

The Catholic Journal

The Only Catholic Newspaper Published in the Diocese.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT 324 1/2 East Main Street, Rochester, N. Y.

BY THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If papers not received Saturday notify the office Report without delay any change of address giving both old and new.

Communications solicited from all Catholics, accompanied in every instance by the name of the writer. Names of contributors withheld if desired. Pay no money, or agents unless they have credentials signed by us up to date.

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Subscription Rates: For Year, in Advance, \$1.00. Entered as second class mail matter. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.

TELEPHONE 1366. City News Agents.

The CATHOLIC JOURNAL is sold by the following newsdealers, and can be obtained of them Saturday mornings: L. Merk, 234 East Main street. E. C. Weidman, 126 State Street. Yawman & Heisler, 170 E. Main St. H. Hackett, 100 Frank street. J. Soehner, 202 Hudson St. Mrs. K. E. Wilson, 74 E. Main Street. Metzger Bros., 720 N. Clinton Street. A. E. Hauser, 322 North Street.

A URYING DISGRACE.

Governor Black has disgraced New York state, himself and the republican party by appointing such a self-confessed old reprobate as "Lou" Payn superintendent of the state department of public insurance. There is no more important department of the state government than that of insurance because it has to deal with what is often the sole support of widows and orphans, the life insurance policy on the life of a departed husband, father, brother or other loved one. It is an open secret that many of the self-advertised "staunch life insurance companies" are notoriously extravagant, not with their own money, but with the money given them in trust by their policy holders supposedly for the latter's benefit. Enormous salaries are paid officials, salaries the half of which they could not earn in any other occupation and which they do not earn in life insurance companies. Not infrequently the policy-holders' money is used to erect and equip mammoth buildings, the revenues from which go into the officers' pockets, not into the policy-holders' dividends. For these and many other reasons the state superintendent of insurance should be a man whom not even the breath of suspicion has smirched.

"Lou" Payn has not been such a man. For years he has been a lobbyist at Albany, hired by large corporations to aid their interests and advance or retard legislation as they directed. In doing this he has pursued the usual methods of the lobbyist. They are too well known to need rehearsal here. Suffice it to say they are not of the sort that usually recommend a man for high official station.

Yet the governor of the Empire state has seen fit to ignore the criticism well-nigh every reputable paper in the state and to defy enraged public sentiment so far as to nominate this notorious old lobbyist—confessedly such—to the head of the insurance department. It is a crying shame and disgrace.

Under ordinary circumstances we would not take such a pronounced stand in a political matter. But this is not a matter of party politics. It concerns every one holding a life insurance policy or who expects to derive any benefits from one. It is of vital importance to the C. M. B. A., the C. R. and B. A., the C. B. I. and all Catholic beneficiary organizations because such a man as "Lou" Payn can subject them to any number of petty restrictions. Besides there is the danger that Payn may seek to make the insurance companies and beneficiary organizations a sort of adjunct to the republican party.

Payn's appointment is a mistake, a shame and a disgrace to the Empire state.

In this inclement season do not forget your needy brethren. This is the time when true charity is needed. Sermons do not set well on empty stomachs. Feed a hungry man and then he will listen to a sermon or to good

THE NEW CABINET.

All citizens, regardless of party, will concede that President-elect McKinley has made a good beginning with his cabinet of advisers. The selections of Lyman T. Gage for secretary of the treasury and Russell A. Alger for secretary of war command respect and admiration, especially that of Mr. Gage, who stands high as financier, and whose integrity of character is unquestioned. There will be those who will question the expediency or wisdom of appointing a banker to the head of the treasury department, but after the victory of the republican party on the St. Louis platform any other course was scarcely to be expected. If a banker can make a success of the treasury portfolio Mr. Gage can.

The JOURNAL has already expressed its opinion of the selection of John Sherman for secretary of state. Although we still think he would have rounded out his political career with more satisfaction to himself had he stayed in the senate instead of, at his advanced age, assuming the cares and responsibilities of the state portfolio, still we believe his will be a cautious, conservative administration.

The selection of Messrs. Sherman, Gage and Alger tend to confirm the JOURNAL's prediction that Major McKinley's administration, except on the tariff, will follow closely in the footsteps of that of President Cleveland.

A CONTRAST.

The trials of two women the other day in New York police courts, both charged with the same offense, developed a sharp contrast and one that furnishes food for reflection.

The one was a rich woman arrested in December for stealing a pocketbook from another woman in a crowded store. The evidence against her was conclusive, and Magistrate Kudlich held her for the grand jury. Her husband furnished \$1,000 cash bail. The grand jury indicted her for grand larceny. When her case was called for trial in the higher courts talented lawyers appeared, in her behalf and entered a plea of not guilty. They then asked that the indictment be dismissed on the ground that the defendant did not know what she was doing half the time because of a cancerous growth on her neck which affected her brain. An affidavit was read from the complainant in which she said she did not believe the defendant intentionally stole the pocketbook. The district attorney also moved that the indictment be dismissed. The "kind-hearted" judge on the bench granted the request and the rich pickpocket drove from the court in a handsome carriage.

