

The Catholic Journal

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WHOLLY MISLEADING

The press despatches recently contained a misleading account of the dissolution of a marriage in Halifax, Nova Scotia, by Pope Leo XIII. It transpires that the case is not new in any phase. The Papal decree which is heralded as something fresh is just ten years old, and the facts concerning its issue have been known by nearly every resident of Nova Scotia all this time. The features of the case are clearly and carefully stated in the following letter addressed to the editor of the Halifax "Evening Mail" and published in that paper:

Sir: Your reporter's sensational account of the divorce case of Keefe vs. Keefe, published in your issue of the 13th and reprinted with variations in the "Herald" of the following day, is, to use his own words, "an extraordinary one." He is quite mistaken as to most of the facts and entirely at sea with regard to the ecclesiastical proceedings and their meaning. As his mistakes in the latter respect are a matter of some seriousness, I have to ask for space to correct the false impression they would otherwise undoubtedly leave upon the minds of many.

Your reporter is quite right in saying that "the Roman Catholic Church does not recognize divorce" and that "death alone terminates the marriage tie." To possess this character of indissolubility, however, the marriage must be complete—the ceremony must be followed by cohabitation. Otherwise, according to the law of the Church, the inchoate marriage may, for grave reasons, such, for example, as the unfaithfulness of either partner, be wholly dissolved by Papal authority leaving the parties at it free to marry again.

These were the facts in the case under consideration. The parties to the marriage never lived together as husband and wife. This together with the wife's unfaithfulness was most conclusively proved before the ecclesiastical court, at which one of the most learned canonists in the diocese was appointed to defend the marriage, which he did, I have always heard, with marked ability.

The decree of dissolution was therefore no "special dispensation," but the application of a general law to the particular case. Had the marriage been consummated, no decree or dispensation of any power on earth could according to the law of the Catholic Church, dissolve it, not even were the suppliant the most powerful monarch in the world—Henry VIII. or Napoleon I.

It may be explained that the decree of dissolution in this case differs entirely from a declaration of nullity, which judges supposed marriage to have been, on account of some impediment, no marriage at all.

JOSEPH A. WALL, ARIZONIAN, February 20, 1896.

When a Protestant minister preaches the Catholic Church and admits that he has investigated her history and doctrines, but still holds to his Protestantism, it is sad to think that he has learned just enough to damn his own soul.

The Catholic winter school in... cannot say it is not having a fair trial.

SECOND CLASS CITIES CHARTER.

One of the most important pieces of legislation that will come before the State Legislature this session is the uniform charter bill for cities of the second class prepared by the so-called Chamber of Commerce, of which James G. Cutler, of Rochester, is a member. The bill is a voluminous one, covering 108 pages of printed matter, and was introduced in the Assembly on January 31st, by speaker Fish. It is stated that the bill will surely pass the Assembly, but its fate in the Senate is problematical. It may be well to consider briefly the important features of the bill.

In the first place the aldermen are all to serve without salary, except the president. This, of itself, is a bad feature, unless the president of the board of aldermen were to be elected on a general ticket in New York. The bill does not do this, however. It simply says that the aldermen shall elect one of their number president, and fix his salary. This provision will lead to endless wire-pulling for the office of President. Besides it will tend to prevent the best class of citizens from accepting the office of alderman, as no person cares to pay out the expenses incident upon a canvass for the office with no hope of legitimate recompense. The bill makes the Common Council a purely legislative body, and takes away its administrative and executive functions. This may be wise. It probably is. The Council is given the power to pass upon the credentials of its members. This is in accordance with established usage. In case of a vacancy in the Council by death, resignation, etc., the Council is empowered to fill his vacancy; but the person elected must be of the same political party as the party he supersedes. This is as it should be, and should have been settled by law several years ago. The bill also provides that the proceedings of the Common Council shall be published in three daily papers, one of which shall be an evening paper.

The mayor, under the bill, is to be elected for two years. We think the term should be four years. He is given the appointments of all the heads of the city's appointments. This is in accord with the trend of public opinion—to place responsibility where it cannot be evaded.

The Comptroller is a new office, so far as Rochester is concerned. He will correspond to the city auditor but with powers far in excess of his. The Board of Education is to be composed of seven members, who, appointed by the Mayor, and are to serve without pay. We favor a board of three, appointed by the mayor, and to be paid a salary of from \$1,800 to \$2,500. Under such an arrangement the interests of the schools would be better conserved than under the present system. The police commission is to be a bipartisan one, of two members from each political party. The majority of the aldermen in the common council from each party are to select the police commissioners credited to their respective political parties. This is pernicious. The mayor should appoint the police commissioners.

There are other objectionable features in the bill that we may touch on later. We have said enough, however, to convince all readers that the bill should be amended in many particulars before it is placed on the statute-books.

