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PRODUCE THE PROOFS.

Congressman "Tom" Johnson, of Ohio, has been availing himself of the privilege allowed national legislators to send free all over the United States his speeches delivered in Congress on the single tax question. In an interview the other day Mr. Johnson said he did not think what he had done was just right, but so long as it was the custom he did not see why he should not follow the example of his colleagues. Whereupon the Daily Times of this city remarked:

"Genial Tom" Johnson is a very candid man, as well as affable. He is also a Catholic in religious faith, and in violating the spirit, if not the letter of the law, as he admits he has done, Mr. Johnson was acting in conformity with one of the maxims of his church—that "the end justifies the means." He therefore willfully did wrong, in order that he might do good. The ex-congressman's consciousness may be clear, but it cannot be accepted as a criterion by those who do not place an ecclesiastical dogma above the laws of the land.

We were surprised to read such a statement as the above in the Times. Such sentiments would be consistent in an A. P. A. organ, but in a paper appealing for public patronage, for Catholics as well as non-Catholics, it is simply insensibility. When the imported Ohio editor of the Times makes such a statement as that "the end justifies the means," he either is knowingly guilty of a malicious slander against the Church, or he is ignorantly following the wild statements so often made about the Church by irresponsible fanatics or professional slanderers. We have seen the phrase quoted above attributed to the Jesuits, but never set forth as a doctrine of the Catholic church. And even as an alleged Jesuit maxim the phrase has long since been exploded, as it has been proven over and over again that it is not part of the tenets of Loyola.

We challenge our credulous contemporary to produce proofs of its slanderous statement. Failing to do this it should offer its readers an abject apology. If it does neither, and it cannot meet the first condition, no self-respecting Catholic should subscribe for or advertise in the Times.

As befits an advocate of the obsolete Faribault plan, the "Northwestern Chronicle" of St. Paul does not dare controvert the Journal's typographical makeup. Well, we have not as fine a dress as we would like and intend to have, but any judge of newspapers will say it is equal in point of looks to that of the other side. However, it is an old story with those who cannot sustain themselves, to endeavor to conceal their ignorance or incompetency by twisting mind or starting a new controversy entirely foreign to the subject at hand. If the Chronicle attacks the Journal's position, it does not in the open and frank manner that it purports to be.

It is high time the so-called Christian nations stopped sparing for points and buckled on their armor in a stern determination to compel this pagan sovereign to respect the amenities of civilization or else drive him off his throne.

Bishop Conroy's death removes from the American hierarchy one of the most respected members. R. I. P.

VERITAS IS RIGHT.

Respectfully referred to the San Francisco "Monitor":

EDITOR CATHOLIC JOURNAL: Why is it if the State school system is so nearly perfect, that the cost of education per pupil in the State schools is so much greater than in the parochial schools? Why is it that "political pull" rather than genuine merit avail more to gain a place on the teaching force of the State schools? Why is it that every little while we read of a school principal being in trouble because of undue liberties with his pupils? Why is it that parochial school pupils, with none save the advantages of State patronage, manage to equal if not excel the State school pupils? Is it not because the teachers in the parochial schools are persons whose lives are consecrated to God and to the education of the young, while the State school teachers only enter the teaching profession as a source of revenue, never as a life profession; their minds are more taken up with worldly matters, than with their teaching, and they are ready to resign their profession at the first proposal of marriage. Yours,

We might add that the San Francisco "Monitor" has apparently joined the throng of those who would say to the American workingmen: "Why should you complain at your lot? Have we not given you an incomparable system of public (State) schools where your children can be educated at public expense?" It is true we have completely secularized them, but then, what need have you or your children of religious teaching in the schools? If you listen too much to the preachers you will place your duty to God above your duty to the State. It is also true that but few of your children have an opportunity to attend the high schools, and that you are taxed to educate our children in those institutions, but that is one of the beauties of a system of State schools. It is also true that very often you slave to give your children a good education that in after years they will have no opportunity to utilize, but that is nothing. They have had the education at public expense. Our correspondent and the JOURNAL are evidently in accord on the main points of the controversy, so there is no need of further comment.

