

## The Catholic Journal

The Only Catholic Newspaper Published in the Diocese.

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### ALL NATIONS CONCUR.

It seems impossible that men of reason and so-called education can reject a belief in the existence of Purgatory, after studying the history of ancient nations. Even the Pagans believed in a Supreme Being, and the non-Catholic Christians of to-day point to that fact as an argument in favor of a belief in God, and yet the Pagan believed in a middle state, or Purgatory, after death; but when Catholics point to that as an argument in favor of Purgatory we are accused of being idolaters and following heathen customs and traditions. How absurd.

The Africans, the Chinese, the Japanese, the Celts, and the Slavs, professed their belief in the purification in a middle state by the doctrine of the migration of souls, and of other modes of atonement. Similar views are found with the Esquimaux, Greenlanders, North American Indian tribes, etc., all concurring in the belief that the soul, on its way to Heaven has to undergo many trials in overcoming the living can assist them by prayer, sacrifice, and funeral oblations. Plato enunciates a belief in a middle state after death. The Jews, also, though accepting only the old Testament, believe in the doctrine of purification in the next world. "They lay stress on it, and are zealous advocates of its practice. For instance, with them a child is bound to say for a whole year a certain prayer called *Kaddish* for his deceased father. Where there are no children, strangers are paid to make to say this prayer. Josephus says this custom is very ancient.

Whence this universal sentiment which, though it does not appear everywhere with equal distinctness, yet is common to all. Undoubtedly these distorted views of an everlasting truth are founded in human reason which distinguishes between absolute purity and total depravity, between human frailty and obstinate perversity. It is impossible that nations of such diversity of faith, morals and language should concur so unanimously on this one point, except they all draw from the same source, the fountain of truth. Here we may well say, "The voice of the people is God's voice."

There is a Purgatory, and "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." The month of November is the month to remember this truth.

Col. Ingersoll is said to have once remarked that he would believe in hell when Kentucky went Republican. The arch-infidel will please to say that he believes in eternal damnation. Of course he does. Every one knows that. He believes in hell for dollars, and is particularly particular whether they be dollars or not, so long as he gets them.

Salisbury evidently imagines that Britain rules the world. The next European war may prove the fallacy of his imagination.

## THE A. P. A. IN THE ROCH- ESTER ELECTION.

The A. P. A. did not cut much of a figure in the Rochester election just passed. For some time the members of the A. P. A. have been boasting that the association numbered 10,000 members in Rochester, and that it would elect a Mayor last week. It must be confessed that for some time it looked as if the prediction would be verified. When the Good Government Club was started the A. P. A. leaders looked to join it. So many did enlist that the G. G. leaders were worried lest the A. P. A. would control the "Committee of six" to five. This much we were told by a member of the committee, who also added: "It was only by sharp work that we prevented the nomination on the G. G. ticket of an A. P. A. candidate for Mayor." When Irving Payne was nominated for Municipal Court Judge on the G. G. ticket, the A. P. A. men in the club were greatly cast down. They immediately turned their attention to the Republican convention and tried to prevent the nomination of Judge Murphy, even going so far as to promise the support of the A. P. A. for the entire Republican ticket if Murphy was left off. The offer was indignantly refused, and the Democrats spurned it too, endorsing the entire Good Government ticket.

The A. P. A. was in sore straits. Both parties had turned the cold shoulder to the organization. In this extremity they turned to Mr. George F. Loder, a disgruntled politician, who had announced his intention of running for Mayor on an independent ticket. The A. P. A. encouraged Mr. Loder and boomed his candidacy. We do wish to be understood as stating that Mr. Loder is an A. P. A. We do not know that he is, and we do not know that he is not. But it is a fact that the Loder ticket was regarded in every quarter as the "A. P. A. ticket." Great pretensions were put forth, circulars describing the movement were distributed all over the city, a brass band and highly decorated tally-ho was used to advertise the ticket. Mr. Loder actually predicted that he would receive 10,000 votes. If the A. P. A. had that strength in the city, and all its votes were to be thrown to him, Mr. Loder's claims were justified, and with such a vote he would have been the next Mayor of Rochester, for the registration this fall was 31,400, and the total vote was 28,514.

