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A BUGABOO AT THE WHIPPING POST.

A discussion is being carried on in the columns of the Post Express between the opponents and advocates of a bill now before the Legislature introducing the whipping post in New York State as a means of punishing wife beaters, rapists and other brutes of that class. Editorially the Post Express is opposed to the bill and has had several articles against its passage. By far the ablest contribution in advocacy of the measure is that which appears in Tuesday's issue from the pen of Rev. T. A. Hendrick, of St. Bridget's who believes in the whipping post for wife beaters and the like as the only punishment that will "fit the crime" and he presents an argument in support of his views that must be admired—for the ability shown—even by those who are not convinced by it. It is not our purpose to express an opinion on the subject, but we desire to call attention to one part of Father Hendrick's article. It seems that during the controversy some opponent of the whipping post pushed out that old bugaboo known as the "Dark Ages" and said the punishment was a relic of that alleged benighted period. Unfortunately for the bugaboo, Father Hendrick comes along just in time to catch him as he is pushed forward. Now Father Hendrick seems to have a special grudge against this particular bugaboo and thinking it a good opportunity to give a practical illustration of the neatness and thoroughness of the whipping post as a method of punishment, he takes hold of Mr. Dark Age Bugaboo firmly, seizes a literary whip, woven of facts, and gives the bugaboo strikes without number. He wallops him, he belts him, he pelts him, and not content with all that, he finally ends up by thrusting the bugaboo down the lying throats of those who pushed him into the controversy. Indeed we believe the Rev. Father Hendrick had in his mind the advice contained in those classical lines sung by the gods at camp meetings. "Chase the devil around the stump; Glory jump you give him a thump, Glory Halleluia!" and administered punishment accordingly. At all events Father Hendrick has demonstrated his ability to thrash bugaboos, and this will prove it:

It is a relic of the Dark Ages. I am not quite sure that The Post Express proposed this objection, but as it has been proposed by estimable gentlemen in its pages, let us see to what it amounts. Every one has heard of the mysterious and awful terrors of the bugaboo. It has done frequent and valuable service in childhood's days in stilling our complaints, and we see that in the maturer years when reason and education are supposed to sway our judgments, it has not lost its value. Every man who is at a loss for an argument, especially when he is talking to men of little education, has a time honored and generally unanswerable one in the statement that "it is a relic of the Dark Ages." Let me quote from Kenelm Digby: "Then it was, says a French writer, that a new spirit was breathed

into the ancient world, all social relations were changed, vassalage, a kind of modified servitude, prepared the way for the abolition of slavery. The principle of association began to operate; corporations were formed. The stage of life presents great personages and sublime actions. Deeds of eternal fame were done, deeds which tell of Charlemagne, Philip Augustus, and St. Louis, Alfred and Canute; Richard the lion-hearted and the Black Prince; Gerbert and Hilbrand Alcuin Bede, Thomas Aquinas, Roger Bacon. Who is not seized with astonishment at beholding the Gothic monuments of the ages, such as the Gothic vaults of Cologne and Westminster, of Amiens and Jumege, which had been preceded by others, the destruction of which had made men weep? Then, too, hospitals arose for the first time, asylums for all kinds of human misery, and innumerable establishments for the poor."

Would we enter into still lower details it was in the eighth century that paper was invented, in the tenth that a monk invented clocks. In the eleventh that Benedictines invented windmills, and a citizen of Middlebourg invented the telescope. In the same age was discovered the lodestone or the polarity of the needle. Engraving dates from the fourteenth century.

Are not the great universities of Europe for the most part "relics of the Dark Ages?" Are not the works of Michael Angelo, and Dante, and Raffael, in fact, are not all the literary treasures of the ancient world, including the Bible, "relics of the Dark Ages?" Are not the people of these days diligently transcribing and kept them?

Let us dismiss this objection as beneath the contempt of serious men, in such an argument.

PASSING OF THE HOME OWNER.

These statistics, which the San Francisco Monitor presents as the result of thorough investigation of the subject, tell a story which needs no comment.