To the Editor of the Catholic JOURNAL.
Dear Sir: In your issue of November 10th I note what may be termed your peasant criticism of my letter of November 1st, judging from the tone of your criticism it would appear that my letter was misinterpreted. I made no statement that Catholics are free from committing crime, neither did I say that those who broke any of the ten commandments or the seven deadly sins could not be excommunicated. I said nothing about the prisoners being deprived of the ministrations of a priest, and certainly had no desire to enter into a controversy that no religious services were required for Jews or Gentiles, Heathen or Mohammedans. It is my understanding also that no Industrial School cannot be classed as a Penitentiary any more than you would a Kindergarten, and fail to understand your simile. If you will kindly refer to my letter again you will see that I said there were few Catholics to be found in the penitentiaries of this country. I reiterate that statement now, and challenge you to prove the falsity of my assertion. In your next issue I will have something to say in answer to important points raised in your criticism of my letter.

E. Pluribus Unum.
Our correspondent and the JOURNAL are evidently in accord on the main points of the controversy, so there is no need of further comment.

Senator John Sherman may be having a heap of fun abusing his brother statesmen and politicians, but the general public will regard his "reminiscences" as the "soot grapes" of a man who could not attain his cherished ambition, and is mightily disappointed therat. The average man has far more respect for a hard fighter, even if the latter be opposed to him, than for one who violates the most sacred confidences in a puerile attempt to explain his own unpopularity, be he never so brilliant.

THE ARMENIAN OUTRAGES.
The JOURNAL has several times in the last few weeks condemned the Armenian outrages, and has expressed the opinion that it were the best thing that could happen were Turkey wiped off the map of Europe. We still hold that opinion, but unfortunately, but little has been done toward forcing the Sultan to stop the massacres of Armenians. Each foreign mail brings new tales of dastardly treatment of defenseless Armenians.

It is true the great European powers have, to use a slang phrase, "called the Sultan down," but he does not appear to take the warning seriously, nor do we expect he will. He may make a great show of promising to do better, but it will be only a grand stand play. He knows full well that each European power is jealous of the rest, and that they are more likely to fall to fighting among themselves over the way his empire is to be partitioned than they are to fight him. Serene in this confidence, we expect he will play the "good child" act until the excitement blows over, and then resume his nefarious operations again.

The Erie canal should not be allowed to fall into ignominious desuetude. Without it we should be at the mercy of the railroads, so far as freight rates are concerned.

All our public men who have given the subject of forestry careful and intelligent attention are unanimous in the opinion that public opinion should be fully aroused to its importance. In a letter to the American Forestry Association, ex-Senator Edmunds writes:

"The subject of forestry is of immense importance to the future welfare of all our countrymen, as well in Vermont as in the arid regions of our country. I have seen in Europe much of the remedial evils of stripping the hills and mountain sides of their forests great or small, and I have seen in our temperate and well-watered climate of Vermont how great has been the loss from reckless timber cutting. The devastations of a dozen years can hardly be repaired in half a century, and so every energy of reason and persuasion ought to be brought to bear upon the public intelligence to avert the evils that so seriously threaten large parts of the republic from the destruction of the forests."

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ADVENT.

To-morrow is the first Sunday of Advent, the season of the ecclesiastical year which the Church sets apart as a preparation for the feast of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who left his heavenly home to become one of us, that mankind should be freed from the penalty of sin. From to-morrow until Christmas the Church will put on the garb of penance as in Lent. The priests will celebrate mass in violet vestments, and the Gloria in Excelsis will be omitted in the mass. The Gospels and Epistles will teach and urge penance and reformation in our lives.

During the holy season of Advent we should meditate on the coming of Christ, the judge, in order to prepare ourselves to commence the day when he came as the Savior. We should often pray to the Child Jesus to be reborn and grow in our hearts with His holy grace. We should prepare in our hearts the way for Him by works of penance and piety, and above all, by the use of the holy sacraments.

THE OHIO CONTROVERSY.