Also, for Loder! When the votes were counted, there were but 1,456 for him! With all the blast of trumpets, the columns of newspaper booming, the fulsome reform platform, the placing of two well-known laboring men on the ticket with him for the Executive Board, less than six per cent. of the voters were attracted to the Loder ticket! What a fall was there! The 10,000 A. P. A. voters had vanished into thin air; they had eluded his grasp like the will-o'-the-wisp. He had had his fun, but the price was high. He had placed himself outside his party pale; he had earned the odium of defeating his party's regular candidate. This was the price he had paid for being the tool of the A. P. A. Was it worth it?

There is one thing more we wish to emphasize. It may be that the A. P. A. will claim a victory in the result of the city election. It has no right to. The claim is false. Neither would the A. P. A. have profited had the other candidate for Mayor won. The A. P. A. is dead in Rochester politics as a positive force. As a negative force it is still potent. A candidate known to be an A. P. A. is doomed to overwhelming defeat. This is as it should be.

Interesting to the A. P. A.: The report that a large number of Protestants are taking instructions from Rochester priests preparatory to entering the only true church, the Roman Catholic church.

The man who bet and lost on election this fall deserved to lose. A man is a fool who bets on politics.

Salisbury evidently imagines that Britain rules the world. The next European war may prove the fallacy of his imagination.

## THE OHIO CONTROVERSY.

To the editor of the Catholic Journal:

Dear Sir:

In the issue of the Catholic Journal of Nov. 10th, appears a paragraph accusing the Governor of Ohio of not securing a Catholic Chaplain for the Catholic prisoners in the Ohio Penitentiary. The Governor of Ohio is all right in this respect (although the writer disagrees with him politically), as experience has taught him (the Governor) there is no need of going to the expense of appointing a Catholic Chaplain for the Ohio penitentiary, as there would be nothing for the chaplain to do, there being so few persons of that persuasion to be found in such an undesirable place. Governor McKinley has enough to do to take care of those of his own faith, and this duty he attends to conscientiously.

It may not be out of place to say that very few Roman Catholics are to be found in the penitentiaries of this country, and those who are incarcerated in such places and still claim to profess the true religion are traitors and renegades, who are and should be re-nounced by all true believers in the Apostolic faith. The Church has no use for such people.

E. Pluribus Unum.

Rochester, Nov. 11, 1895.

We believe our correspondent is sincere in his opinions but we must differ with him. It simply absurd to say that Catholics never have the misfortune to commit crime. It is true some may not be very strict in the way they live up to the teachings of the church, but that does not prevent them from being classed as Catholics. It would be as logical to say that no man who committed a mortal sin could be classed as a Catholic. It is not for us to judge. It may be that criminals confined in prison have seen the error of their ways, repented and are better Catholics in the sight of God than some of us who have no stain upon our outward character and are found in our pews every Sunday. It may also happen that a prisoner was innocent of the crime for which he was convicted. Is it not possible for such a one to be a good Catholic even if in prison? Then why should he be compelled to attend a religious service in which he cannot join, a service that is to him almost a farce, a disavowal of its kernel.

Granting however that all our correspondent says is true and that all "Catholic" prisoners are but Catholic in name; if they desire the ministrations of a Catholic priest, should they be deprived of them? Is it not possible that they may be brought to repentance? Is there any good reason why a Catholic priest should not be allowed to officiate at the penitentiary? According to our correspondent's idea the prisoners need no religious services at all, as none of them can be classed as Christians, if his standard be followed!

In conclusion we might remind our correspondent that a Catholic Chaplain is part of the staff of the State Industrial school in this city. Will "E. Pluribus Unum" contend there is no need for his services at the institution? There is also a Catholic Chaplain at Auburn. Why is this?