The census of the United States was taken five years ago and then our total population was found to be in round numbers sixty-three millions and a half. In calculating the number of families in a country it is usual to divide the total population by five. This process gives us again in round numbers the total number of families as something over twelve millions and a half. Now we find out from the census that of this number of families two and a quarter millions occupy mortgaged homes. The remainder is over ten millions and a quarter and represents the number of families who own their homes and who live in hired houses. But as only two million families occupy their own homes, we have the startling figure of eight and a quarter millions of families who are actual tenants. Of course the occupant of a mortgaged house is merely a tenant, too, for the interest is practically rent, therefore we add them to the number of actual tenants and we reach the significant conclusion that eighty-four per cent of the families of this land are living in homes which they are not able to call their own.

ROBERT EMMETT.

Tomorrow is the anniversary of him whose memory Irishmen the world over will never cease to hold and honor. Over 100 years ago Robert Emmett first saw the light of day. At the early age of 21, a boy in years, he gave up his brave young life for the country whose unhappy condition he sought to improve. In the very shadow of the gallows, face to face with the brutal judge who sentenced him to an ignominious death the young patriot delivered that impassioned speech which, in its peculiar eloquence, is unmatched by any that ever fell from the lips of man. He hurled defiance at his powerful enemies, glorified his country, vindicated his motives.

Here is a squib from a recent letter of Harold Frederick, which ought to set infidels thinking.

Prof. Sayce writes home from Asia Minor that in searching for new cuneiform inscriptions he has at last hit on a definite memorial of Nimrod. He identified him with Nazi Muruda and finds that he was the contemporary in Babylon of the Assyrian King whose son restored Nineveh about fifty years before the exodus. This curious discovery is regarded here as by far the most valuable confirmation of the Mosiac record yet accorded from this field of investigation.

Next Thursday is the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas—the Angelic Doctor.

Archbishop Corrigan has issued the following letter to the priests of the New York archdiocese.

"Reverend Dear Sir—A recent decree of the Holy office, confirmed by the sovereign pontiff, instructs the bishops of the United States to advise the faithful committed to their charge against affiliation with the societies known as the Old Fellows, the Sons of Temperance and the Knights of Pythias, with the further injunction that if Catholics after such admonition persist in their connection with any of these societies and will not give up membership therein, they cannot receive the sacraments. The reason on account of which it is unlawful for Catholics to join societies forbidden by the church will be found in the third plenary council of Baltimore, I am, reverend dear sir, very faithfully yours,

"Michael Augustine, Archbishop of New York. Bishop McQuaid will take no formal action in the matter. His position on the orders named is well known. He has always declined to sanction Catholics in the diocese of Rochester joining any one of the societies mentioned.

The Rt. Rev. John A. Waterson, bishop of the Columbus diocese, addressed a big meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association at Columbus last Saturday. The following paragraph was loudly cheered:

"While I am uncompromising in the matter of my faith and inflexible in those lines of conduct which depend on the principles of faith, and while I would deserve the contempt and scorn of every right-minded man if I were recreant to my conscience in those things which I hold as truths; yet I know of no doctrine of the Catholic Church which prohibits or prevents me from working for the good of my fellow men; no doctrine which interferes with my allegiance to the government and laws of my country. On the contrary, I know that the whole teaching and the whole spirit of my religion require me to be true to my country and its government, and to promote its honor by the faithful discharge of all duties of American citizenship, and all of you would know it, too, if you knew my religion as well as I do."

In gazing at the calm, still features of the black man's dead leader—the great Douglass—and considering the great events in which he took so prominent a part, how truthful seems that immortal line in Gray's elegy—"The path of glory lead but to the grave."

PRaise THE OLD.

There is no time like the old time, when you and I were young. When the buds of April blossomed and birds of spring-time sang. The garden's brightest glories by summer suns were nursed. But O, the sweet, sweet, violets the flowers that opened first. There is no place like the old, where you and I were born. Where we lifted first our eyes lids on the splendors of the morn. From the milk-white breast that warmed us, from the clinging arms that bore us, where the dear eyes glistened o'er us that will look on us no more; There is no friend like the old friend who has shared our morning days. No greeting like his welcome, no homage like his praise; Fame is a scintilla sunflower, with gawdy crown of gold; Cut friendship is the beating rose, with in every fold. There is no love like the old love, that we courted in our pride. Though our leaves are falling, falling side by side; There are blossoms all around us, with the colors of our dawn, And we live in borrowed sunshine, when our day stars is withdrawn. There are no times like the old times, they shall never be forgot, There is no place like the old place, keep green the dear old spot; There are no friends like the old friends—May Heaven prolong their lives. There is no place like the old place—God bless old Ireland, boys.