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THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL.—St. Luke xxi, 25-33. And there will be signs in the sun, and moon, and stars; and on the earth distress of nations, by reason of the confusion of the sound of the sea and of the waves; men withering away for fear and expectation of the things which are coming upon the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken; and then they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds with great power and majesty. But when these things begin to come to pass, look up, and lift up your heads; because your redemption is at hand. And he spoke to them a similitude: See the fig tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth their fruit, ye know that summer is nigh; so also, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that the kingdom of God is at hand. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday 1—First Sunday in Advent. Epiphany.

Rom. xii. 11-14; Gosp. Luke xxi. 25-33.

Monday 2—St. Barbara, Virgin and Martyr.

Tuesday 3—St. Francis Xavier, Confessor.

Wednesday 4—St. Peter, Chrysologus, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor of the Church.

Thursday 5—Feria; St. Sabbas, Abbot.

Friday 6—St. Nicholas, Bishop and Confessor, *hunc.*

Saturday 7—St. Amrose, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor of the Church. Vigil of the Immaculate Conception.

Deaths and Funerals.

Lawrence O'Brien died Monday morning at St. Mary's Hospital, aged 67 years. Mr. O'Brien leaves a wife and six children, Michael, James, Lawrence, Stephen, Fannie and Annie O'Brien, all of this city. The funeral took place from the family residence, 67 Saratoga avenue, Thursday morning, at 8:30 o'clock; and from St. Patrick's Cathedral at 9 o'clock.

Edward J. Sweeney, son of Timothy and Margaret Sweeney, died Tuesday at the family residence, 91 Mansion street. He was a fireman and a member of Hose 3. Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, John and Daniel Sweeney, and three sisters, Nellie, Kate and Minnie Sweeney, all of this city.

The funeral of Catharine Drexel took place at 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning from the house, 147 Childs street, and at 9 o'clock from Holy Family Church.

Michael O. Geimer died at his home 36 Cole street, Wednesday night, aged 35 years. He was a member of St. Leo Society of St. Michael's Church, and had lived in the city some years.

Our One-Dollar Table.

Fairly groans beneath its load of attractive novelties. Many a visitor to our store says it pays to take a trip to Likly's, if only for the sake of the exceptional bargains offered at the one-dollar table.

Henry Likly's,
90 State St.

While Thinking.
About where you will buy your coal, don't forget Louis Edelman, who deals in the best brands of Pittston and Scranton, soft and smiting coal 40 North Avenue and railroad.

Ladies When Down Town.
Stop in the Culross Bakery, No. 80 State st., and get some of their baked goods. They are delicious.

All Ladies are Invited to call at the Culross bakery No. 80 State street, a fine display of baked goods always on hand.

The Joy of the Winners
is on a par with the satisfaction of people who buy their coal at J. M. Reddington, 99 West Main street.
Phone 390.

Furniture Movers.
Furniture moved, packed and stored by Sam Gottry & Co. Orders taken at Erie Office, 12 Exchange street, or house, 8 Thompson street. Telephone 1058 or 648.

Wanted—A gentlemen boarder (Catholic). Nice front room, board and washing included \$4.00. Address G. G. this office.

Snow Storms are Predicted, so therefore order your coal from L. C. Langie, if you wish to get a high grade hard coal. Send order to the Central office, corner East Main and East Avenue, or to either of the yards, South Clinton st., or North Avenue.

Men's Felt and Over 1.50.
And a lot of other special bargains, at J. W. Mason's, No. 196 E. Main street.

Sibley, Lindsay & Curr.

A CHRISTMAS OFFER

AT A

Fourth of July Price.

And this does not express with sufficient force the book values of to-day, one especially.

The "Vassar" Books, by Elizabeth W. Champney, need no word of ours to add to their reputation. They are among the most prized stories for young people.

These books, in board covers, are published at \$1.50.

We have in our possession six titles—about 1,500 volumes in all—the entire number which the publishers had—which we shall sell at 39¢ a volume.

It is hardly necessary to add that we do not expect these books to last till Christmas week.

The titles:

"Three Vassar Girls in the Holy Land."

"Three Vassar Girls in Switzerland."

"Three Vassar Girls in Russia and Turkey."

"Three Vassar Girls in France."

"Three Vassar Girls in South America."

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