Parents should take to heart the admonitions given by Father Kieran at the Cathedral two weeks ago against allowing their children to attend public dances in public halls unless they know the organization under whose auspices it is held. These promiscuous dances where young women dance with every Tom, Dick and Harry, half the time with men they have met but a few hours before, are a source of great damage to the morals of our young people. We do not mean to say that all young women who attend public dances go astray but not infrequently a girl's ruin can be traced to one of these promiscuous dances.

The burning question with Ohio Catholics: Will Governor-elect Bushnell give the poor Catholic prisoners in the Ohio penitentiary the right Governor McKinley has deprived them of, attending religious services conducted by a Catholic Chaplain? If he does not, and is a candidate for re-election, he should be buried beneath an avalanche of votes.

From the reports about the South African stock craze, it is plain to be seen that all the wild speculators are not in Wall st., but that even the stolid Briton can be fooled with a gold brick game.

What action has the governor of Texas taken to capture the persons who so brutally tortured a defenceless negro a few days ago and then burned him at the stake?

The promptness with which the request of Archbishop Corrigan was granted, that Monsignor Farley, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of New York be made auxiliary Bishop of New York, is the best possible sort of proof that the able metropolitan is not in disfavor at the Vatican, and is also as plain a notice to those meddlers who circulated the report—and no doubt the wish was father to the thought—that Mgr. Corrigan would be deposed, censured, reprimanded, etc., that they had better be a trifle more discreet. We never placed the faintest credence in any of these yarns, and Bishop Farley's appointment only serves to strengthen us in our opinion. Truth is mighty and will prevail.

The friends of Mayor-elect McGuire are so elated over his victory that already they are pushing him forward for the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor next year. Their enthusiasm is well meant, but ill advised. Mr. McGuire is but twenty-eight years old, and the Constitution provides that the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor of New York State shall be 30 years old or over.

The retirement of Calvin S. Brice from the United States senate cannot be regarded as a national calamity. He has done much to debauch politics and politicians and to make the Senate a "millionaire's club."

The results of election gratify every sensible man, no matter what his political affiliations, in that they indicate that sound money has won a substantial victory even in the west and south where the silver delusion had gained a considerable foothold.

George W. Aldridge is a lucky man. In addition to the ordinary patronage of the public works department, which is no small item, he will have the expenditure of at least \$4,000,000 in deepening the Erie canal.

The Journal extends its congratulations to Judge Murphy. He won a notable victory in a hard fought battle. His antagonist was a man of no mean ability and of spotless character. A victory in such a contest is doubly gratifying to the victor.

There are but two classes of men who can afford to enter politics: First the man who hasn't a cent and proposes to follow politics for a living. Second the man who has plenty of money and wants to play politics for recreation.

The great feast of Christmas is near at hand again. How time flies.

## THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. Matt. xiii. 18-35. Another parable he proposed to them saying: The kingdom of Heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. Which, indeed, is the least of all seeds; but when it is grown up it is greater than any herb, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and dwell in the branches thereof: Another parable he spoke to them: The kingdom of Heaven is like to leaven and which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, until the whole was leavened. All these things Jesus spoke in parables to the multitudes: and without parables he did not speak to them. That the word might be fulfilled, which was spoken by the prophet, saying: I will open my mouth in parables: I will utter things hidden from the foundation of the world.

Weekly Church Calendar. Sunday 17—Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost. Epist. 1. Thes. i. 2-12; Gosp. Matt. xiii. 31-35. Monday 18—Dedication of Basilicas of SS. Peter and Paul. Tuesday 19—St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow. St. Pontian, Pope and Martyr. Wednesday 20—St. Felix of Valois, Confessor. Thursday 21—Presentation of the B. V. M. Friday 22—St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr. Saturday 23—St. Clement, Pope and Martyr. St. Felicitas, Martyr.

Our Agents. Joseph P. Kimmel will attend to our city collections.

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Any dress goods manufacturer when he shuts down his mill for the season is bound to have some goods left on his hands—a piece left over from this man's order, and a piece left over from that one. Sometimes the total amount is more, sometimes less.

The agent of a Massachusetts manufacturer (and there isn't a mill in this country that makes finer dress goods than his) called on us the other day and asked us to make him an offer for his stock on hand.

We did so.

It was accepted.

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