B. Quinn, Moravia, N. Y.

The Sultan is indignant that Mr. Gladstone should have anything to say in public, having retired to private life; and his Majesty demands that the British Government disavow the grand old man's speech on the Armenian question. This will make the G. O. M. laugh all over his fine old face and splendid bald head. The idea of anybody disavowing one of his speeches or making him disavow it will only bring new wrath from his lips upon the Porte. The Sultan did not know when to let a sleeping dog lie. He will get another speech in response to his foolish demand, and his condition after the second will be worse than that after the first. The spectacle of Lord Rosebery officially "disavowing" the words of his political maker is not one to make the Liberals better natured, and Rosebery has no margin left to experiment in for sultans.

The Prince of Wales never travels abroad without having a complete itinerary of his route decided upon, connections arranged for, time tables consulted and every point covered.

Father Schleyer, of Constance, in Baden, the discoverer or founder of Yelapuk, the "world language," has been made a monsignor by the Pope.

THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. Matthew iv. 1-11—At that time: "Jesus was led by the spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and nights, afterwards He was hungry. And the tempter coming said to Him: If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. Who answered and said: It is written: Not in Bread alone doth man live, but in every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God. Then the devil took Him up into the holy city and set Him up on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him: If Thou be the Son of God, cast Thyself down, for it is written: That He hath given His angels charge over Thee, and in their hands shall they bear Thee up, lest perhaps Thou dash Thy foot against a stone. Jesus said to him: It is written again: Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again the devil took Him up into a very high mountain: and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, and said to Him: All these will I give Thee, if falling down Thou wilt adore me. Then Jesus saith to him: Be gone, Satan, for it is written: The Lord thy God shalt thou adore, and Him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil left Him: and behold, angels came and ministered to Him. From this Gospel, we should learn to love and practise mortification and penance, and not to lose courage when strongly tempted.

Weekly Church Calendar. Sun. Mar. 3—First Sunday in Lent. Epist. 2. Cor. vi. 1-10; Gosp. Matt. iv. 1-11. Mon. 4—St. Casimir Confessor. St. Luc. xii. 1-5. Tues. 5—St. Peter and Paul. St. John. xvi. 1-7. Wed. 6—St. Thomas Aquinas. Confessor and Doctor of the Church. St. Perpetua and Felicitas, Martyrs. Thurs. 7—St. Thomas Aquinas. Confessor and Doctor of the Church. St. Perpetua and Felicitas, Martyrs. Fri. 8—Most Holy Crown of Thorns. St. John of God, Confessor. Sat. 9—St. Frances of Rome. Widow.

DEHORNEO cattle can be packed closer and will go to market with less injury to hide and flesh than those with horns. It is also cheaper and easier to raise them, and the more restless any animal is the less fat it lays on.

The Wisconsin farmer is a man of resources. To that fact a trainload of people on the Wisconsin Central Railroad doubtless owe their lives. A farmer found the track torn up near Stevens Point and he was without the usual means of signaling the approaching train. Some men would have rushed off after a lantern, others would have relied on their lungs to warn the engineer. Not so with the farmer, however. While he had a match and a shirt he was as completely prepared for business as the best railroad brakeman on the line. He took off his shirt and applied a match to it when he heard the train coming, and the warning was given. Possibly he did not present a very aristocratic appearance when the train stopped, but under the circumstances the passengers were quite ready to overlook that fact. And the rest of the world will agree with them that a shirt seldom has been put to a stranger or better use. The railroad company should never let him want for shirts.

