order, who has been for a number of years at the pastoral residence of the St. Philomena church, on Liberty street, Pittsburg, Pa., has been removed to the monastery of St. Patrick's congregation, Toronto, Canada.

The Catholics of the centre party in the German Reichsrath have formed a separate party organization, with a programme demanding liberty for the Church, denominational schools, and direct representation in Parliament of the rural population.

The new Catholic church at Warsaw was dedicated Wednesday morning. The visiting priests were Revs. M. H. Leddy, Wellsville; J. McGraw, Portageville; Wilbur, Attica; J. Sullivan, Perry; T. Mildea, Pavilion; Griffin, of Cuba; C. O'Brien, G. M. Lee, and Father Dunn, Buffalo.

The Pope has issued an encyclical which sets forth the principles which shall guide Catholics in their relations toward the state, which, the encyclical says, they must obey when such a course does not entail disobedience to divine laws. In countries where the state opposes Catholicism Catholics must combat the enemy, but must not tie the church to any political party.

The very important and responsible post of rector in the Pontifical Urban College in Rome has been filled by the appointment of Very Rev. Philip Camassè, late spiritual director of the Pious Seminary, and, until the beginning of this year, Deputy of Matrimonies in the Roman Curia. The new rector is about thirty-six years old, and is of a good old Roman family.

Some months ago a large quantity of warm clothing, dresses, books, toys, etc., was sent to the lepers at Molokai by the Sisters of the Academy of the Sacred Heart, in West Seventeenth street, New York city. The Sisters have received a grateful acknowledgment of the present. A number of charitable persons contributed to the quantity sent.

This almost sudden death of Sister Catherine Shannon occurred on Monday, Dec. 23, at the convent of the Sacred Heart in London, Ont. Sister Shannon belonged to an exceptionally good Catholic family. Of seven sisters in the family five have made the solemn vows and taken the religious habit. She leaves two after her in the Sacred Heart, London, Eng. One is a Loretto nun in the Abbey at Toronto and one had the happiness of dying a Sister of St. Joseph at Mount Hope in London, Ontario, about nine years ago. The funeral of Sister Catherine took place on Tuesday, December 26. A requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Bouquet, Rev. Father Flannery acting as deacon and Father Molphy sub-deacon.

NOBLE SELF-SACRIFICE.

Miss Kate Drexel's Experience as a Sister of Mercy.

As night dropped her mantle of black over the last few hours of 1889 an ambulance dashed through the main streets of Pittsburg and drew up at the gates of Mercy Hospital. The doors of the large stone building were thrown open as an electric bell sounded its warning note, and a corps of attendants hastened to lift out the stretcher and bear its almost insensible burden up the steps and into one of the many wards. The man who lay groaning upon the canvas was a victim of a natural gas explosion. * *

They left the patient groaning in his agony, a horrible sight in his hideous mask, but they did not leave him alone. Standing at the foot of the bed, her head bowed, was a woman who had quietly entered the apartment as the physicians had left. She was dressed in the garb of the Order of Mercy. As the door closed she walked quietly around to the side of the bed and, having examined the medicines, she turned to the patient. His chest was heaving with each heart-rending groan, for the powerful sedatives administered had not yet overcome the tortures of fire. The woman at the bedside looked with pitying glances at the man who moaned in agony. Her refined face was inexpressibly sad, and her eyelashes sparkled with tears of sorrow. She could not soothe the sufferer with even a hand clasp, so bandaged was he. She could only watch and pray, and with her fair hands clasped on the counterpane Sister Catherine sunk upon her knees and called upon God in his mercy to relieve this poor victim of his agony. As her prayers were finished the man's breathing became more regular, and as Sister Catherine rose to her feet she saw that a deep stupor had mercifully been granted the patient.

Then seating herself in a low chair in this ill-smelling room, with a man more dead than alive beside her, Sister Catherine, or, as the world knew her only a few weeks ago, Miss Kate Drexel, the heiress of one of Philadelphia's richest bankers, took a prayer-book from her pocket, and, by the dim light of an oil lamp, spent the weary hours reading the Word that guides her in her strict line of duty. When, late in the night, she was relieved it was not to seek rest, but to go to the Webster Avenue Convent, where the Sisters had met in prayer as the old year passed away and the new year was born. Then at last the welcome bed was reached, and as the hours of the new year grew this new sister of the Order of Mercy laid herself upon an humble couch.

Outside in the city all the world was making merry. In Philadelphia, her former home, hundreds of her old friends were seeing the old year out and the new year in. Had Miss Drexel wished she could have danced with the handsomest man in the East as the clock announced the close of another year. In a warm room decorated with the choicest flowers, fragrant with their perfume, brilliant with illumination and the dresses of the occupants, Miss Drexel, the beautiful girl, whose signature to a check for \$2,000,000 would make it sterling, might have waltzed to the most enchanting music. But duty, as she saw it, called her elsewhere. Possibly through her mind flitted a panorama of other scenes, mingled with the picture of suffering she had witnessed at Mercy Hospital. — N. Y. World.

There are nineteen Catholic ladies teaching public schools in the city of Hartford, Conn.

FATHER DAMEN, S. J.

Brief Sketch of the Life and Labors of the Famous Jesuit Missionary.

