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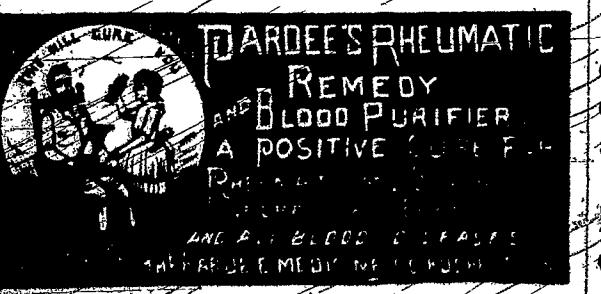
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OUR BOYS' AND GIRLS' CORNER.

A Four Year Old Apostle.

The following strange and Christ-like conversation was heard on a Fly-boat on the Seine recently. A little girl, about 4 years old, who was on board, and who, on account of the cold, held her hands in a muff, was thus addressed by a lady:
"Won't you give me your pretty muff, my pet, that I may buy myself a sweet little girl like yourself?"
"Little girls are not bought—God gives them."
"God gives them? Do you believe in God, child? I do not believe in Him myself at all."
"You do not believe in Him? You are then a brute? Do you not know that we must love God and pray to Him every day? And those who do not do it are like dumb animals."
"Who has taught you these things?"
"My dear mamma."
An old gentleman, who wore the red ribbon of the Legion of Honor, approached the little girl and said to her:
"Do you say your prayers to God every day, my darling?"
"Yes, of course," she answered, "and don't you?"
"If alas! it is a long time since I said my prayers, I have forgotten them."
"Do you wish me to teach them to you?" replied the little girl.
All present were deeply moved, and the old gentleman answered with tears in his eyes: "I promise you that for your sake I am going to learn them over again."
Did not this young child prove herself to be a sweet young apostle?
N. O. Morning Star.

Thistles.

There are many kinds of thistles, There is the thistle which the people of France and Germany use for a barometer. The people hang it outside the door. When the thistle closes it is sure to rain. When it opens the storm is about to cease and the sun to shine. Then there is a thistle called the Wind Witch, which grows on the plains of Tartary. It is very large, and the flower dries into a ball as light as a feather which, falling off, goes flying over the plains before the wind. It flies so fast that nobody has ever been known to catch one.
But after all, says a writer for Little Men and Women, there is no thistle so interesting as the common purple thistle of Scotland. While it is not handsome, it is the national flower of Scotland, the land of Walter Scott, and we must honor it for that reason. The motto which goes with the thistle is "Nemo me impune lacessit." It is Latin and means, "Touch me who dares."

Over the gates of the now ruined palace of Linlithgow, where Mary, Queen of Scots, was born, the thistle with this motto was engraved. You will see it in many other places in Scotland.

The earliest mention of the thistle, as the badge of Scotland, is found in an old poem called "The Thrisssel and the Rose," which would be written now "The Thistle and the Rose."—*Ex.*

Catholic Society Notes.

Branch 81 initiated four new members at its last meeting and received two applications.
It is rumored that Branch 81 intends to celebrate its fifth anniversary, which will occur April 20th.
City Treasurer Valentine Fleckenstein is a member of Branch 82, C. M. B. A. City Attorney Charles B. Ernst is a well-known member of Branch 81.
The members of Branch 81 will receive Holy Communion on Palm Sunday. Every member is expected to attend.
Rochester Council, No. 207, C. B. L., has decided to remain in its present quarters in the Durand block. An additional room may be obtained in that building.
District Deputy Daniel Sheehan, of the C. M. B. A., has been elected alderman in the Fifth ward of Elmira, after a hard contest. His opponent was Seymour Dexter, president of

Senator J. Sloat Fassett's bank. The latter left his duties in the Senate and went to Elmira to work at the polls. His efforts, however, could not prevent "Dan" from being elected by a majority of 11.

The Directory of the Rochester branches of the C. M. B. A. has appeared, and is a neat and useful little volume. Besides the name and address of every member of the organization in this city, it gives the history of each branch, the names of the officers of the local branches and those of the Supreme and Grand Councils. Dr. J. H. McCort and Charles Bayer have had charge of the work, and to their efforts its success is due.

Sunday last the annual collection for the benefit of St. Vincent de Paul's Conference was taken up at the Cathedral. Over \$300 was collected. The secretary's report shows that during the year 57 families have been helped, aggregating 294 persons, and that 37 families are at present receiving aid from the society. The number of visits made were 425. The membership of the society is 35 and during last year \$605.35 was expended.

In an admirable address at Adrian, Mich., on Catholic societies, the Rt. Rev. John S. Foley, Bishop of Detroit, Mich., gave this merited praise to the Ancient Order of Hibernians:

"They band together for the remembrance of early times and for the keeping alive of the spirit of true patriotism; and whilst they are called the Ancient Order of Hibernians, they might well be called the most loyal children of the Republic."

