

# The Catholic Journal

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## MISLEADING ARTICLES

The danger of trusting to articles which appear in the secular press as true and faithful statements of the attitude of the Catholic Church on important matters has been well illustrated within the past week. Even when such articles seem to manifest a friendly spirit toward the Catholic Church, they are often misleading and untrue.

The first instance to which we refer is the publication of a long communication in the New York Tribune, occasioned by the reference which our Holy Father makes, in his latest encyclical, to the Freemasons. The writer in the Tribune goes on to show that Pope Leo was abundantly justified in denouncing the French and Italian Freemasons as enemies of the Church of God, since the members of the lodges in these two countries openly proclaim their unbelief in God, and make no secret of their enmity to Christianity. But having said this much, which is strictly true, the Tribune writer makes the surprising statement that in other countries such as the United States, England and Spain, where the members of the craft do believe in a Supreme Being, and where an expression of such belief is necessary for admission into the lodges, the attitude of the Church is "passive and friendly." To back up this remarkable statement the writer asserts that he once witnessed, in Spain, the funeral of a Freemason, to whom all the rights of the Catholic Church were granted, and whose remains, clad in Freemason regalia, were allowed to rest before the altar of the Church. This may be put down as a fiction, pure and simple. However, there are still further misleading assertions in the article referred to. It intimates that it was only in 1848, "when the order began to dabble in politics," that the Church condemned it, and conveys the information that, previous to that time, "many eminent ecclesiastics belonged to it." This is another false statement, as false as the silly story that Pius IX was once a member of a lodge. Freemasonry was condemned by Pope Clement XII in 1764, and that condemnation was confirmed by Pope Benedict XIV, Pius VII, Leo XII, Pius VIII, and Gregory XVI.

The Church condemns Freemasonry wherever it exists. It must condemn it, since it teaches a natural religion which the Church being champion and guardian of revealed religion cannot tolerate. Its members take a binding, blind and dangerous oath, and this the Church cannot tolerate either. Any Catholic boy knows that it is a sin to take a false, rash, unjust, or unnecessary oath. Yet this person entering a Freemason Lodge takes a solemn oath to keep the secrets of the order, under pain of having his tongue pulled out by the roots, and drawing many similar penalties upon himself. It may be said that there is no intention of carrying these threats into execution. If not, then the oath is a lie, and therefore sinful, anyway. It may be true that Masonry in this country is nothing more than a

huge social organization; yet it still maintains features which the Church condemns, and no Catholic can become a Freemason and remain a Catholic, either in Great Britain, Spain, America, or any other country. It will, therefore, be seen how misleading the Tribune article is.

## DIVORCE AND THE CHURCH

Another instance of the dangerous ideas which may be gleaned from articles in the daily press, regarding the Catholic Church, is afforded in the telegraph dispatches of last Tuesday. An item from Long Branch, telling of the marriage by a justice of the peace of Mrs. Joyce, a divorced woman, to Phil Daly, Jr., a reputed Catholic says:

The Daly family had strongly objected to the marriage, one of the reasons for this, it was said, being that the Catholic Church, of which the Dalys are members, does not sanction marriage of divorced persons unless a special dispensation is granted. Last June Mrs. Joyce was received into the Catholic Church. The Daly family thereupon became reconciled to the match.

This conveys the erroneous idea that the Catholic Church sometimes gives one of its members permission to marry a divorced person while the wife or the husband of the latter is still alive. This is positively wrong. If a valid consummated marriage has been contracted between the parties neither would be given permission by the Church to marry during the lifetime of the other. By his action in marrying a divorced woman Daly has simply cut himself off from communion with the Church.