The "Post Express" quotes The Catholic Journal in reply to the attitude taken by Revs. O. A. Barbour and Rev. F. L. Anderson in favor of the Raines Excise bill. We are sadly afraid the Journal's position will but drive Revs. Barbour and Anderson into a still stronger approval of the bill. Both are what might be called "political parsons." Mr. Barbour has not the reputation of a bigot. Mr. Anderson has praised certain principles of the A. P. A. Neither see much, if any, good in the Catholic church.

The advocates of civil service reform cannot say it is not having a fair trial.

ST. PATRICK.

Next Tuesday will be the feast of St. Patrick's patron saint, and the day will be fittingly observed in the diocese of Rochester.

Patrick was Ireland's apostle, cunning as the serpent, yet simple as the dove. Silent in his own cause, but eloquent with the Spirit that spoke to him for the cause of God and the salvation of souls. For to him it was said as to the apostles of old, "I have chosen thee and appointed thee that thou mayest go and bring forth fruit, that thy fruit may remain." We all know the story of Patrick's mission in Ireland. We all know that Erin has long been known as the home of the most perfect—if the term can be permitted—Catholicity in the world.

And in the centuries yet to come shall the land so dear to St. Patrick be filled with the blessings of peace. We know not. Shall art and science find again their Celtic home, and give reality to Celtic ideas? This, at least, we may hope; but of one thing we are sure, the legacy left Ireland by Patrick—that faith which has sanctified her every aspiration and strengthened her in every adversity shall forever be Ireland's treasure, and joy and life, for Patrick has brought forth fruit, and his fruit shall remain.

ARCHBISHOP KENRICK.

In the death of Most Rev. Peter Richard Kenrick, archbishop of St. Louis, the Catholic hierarchy lost one of its greatest members and the Church one of her most noted sons. He was great in years. Had he lived until the 17th of next August he would have been ninety years old. Had he lived two days more he would have been sixty-four years a priest. Had he lived until the 30th of next November he would have been fifty-five years a Bishop. He was born on the 6th of August, 1806. He was ordained priest on the 6th of March, 1833, and was consecrated Bishop in St. Mary's Church, Philadelphia, the Pro-Cathedral at that time, on the 30th of November, 1841. He was great as a learned man, being the author of many works, and versed in many languages, indeed, all the modern and several of the ancient languages. He was great as a business man, having conducted the enormous business of the diocese for fully forty years, a business which included the keeping of a bank and all its books and accounts, and the improvement of city property, by building whole squares of houses. He was in truth the Patriarch of the West. He established all the sees from St. Louis to the Lakes, and from the Lakes to the Rocky Mountains. He established the sees of Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Dubuque, Santa Fe and all the suffragan bishoprics of St. Louis. Few Bishops ever saw so great a field, which, in truth, he cultivated with his own hands. It is no wonder that Archbishop Kain said on a late occasion that Archbishop Kenrick had a greater name than his see, the great city of St. Louis.

Truly the history of Archbishop Kenrick's life is the history of the Catholic Church in the West and South. May his soul rest in peace.

The Associated Press has added another to its list of broken promises and fake news. The A. P. sent to all its patrons last Saturday the news that Senator Blackburn, the free silverite who the sound money men are fighting tooth and nail, had been re-elected to the United States senate of the Kentucky legislature. The supposed news was a pure fabrication out of whole cloth. The United Press did not use the news.

The town meetings throughout New York state are extremely suggestive to the advocates of the Raines bill. Towns where a democrat was never before elected have been swept by the democrats.

Death has removed a number of Catholics well known in Rochester the last two weeks. May their souls rest in peace.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE.

Replying to an editorial in the "Post Express" upholding Premier Greenway in his opposition to the Manitoba separate school bill, Rev. Thomas A. Hendrick, rector of St. Bridget's church, says:

"Laurier is a political trimmer, and for the sake of many like him in this country, and in this city, I ask you to print the following extract, which is credited to the grand master of Orange lodges of Canada, and to which I give unqualified approval:

"Remember that, if Canada is ever to become truly great, Protestants and Roman Catholics must be subject to the same laws and that the same treatment accorded to Protestant minorities must be given to Roman Catholic minorities. Remember that the privy council is the highest court of appeal in the British empire, and that the privy council decided that the Roman Catholics of Manitoba have a grievance, since the school law of 1890 was passed by the Manitoba legislature.

"Remember that the man who says, 'I know the Roman Catholics of Manitoba have a grievance, but what of it? We are not bound to remedy the grievance,' is advocating a dishonorable and dishonest course. The very men who now insult your honor and your sense of fairness by making such base proposals to you would be the first to see the gross injustice and immorality of these proposals if a Protestant minority had the grievance. Be brave and true and honest and patriotic enough to take the square, manly course of treating others as you would like to be treated if you were in their circumstances."

In conclusion, permit me to ask you if you believe in measure for measure, and in the golden rule? If so why should not the Catholics of Manitoba have the same rights that they gave the Protestants when they were in the minority, and which they give throughout Canada, wherever Catholics have the majority, and the Protestants the minority?

A contemporary, tritely styled Apaisant "New Protestantism."

THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. John vi. 1-15.—At that time, Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is that of Tiberias; and a great multitude followed Him, because they saw the miracles which He did on them that were diseased. Jesus therefore went up into a mountain, and there sat He with His disciples. Now the Passover, the festival day of the Jews, was near at hand. When Jesus therefore had lifted up His eyes, and seen that a very great multitude cometh to Him, He said to Philip: Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this He said to try him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him: Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them; that every one may take a little. One of His disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, saith to Him: There is a boy here that hath five barley loaves and two fishes; but what are these among so many? Then Jesus said: Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. The men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed to them that were sat down; in like manner also of the fishes as much as they would. And when they were filled, He said to His disciples: Gather up the fragments that remain, lest they be lost. They gathered up therefore, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above to them that had eaten. Now those men, when they had seen what a miracle Jesus had done, said: This is of a truth the Prophet that is to come into the world. Jesus, therefore, when He knew that they would come to take Him by force, and make Him king, fled again into the mountain Himself alone.

Jesus gave thanks when He took the five loaves and two fishes. What are we to learn from this?

We should learn to do the same when we take our meals. As the people received food from the hands of Christ, so also do we receive it from God, alone in the ordinary way of His providence, for without His blessing the earth would be barren and unproductive.

Weekly Church Calendar.

- Sunday 15—Fourth Sunday in Lent. Epist. Gal. iv. 22-31; Gosp. John vi. 1-15.
- Monday 16—Feria.
- Tuesday 17—St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland.
- Wednesday 18—St. Gabriel, Archangel.
- Thursday 19—St. St. Joseph, Spouse of the B. V. M. and Patron of the Universal Church.
- Friday 20—Most Precious Blood of Our Lord.
- Saturday 21—St. Benedict, Abbot.

Sibley, Lindsay & Curr.

Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are the days fixed for the Spring Reception in our Millinery and Cloak Rooms.

BRASS BEDS:

Ten Brass Beds sold last year where we sold one the year before. Expect to see the same ratio of increase this season.

The majority of people are coming to believe in metallic beds and to know that Sibley, Lindsay & Curr's is the place to buy them.

All our Brass Beds are hand some design, and finished with the best English lacquer—will not tarnish.

For \$20, a Brass Bed with head end 5 feet in height, and straight foot end.

For \$22, same style Brass Bed with swivel foot end.

Other designs in Brass Beds at \$25, \$24, \$26, \$27, \$33, up to \$45.

For \$45, very elaborate Brass Bed, with two inch pillars, surmounted by 3 1/2 inch balls, and having 4 inch ornaments on foot posts, head end 6 feet in height, beautiful swivel foot end.

CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

That entire lot of children's dresses went in a day on Round Counter Monday.

There are two other styles at the Infants' Department, second floor, at not quite so small a price but equally good value.

Children's percale dresses in blue and pink grounds with dainty figure and dots, made with solid circular yoke of embroidery with deep ruffle, and having full sleeves trimmed with finishing braid, for 39c. Sizes 2 to 5 years.

Children's dresses of fine percale made with ruffle over shoulder, V of embroidery in front

of yoke, and trimmed with finishing braid, 50c. Sizes 2 to 5 years.

WOMEN'S COLLARS AND CUFFS.

Dame fashion has decreed that manish collars and cuffs shall be favored by women this season.

Lace counters are showing the new styles. Among them: High turned down collar with one button and open space in front.

High turned down collar with two buttons, closed in front.

High turned down collar with long points, two buttons.

Standing collar, turnover points.

Standing collar with roll points.

Clerical collar—plain band, buttoning in back.

In cuffs a favorite is a turnback which comes with either a wide or narrow turnover.

SAXONY FLANNELS.

The industrious weaver over in Saxony has a knack of turning out the softest sort of white flannels.

We don't seem to know quite how to do it over here.

These Saxony flannels touch the infant's skin as tenderly as would a bed of pure eider down.

Either twilled or plain. Prices from 45c to 60c a yard.

EVAPORATED CREAM.

Rochesterians will not soon forget the "Big Cow."

It introduced them to Highland's Evaporated Cream, and that is too good to be forgotten.

Drug Counters supply it. 1 pound can, 15c. 2 pound can, 25c.

SIBLEY, LINSLEY & CURR.

Hill's Dental Association,

DR. C. G. HILL, MANAGER. 190 East Main St., Opp. Whitecomb House.

Flowers for Funerals,

Floral Designs on Short Notice. PRICES ALWAYS THE LOWEST. J. O. PRIDMORE, FLORIST. 150 to 160 Lyell Avenue.

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CURED INSTANTLY & PAINLESSLY.

Rigney's Millinery Opening,

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, March 17, 18, 19.



Please consider this a personal invitation. Attend our opening and see the newest in Spring Hats and Bonnets, as we mail no cards.

RIGNEY'S MILLINERY HOUSE, 146 W. Main St., Corner North Washington.

Rochester Bicycles ARE ALL RIGHT.