Rev. Arnold Damen, S. J., died at Creighton College, Omaha, on January 1st. The following brief sketch is taken from a peculiarly affecting tribute to the dead Jesuit missionary, by Wm. J. Onahan, in the *Catholic Home*:
Father Damen was born in the province of North Brabant, Holland, March 20th, 1815. He was admitted to the society of Jesus Nov. 21, 1837, and was one of the band of devoted young novices brought over to this country by Father De Smet, the renowned Indian-missionary.

Father Damen commenced his career in the United States fifty years ago at Florissant, near St. Louis. There he was buried in accordance with his own request. A committee from the parishes Holy Name and Sacred Heart, Chicago, attended the funeral to show respect to the memory of him who spent the best years of his life in their service. Father Damen was pastor of St. Francis Xavier's church, St. Louis, where he gained a high reputation as an orator.

The Jesuits were invited to Chicago by Bishop O'Regan in 1857, and Father Damen was appointed to the duty of beginning the work in this new and promising field of missionary labor.

Free choice was given as to location, including even the offer of the then cathedral parish on the North Side, but after surveying the entire field, Father Damen decided to cast his lot among the poor and lowly, and he accordingly made choice of the location where now stands the majestic church of the Holy Family and St. Ignatius College, (West Twelfth St.) then far out on the prairie.

A small frame church was first built near the corner of May and Eleventh streets, and a dwelling for the fathers. There in the fall of 1857 the great work was commenced, the prairie pre-empted for God and religion.

A volume would be required to recount in even the briefest part the story of that foundation, of its trials, its vicissitudes, and its final crowning success.

By his own efforts he raised money to build the grand church of the Holy Family, and St. Stanislaus church, St. Ignatius College, the Holy Family school house, and aided the ladies of the Sacred Heart in the establishment of their academy on West Taylor street and placed the parochial school for girls built by him under their charge. This building accommodates 900 girls. St. Aloysius school was next added to the number of buildings erected by him and placed under the charge of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and was the first mission of that now widespread community. In 1873 the Sacred Heart church on 19th street was built as a mission church to Holy Family church. It is now an independent congregation, influential and large. In 1875 he organized St. Pius parish, in another quarter of the district under his charge. Father Damen also helped the Sisters of the Pious Handmaids of Mary to build a home for working girls and those out of employment.

Almost every human character has the two sides of light and shadow. Father Damen would not thank me were I to claim for him that he was a saint. I could not do him and his memory a greater disservice than to make such an assertion. I believe he was a devoted priest of God, a faithful member of his Society. I know he was a great missionary, and I also know he accomplished in his life memorable works of God, for his church and for society in general.

DIOCESAN NEWS.

What is Going on in the Parishes of the Diocese of Rochester.

James Gaffney, of Lyons, has accepted a position in Syracuse.

Frank P. McCartin, of Seneca Falls, is seriously ill at the Hoag house.

William Riley, who has been employed in the Central freight office at Geneva, has accepted a position in the store of F. R. Hoag, Phelps.

Rev. Father O'Neil, of Scottsville, is suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia. His many friends earnestly hope for a speedy recovery.

Father McDonald, of Seneca Falls, attended John J. Finnegan at his room in the Lowsley house Monday afternoon. Mr. Finnegan lies very low with pneumonia.

John Vanderpool, the aged and respected father of Rev. L. Vanderpool, pastor of St. Peter's church, Le Roy, died very suddenly on Monday last. He lacked but one month of being 80 years of age.

The Parnell Social Club, of Penn Yan, has elected the following officers: President, Harry C. Earles; vice-president, A. P. Geoghegan; secretary, F. J. McAdams; treasurer, P. J. Barry; trustees, J. H. Meham and Wm. S. Craugh.

John Flannigan, of Canandaigua, the well-known oyster dealer, has purchased the Phelps lot on the east side of Main street, adjoining the railroad, and will erect a handsome business block there in the spring. The ground floor will be fitted up for stores, the upper stories will be used for offices.

The annual statement of St. Patrick's church, Seneca Falls, has been submitted by Rev. W. A. McDonald, pastor and treasurer. On January 1st, 1889, there was a balance of \$24,64 in the treasury. During the year the receipts, entirely from the congregation, were increased \$8,118.27; the expenditures were 6,137.29, thus leaving a balance on hand for 1890 of \$5.62.

Danville News.

As in other towns, the "grip" has loosened its hold.

Martin Loftus, of Rochester, is visiting at home.

Mart. O'Meara, of Geneseo, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. D. Foley.

At a recent meeting of the Young People's Society of St. Patrick's church the following officers were elected: President, Rev. J. Day; vice-president, John Perry; secretary, Miss Lina Earls; treasurer, Miss Barbara Daugherty. As a library of reference was deemed necessary, a fund for that purpose was started.

Links from Lima.

The funeral of Wm. McCoy took place from St. Rose's church Jan. 9. "La Grippe" has many in its clutches hereabout, and our doctors are kept constantly busy. The warm weather is supposed to be very unfavorable.

Banns of marriage were published last Sunday between Catherine Walsh, of Lima, and Patrick Doyle, of Rochester.

Louis Boehme died at Lima on the day of last week, after a short illness. The funeral was held from St. Mary's church on Sunday last. Rev. S. J. Simons officiating.

There are rumors in the air of another festival which will likely order the auspices and for the benefit of the C. M. B. A. The local society is gaining slowly in membership, merited or at least deserved approval of the society in general.