## NO BIGOTS WANTED

Rev. Dr. Merrill, pastor of Asbury Methodist church, this city, has learned that the liberal minded members of his own denomination do not approve of his un-Christian and slanderous attacks upon the Catholic Church and its members. Of all the reverend gentlemen who have given expression to anti-Catholic hate since the A. P. A. was introduced into this city, Mr. Merrill and another clergyman named Copeland, have shown themselves the most fanatical. The last named is an irresponsible individual who seizes upon every opportunity that will add to his notoriety; consequently his rabid utterances have been looked upon—by all but the narrowest Catholic haters—with a feeling akin to contempt. Mr. Merrill being the pastor of a large and wealthy congregation, commanded a little more attention, yet his series of anti-Catholic sermons, delivered last spring, were fully as malicious, as slanderous and showed as dense ignorance of the doctrines of the Catholic Church as Mr. Copeland's.

He repeated many of the stale calumnies against the Church that have been published time and again in the villainous A. P. A. press; he read extracts from a Catholic catechism and rendered the most outrageous interpretation of the same. As a result of these sermons, some of Mr. Merrill's parishioners suffered in business and many others were thoroughly disgusted at these attempts to create religious animosities in Rochester, among whose citizens of all creeds mutual good will has so long existed. Tuesday evening the quarterly conference of Asbury church was held; and by a small majority it was decided that the best interests of the society demanded that Mr. Merrill's pastorate should cease.

Thus it is shown now that the citizens of Rochester look with strong disapproval upon those who seek to break the harmonious state of affairs which has given Rochester such a good name as a city of religious tolerance. Let us hope that Mr. Merrill will profit by the lesson thus taught him, severe though it be, and that in the future he will advocate the practice of that brotherly love which the Gospel of Christ teaches, instead of trying to make men hate and injure one another on account of a difference of religion.

Be courteous to all around you. Courtesy is one of the qualities which make life seem brighter to those to whom it is used.

## "SENSATIONS AND MURDERS"

The people in this section complain that the paper does not publish accounts of sensations and murders. Any one reading the above complaint would not think for a moment that it referred to people calling themselves Catholics. Yet, shame to say it, it does, and the words are taken from a letter received from an agent of this paper who was canvassing and collecting. Would that Catholics with such morbid tastes were few and far between. The pity is that there should be any.

The complaint shows one of the difficulties with which the Catholic press has to contend. There are people whose literary appetite is not satisfied until they stuff their minds with all the sensational literature of the day. The Catholic paper, which does not publish accounts of scandals, murders, etc., has not enough "meat" to satisfy these sensation loving people. That the Catholic paper seeks to improve the minds of its readers, that it makes them acquainted with what is going on in the Catholic world, that it corrects many a misrepresentation of our holy religion, and is, in the words of our Holy Father, "a perpetual mission in every parish," all this goes for nothing if some other paper gives a more complete record of the deeds of vicious, depraved, immoral, and God-forsaken men and women.

And what can be expected of the children before whose young eyes this sensational literature is constantly placed? The answer comes all too quickly and too truly. Their innocence lasts only until they are able to read. They know all the sin and crime and wretchedness of the world before they know their catechism. They learn at ten what they would not know for years later; their minds are filled with corruption before the beautiful virtues which Holy Church recommends for youth can find an abiding place. All we do to the parents, who, to satisfy their own morbid appetites, risk the eternal welfare of the souls in their charge, for whom God will some day demand an accounting.

## "WHEN THE PASTOR GOES ROUND"

He gets nickles and dimes. When he sends an assistant or a layman to take up the collection he gets pennies—and nothing. It is humiliating to think there are Catholics who will shirk their duty at all collections except those taken up by the pastor; but it is, nevertheless, true that such a state of affairs exists in more than one Catholic church. Indeed, the difference in the collections taken up by the pastor and those taken by other persons is sometimes startling.

Such a state of affairs shows the existence of meanness, cowardice, and deceit on the part of those responsible for it. It proves that people are either scared by the priest into giving more than they can afford, or they take advantage of his absence to give less than they ought—and the chances are ninety-nine to one in favor of the latter.

Give what your conscience tells you you should give; whether the collection is taken up by an altar boy or by an Archbishop. It is hardly probable that conscience will place the limit at one cent.

Beware of the man who is too bitter in denouncing others who have done wrong. It will usually be found that such persons sooner or later commit the same sins they so severely condemn others for committing, or they are guilty of others equally as great. The truly good person is always charitable.