Few people appreciate the great extent of Australia and the variety of climate which it presupposes. The island continent contains 3,000,000 square miles, or as great an extent as the United States without Alaska. In some parts of New South Wales the climate is as cold as that of Canada, and one town has no communication for four months except on snowshoes. In northern Queensland there is almost tropical luxuriance of vegetation, and cane brakes flourish as in Jamaica. In western Queensland the climate is dry and the soil sandy. Long files of camels loaded with merchandise are a common sight. Much of the interior of Australia is as yet little known, but the vast capacities of this continent cannot fail to sustain an immense population. At present Australia has about as many people as lived in the United States at the formation of our Government one hundred years ago.

HUMAN skeletons are quoted at an average value of \$40. The closest variety comes much higher.

Abounding in virtue of purity. That ever blooming and spotless lily. Excellence of real modest dignity. Her immaculate heart of fulgency. Each angel does behold in ecstasy, Adorn'd more than all diamonds' brilliancy. Rainbow of God's most perfect amity. The essence of fervent solidarity. Owing thanks to Mary's benignity, For having become in reality. Mother of Jesus: who by humility, All mankind redeemed to victory, Reverse all people, Mary's nicety. Yearn to be with Her in eternity.—New York, Nov. 2, 1894. JACOB H. SOMARRA.

OUR ROMAN LETTER.

The Papal Letter on the Rights of the Holy See.

Items of Roman News.

ROME, ITALY.

Below is the text of the new Encyclical of the Holy Father concerning the Propagation of the Faith, first published by the Missions Catholiques of Lyons. It is brief, but very concise:

To Our Venerable Brethren the Patriarchs, Primates, Bishops, and other Ordinaries, in Peace and Communion with the Apostolic See. Leo XIII., Pope.

VENERABLE BRETHREN, HEALTH AND APOSTOLIC BLESSING: To carry abroad and daily to extend the Kingdom of Christ among the nations, to lead or lead back to the bosom of the Church such as are separated from her, or are inimical to her, this, without any doubt, is one of the most sacred duties of Our high office, and one ever present to our desires and Apostolic charity. Hence We have never ceased to favor and multiply both the Missions which shed abroad the light of the Christian Faith amongst those who are in the darkness of error, and the offerings collected among the faithful for the support of the same. This We did especially in the third year of Our Pontificate by the Encyclical Letter, Sancta Dei Civitas, the scope of which was to increase the love and generosity of Catholics towards the well-known Institute of the Propaganda Fide. In that Letter it gave Us pleasure to recall the rapid development in so short a time of a work whose beginnings were so humble; to speak of the praise and of the spiritual favors which have been lavished upon it by Our predecessors, Pius VII., Leo XII., Pius VIII., Gregory XVI., and Pius IX.; to dwell upon the great help which it had bestowed upon the Missions in every part of the world; and to declare what great benefits are yet to be hoped of it. By the favor of Heaven the fruits of Our exhortations were by no means small, for on account of the generosity of the faithful corresponding with the zeal and wisdom of the Bishops. We see that during these late years this well-meriting work has been greatly extended. But at the present moment there is present a more pressing necessity which demands greater zeal and generosity on the part of Catholics, and at the same time requires your co-operation, Venerable Brethren.

You know that by Our Apostolic Letter, Praeclara, published last June, We thought to obey the designs of Divine Providence by earnestly calling the peoples of the whole world to the unity of the Christian Faith, having before Us as Our highest wish the hastening on of that time, when, according to Divine promise, there shall be one fold and one pastor. With what particular care We turn Our eyes to the East, and to its illustrious and venerable churches, which are especially proved to you by Our recent Apostolic Letter upon the preservation and maintenance of Eastern discipline. You have also understood this from the recent dispositions which, after consulting carefully with the Patriarchs of those nations, We have taken in order to attain that end. We do not deny that the whole of this plan is full of difficulties; but, though Our strength is not sufficient to overcome them, We yet unreservedly place all Our hopes in God. He, Who in His providence, inspired Us with the beginning of this work, will, in His benignity, assuredly not deny such aids and strength as are necessary for the completion of it. This is what We ever beg of Him in unceasing prayers, and this is what We earnestly exhort the faithful to pray for. But to the aid which We confidently expect from on High there must be joined such means as are in the power of man, and it is right that We should be careful in obtaining and supplying such means as are conducive to the end which We have in view. Now to lead back to the one Church those Easterns who have separated themselves from it, you know, Venerable Brethren, that it is first of all necessary to provide a competent number of sacred ministers, abounding in piety and learning, who may be able to inspire others with the desire of union. It is also necessary to multiply institutions in which science and Catholic discipline shall be taught in such a way as to harmonize with the particular character