Bishop Foley formally enrolled himself a member of the A. O. H. a year ago.—*Boston Pilot.*

The Young Men's Catholic Association of the Cathedral is every month adding new members to its already large list. Under the able leadership of its president, Dr. James F. Crowley, this organization bids fair to become a power for good, not only to the Cathedral parish, but the city at large. The Journal hopes it will prosper beyond the most sanguine hopes of its well-wishers.

The national convention of the A. O. H. will be held in Hartford, Conn., next May. The following from the *Connecticut Catholic* shows what sort of a time may be expected:

There will be in attendance here as representatives Irishmen from every state in the Union, as also from Canada and Great Britain. * * The governor and his staff will be invited, as also the mayor of the city. It has been intended to make the ball on the opening evening as strictly full dress as possible, so far as it will not conflict with the comfort and attendance of the delegates. The price of tickets, admitting ladies with gentlemen, will be \$5, and the number of tickets limited. * * It is intended to make it the grandest affair of its kind ever given in the state.

At the yearly meeting of the St. Fidelis Aid Society, held at Concordia hall Monday evening, the following officers were elected for the coming year:

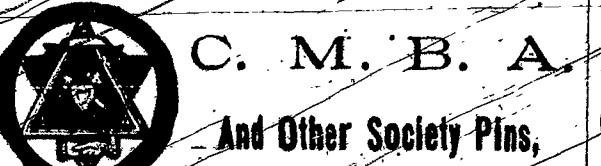
Spiritual Adviser—Rev. F. C. Oberholzer; President, F. X. Fisher; vice-president, J. E. Maier; recording secretary, Geo. J. Roth; financial secretary, Frank Roesch; treasurer, Louis Williams; chief marshal, Val. Lochner; 1st assistant, Jos. Rebstain; 2nd assistant, Martin Rebholz; finance committee, Ed. Schnarr, John Heltzer, Chas. Lochner; color sergeant, John Aman; assistants, F. A. Schneider, Aug. Spall; board of trustees, John Long, John Stich, H. Kaitz, J. E. Maier, J. Eckert; sergeant-at-arms, Louis Knittel; medical examiner, Dr. Q. C. Schuchart.

The organization has a membership of 73 and pays a weekly sick benefit of \$7.00. The amount of cash on hand is \$1,321.27.

Geneva.

Michael O'Malley, of Geneva, will probably begin an action against the Lehigh Malley railway on account of the death of his son on Monday week.

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12 lb. Sack Buckwheat,	25c	TEAS.	
Choice Dairy Butter,	18c	For the present we are giving some odd	
Fair Dairy Butter,	15c	pieces Glasswar, Soap Dishes, etc., with	
Creamery Butter,	25c	our 35 and 40c Tea.	
STRICTLY FRESH EGGS,	17c	Premium Jap. 35c., equal to any Tea	
		retailing for 50c. in America.	
		2 lbs. Best Dust Tea, 25c.	
		Good Japan or Mixed Tea, 25c.	
		FISH. FISH.	
		7 lbs. Siscoes,	25c
		Extra No. 2 Mackerel,	13c
		No. 1 Bloaters Mackerel,	75c
		Dried Herrling, per Box,	22c
		Smoked Halibut,	10c

Meat Department.
Shoulder Steak, 8c
Round Steak, 9 and 10c
Sirloin Steak, 12c
Boiling Pieces, 5 and 8c
Leg of Mutton, 10c
Smoked Shoulders, 6 1/2c
Home Cured Hams, 11c
Try our famous Breakfast Pork Sausage
Our own make.

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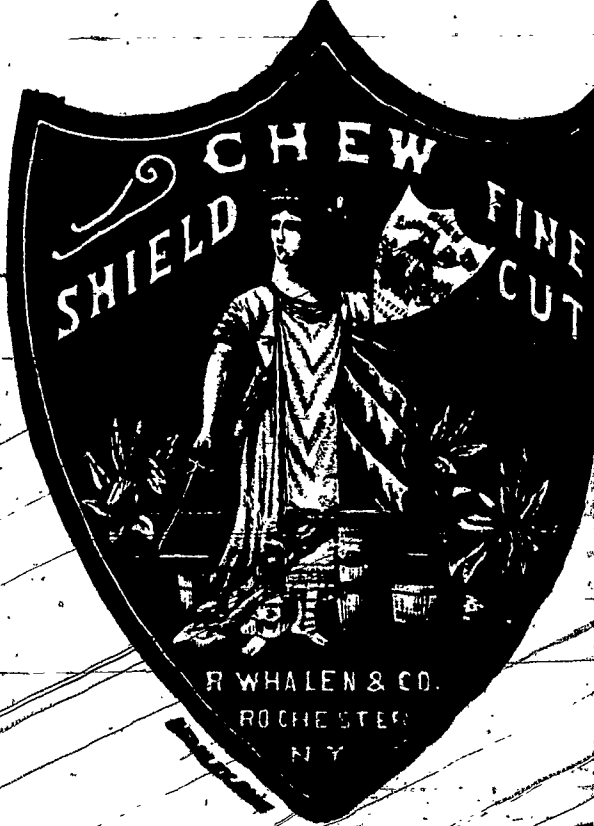
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