This is an age of discontent. Much of this is caused because so many people look for perfect unalloyed and continuous happiness in this world. They make their plans to secure it; they fail, and are miserable. They should not expect it, but should rather accept the trials and crosses of this world with resignation. The perfect happiness which all humanity craves will come hereafter to those who fit themselves for it.

The report of Cardinal Ledochowski's death has been denied.

## CATHOLIC NEWS NOTES.

Short Items of Interest from all Parts of the Catholic World.

Religious Happenings Presented in a Condensed Form.

In eight days Bishop Cottor and Father Ward of Beloit, Wis., added 4,800 to the rank of total abstainers in the diocese of Winona.

The twin daughters of the late General "Phil" Sheridan are pupils at Eden hall, the Visitation convent school at Loretto, near Philadelphia.

Thirty-one converts to the Roman Catholic faith, eleven men and twenty women, were publicly baptized in St. Edward's church, Philadelphia, recently.

In the county Tyrone, Ireland, there is a district of sixty-one square miles, inhabited by nearly 10,000 people, in which there are no saloons. The result has been that there is not a policeman in the district, the poor rates are one-half what they were before, and the police magistrates testify to the great absence of crime and disorder.

The number of Catholics who emigrated from Europe to the United States for three years ending in 1891 were 948,100. Of this 156,000 came from Ireland, 151,000 from Italy, 107,000 from Germany, 104,000 from Austro-Hungary, 18,000 from Great Britain. The balance were divided chiefly among Russia, Poland, Spain and Portugal.

St. Francis Xavier's day, Dec. 3, 1894, will be the fiftieth anniversary of the Apostleship of prayer. League of the Sacred Heart. This association has grown most amazingly until it is now estimated that no fewer than 20,000,000 members join every day in the prayers for general and particular intentions.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Messmer has received official notification from the executive committee on awards of the World's Columbian Exposition that the diocese of Green Bay has been awarded a first premium for general excellence of the organization of forty-three schools and especially for excellence in kindergarten work, embroidery, needlework and pictures in oil and crayon.

The Journal of St. Petersburg, the official organ of the Russian foreign office, declares that the resumption of official relations between Russia and the Holy See is for the future a pledge of peace and harmony, and adds that it is due to the enlightened and conciliating policy of Leo XIII. that the appointment of a permanent Russian minister at the Vatican has become possible and even desirable.

The beautiful new ostensorium of the church of St. Ignatius, San Francisco, Cal., adorned with gems and precious stones is valued at \$40,000.

In the name of the Holy Father, Cardinal Rampolla has addressed a letter to M. Wostre, the Belgian statesman, recommending union and harmony of all Catholics of Belgium.

Prof. Stockley, of the University of New Brunswick, has recanted his heresy and returned to the Church. He knew a little when he donned the professor's gown, but he knew a heap more now.

It is expected that quite a number of the American prelates and priests who go abroad this summer will make it a point to be at Lourdes when the American pilgrimage reaches that holy spot.

Cardinal Vaughan says that in England "in the present day, there is scarcely a family in the land but is obliged to admit, that amongst its kith and kin there were persons who were Catholics."

A Requiem Mass for the late French President was celebrated at the Church of Louis des Franciscains, Rome, Signor Crispi, several Cardinals, and M. Billot, and Count Lefebvre de Behain, French Ambassadors to the Quirinal and the Holy See respectively were among those present.

The Irish Bishops at their recent meeting adopted a resolution expressing horror at the dreadful crime which has resulted in the death of President Carnot, and tendering to the generous people of France an expression of keen sorrow, and to Madame Carnot and her family respectful sympathy.

Siphronius, the Patriarch of Alex-

andria, now ninety-five years of age, and who has been a Bishop for fifty years, is said to be the senior Bishop of Christendom. Next to him come Archbishop Kenrick of St. Louis, who was consecrated fifty-three years ago, and Pope Leo XIII. who was consecrated fifty-one years ago.