of each nation. Hence steps must be taken that duly built houses may, where it is necessary, be opened for the education of ecclesiastical students, that schools may be multiplied in accordance with the wants of each case, that every Rite may be exercised with fitting dignity, and that by the publication of good books, a true knowledge of religion may be given to all. The carrying out of these and other designs will entail, as you well understand, heavy expenses. You will also understand that the Eastern Churches, by themselves, cannot meet these expenses, and that We, on account of Our present straitened position, cannot contribute towards them such a sum as we would otherwise like to give. It is necessary, therefore, that the required sums should be drawn principally and in due moderation from the work which We have just spoken of in praise and whose object is in full accord with Our present plans. But at the same time, lest the Apostolic Missions should suffer any detriments by some of their funds being devoted to other uses, Catholics must earnestly be urged to increase their liberality towards this work in proportion to Our wants. The same precautions must be taken with regard to the similar and most useful institution of the schools of the East which We have upon other occasions commended, since the directors of it have openly promised, and it has been settled that out of the alms which they will collect they will give to Us for these ends such sums as shall be possible for them to give.

This is the object, Venerable Brethren, in which in an especial manner, We would enlist your attention, and We do not doubt that you, who in every possible way co-operate with Us in upholding and promoting the cause of the Church, will come to our aid with noble generosity. Carefully cause the Association known as that of the Propagation of the Faith to increase in numbers among the faithful entrusted to your care. We are fully convinced that many more persons will inscribe themselves as members of it, and in proportion to their wealth, give more generous alms to it. If you will teach them the excellence of this work, the rich stock of spiritual blessings bound up with it, and the great advantages and benefits which may reasonably be hoped from such a work for the good of the Christian Church, Catholics ought certainly to be moved to generosity by the thought that they can do nothing so pleasing to Us and so advantageous to themselves and to the Church, as to comply with Our wish, that they should vie with one another in furnishing means necessary for suitably and successfully carrying out the plans which we have drawn up for the good of the Eastern Churches. May God, whose glory alone is sought for in the spreading abroad of the Christian name, and in the union of Faith and discipline, lovingly advance Our wishes and show favor to Our beginnings. As a pledge of His choicest gifts, We may grant the Apostolic Blessing to Venerable Brethren, to your clergy and to your flocks.

Given at St. Peter's, Rome, Dec. 21th, 1894, in the 17th year of Our Pontificate.

LEO XIII., Pope.

A committee has been formed to promote the Eucharistic Congress at Milan. The Congress is expected to take place next September. The pleasing news reaches Rome from Holland that Father Groot, S. J., has just been solemnly installed in the chair of Catholic Philosophy recently founded in the Protestant University of Amsterdam.

It has been reported that the German emperor intends to come to Rome next September, to be present at the feast commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Breach at Porta Pia. The report has been contradicted. PATRICK RYAN.

Not Learned in Colleges. The title of "professor" is now claimed by many who, like the wise man in the song, never went to college. Not long ago, I surprised a man on his knees in a hotel corridor. Inquiring the cause of his apparently meaningless attitude, I was informed that he was Prof. Wilkins, the mouse man, who was at that moment looking for small game. When I interviewed Wilkins he informed me that he was a professor of rodentology, and I found that his mind really had a scientific turn. On the register of a hotel in a Western town I read, "Prof. Pekkins and staff." A geological survey was in progress. Probably, I reflected, Prof. Pekkins was conducting it. That night, through the transom of my door, I heard an unusually penetrating voice instructing a "class" on the subject of soap—a particular kind of soap. It was Pekkins—professor sapology! His agents constituted the staff. Just across the street lives Prof. Null, tonsorial artist. It is a toss-up between Wet Hat Wet and Hawaii phonetically and oropuvely.