His Holiness the Pope has received through the Marchese di Comillas an autograph letter from Maria Christiana and a present from King Alfonso XIII. consisting of two richly bound books in gold, with the pontifical arms on the cover and on the first page a dedication to the Pope, who is the little king's godfather.

About one thousand six hundred persons were present at the Polish Catholic Congress held at Posen. They included three Bishops and deputies of the Reichstag and Landtag. An address of the Papal Encyclical to the Poles was delivered by Doctor Zenon-rez, and a telegram expressive of loyalty was despatched to the Holy Father, who had sent his blessing to the Congress.

The beatification of the foundress of the Sisterhood of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, Madame Berat, is being promoted at Rome at the present time, and the Bishop of the French diocese at Chalons is now in the Eternal City in behalf of it. This Sisterhood is very largely represented in this country, having establishments in our principal large cities, and is well known. Its members have won an enviable reputation as managers of academies for the higher education of girls.

The late Chief Justice Coleridge of Great Britain, though not a Catholic himself, had a brother who was a member of the Society of Jesus; and his successor, who is a practical Catholic has also a Jesuit priest for a brother, Rev. Matthew Russell, S. J., well known throughout the English speaking world for his literary abilities and productions. His uncle, Very Rev. Charles W. Russell, was for many years the president of Maynooth, besides being a member of the royal commission on historical manuscripts and a contributor to several leading British publications. Cardinal Newman often said that Dr. Russell contributed largely to his conversion to Catholicity.

Lawn Party.  
A lawn party will be given on Corpus Christi church grounds, East Main street, Wednesday evening, Aug. 15, 1894.

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Mrs. Wilcox has opened her ice cream parlors at 744 E. Main St. and now desires the patronage of her friends. She also keeps a select stock of many other articles which she desires her friends to call and see.

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## THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. Luke x. 23-37.—At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: "Blessed are the eyes which see the things which you see. For I say to you that many prophets and kings have desired to see the things that you see, and have not seen them, and to hear the things that you hear, and have not heard them. And behold a certain lawyer stood up, tempting Him, and saying: 'Master, what must I do to possess eternal life?' But He said to him: 'What is written in the law? how readest thou?' He answering, said: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and with thy neighbor as thyself. And He said to him: 'Thou hast answered right; this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said to Jesus: 'And who is my neighbor?' And Jesus answering, said: 'A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, who also stripped him, and having wounded him, went away, leaving him half dead. And it chanced that a certain priest went down the same way, and seeing him, passed by. In like manner also a Levite, when he was near the place and saw him, passed by. But a certain Samaritan, being on his journey, came near him, and seeing him, was moved with compassion; and going up to him, bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and setting him upon his own beast, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two pence, and gave to the host, and said: 'Take care of him; and whatsoever thou shalt spend over and above I at my return will repay thee.' Which of these three in thy opinion was neighbor to him that fell among the robbers? But he said: 'He that showed mercy to him. And Jesus said to him: 'Go and do thou in like manner.'"

The Apostles saw in Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, while carnal minded men saw in Him a son of Adam, like themselves. These "Prophets and Kings," and others, who desired to see two things which the Apostles saw were those who lived before the time of Christ, hoping for and believing in the coming of the future Messiah. The story of the good Samaritan and the lesson it teaches is perhaps the most widely quoted of the Gospels.

Weekly Church Calendar:  
S. A. G. 5.—Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost.—Our Lady of the Snow.—Less. Exodus. xlvii. 1-10, Gospel. Luke. xi. 27-28.  
Last Gospel. Luke. x. 23-37.  
Mon. 6.—Transfiguration of our Lord. SS. Nystus, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs. Tues. 7.—St. Cajetan, Confessor. St. Dominus, Bishop and Martyr. Wed. 8.—SS. Cyprianus, Largus, and Smaragdus, Martyrs. Thurs. 9.—Vigil of St. Lawrence, St. Romanus, Martyr. Fri. 10.—St. Lawrence, Martyr. Sat. 11.—Of the Octave of St. Lawrence. SS. Taburnus and Susanna, Martyrs.

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