The same day there was arraigned in the same court a young woman of the lower class, charged with pocket picking. She pleaded not guilty and said that she was suffering from an illness that rendered her unconscious of what she was doing half of the time. She asked for a speedy trial as confinement in jail was killing her. There was no talented lawyer to plead her case. There were no rich friends to go on her bond. The district attorney paid no attention even to her plea for a speedy trial. She was held in \$1,000 bail to appear for trial, and, as she could not obtain bondsmen, was sent to jail. Under the present conditions in the criminal courts in New York city it may be weeks or months before she is even placed on trial.

It is just such unwarrantable discrimination between the rich and poor that made possible such a campaign as was waged last fall.

The "Democrat and Chronicle" says the "Post Express" is "a political tramp" and republican in its politics only for patronage's sake. Pray, what is the D. and C. in business for, its health? The taxpayers, thousands of dollars of whose money have gone into the coffers of the Rochester Printing company think differently.

There were those and the JOURNAL shared in the opinion, who thought that Governor Frank S. Black was bigoted in his tendencies. Since the governor was inaugurated events have transpired that tend to prove such suspicions unfounded, and it gives the JOURNAL much pleasure so to state.

NEW CHARTERS.

The uniform charter for the second class cities of Rochester, Syracuse, Troy and Albany, proposed by Senator Horace White of Syracuse, is on much the same lines as that drafted by the commission of 1895 of which James G. Cutler of this city was a member. Both propose to reduce, on the whole, departments of the city government from multi-headed commissions to single-headed commissions, but the White charter would make many heads of departments appointive by the mayor that were elective by the people under the provisions of the Cutler charter and vice versa.

While it is conceded that it will be a difficult matter to draft a charter that will be applicable to four cities alike, there is no questioning the general principle that nearly if not all municipal departments should be under control of one head, so that responsibility is fixed and not divided. That head should be given power to appoint his subordinates and should be held solely responsible for the conduct of his department.

There is a wide divergence of opinion as to whether the heads of departments should be elected by the people or appointed by the mayor. There are weighty arguments for and against each proposition. It is often urged that the people are responsible for the mayor and that he should be given full power to name all the subordinate officials of the city government. There is this to be urged against this: The people may elect a mayor whom they suppose to be perfectly honest and reliable. He may turn out a hypocrite and attempt to perpetuate himself and his friends in power by the mighty lever of patronage placed in his hands. By using the official patronage in a corrupt manner for personal aggrandizement, it would be difficult for the people to get rid of him or his crew at the subsequent election. On the other hand, were all the heads of departments elected, they would be directly responsible to the people and would cater more to the wishes of the people and pay less attention to the orders of scheming politicians.

Our personal opinion is that the public interests will be best conserved by elective rather than appointive officials. We believe that Lincoln's homely maxim still holds good that "you cannot fool all the people all the time." All decent people should frown down any attempt to repeal the law enacted through the efforts of Assemblymen O'Grady and Armstrong, preventing money loaners from exacting usurious rates of interest on loans made on chattels, such as furniture, etc. No legislator who has any regard for his oath of office or an atom of feeling for his less fortunate fellow man will vote for such a bill.

The New York "Journal" acidly says: "Mr. Cleveland's punishment of those federal office-holders who saw fit to support the democratic ticket last year is severe and unjust, but those who invited his displeasure will find it quite an honorable distinction in the future."

It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. The snow of last week furnished employment to thousands of idle men all over the state.

Assemblyman Lewis's bill to create the office of commissioner of jurors is likely to become a law. There is reason to doubt whether it will improve the quality of the juries.

There is much sense in what the Florida "Times Union" says: "Never criticize your wife. She's a mighty poor woman and an anomaly if she is not a great deal better than you are."

If Superintendent Aldridge can finish the capitol before his term expires he should be given full charge of the work, by all means.

State senators who vote to place a self-confessed lobbyist in charge of one of the most important state departments, assume a great responsibility.

Cardinal Satolli has been named as archpriest of the basilica of St. John Lateran, or rector of the Pope's church.

THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. Matthew, xiii. 24-30.—At that time Jesus spoke this parable to the multitude, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is likened to a man that sowed good seed in his field; but while men were asleep his enemy came and oversowed cockle among the wheat, and went his way. And when the blade was sprung up, and had brought forth fruit, then appeared also the cockle. And the servants of the good man of the house coming said to him: 'Sir, didst thou not sow good seed in thy field? Whence then hath it cockle?' And he said to them: 'An enemy hath done this. And the servant said to him: 'Wilt thou that we go and gather it?' And he said: 'No; lest perhaps gathering up the cockles you root up the wheat also together with it. Suffer both to grow until the harvest, and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers: Gather up first the cockle, and bind it into bundles to burn, but the wheat gather ye into my barn.'"

What should we learn from this parable? We should learn three things: First, to be vigilant that the devil may not sow cockle in our hearts or in the hearts of those under our care. Second, to console and sympathize with poor sinners. Third, to endeavor to make ourselves wheat for paradise and not cockle for eternal fire.

Weekly Church Calendar. Sunday, Feb. 7.—Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. St. Romauld, Abbott. Less. E.clus. xiv 1-6. Gosp. Matt. xii 27-29. Last Gosp. Matt. xii 24-30. Monday, 8.—St. John of Maths, Confessor. Tuesday, 9.—St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor of the Church. St. Apollonia, virgin and martyr. Wednesday, 10.—St. Scholastica, virgin. Thursday, 11.—The Seven Holy Founders of the Service Order. Friday, 12.—St. Agatha, virgin and martyr. Saturday, 13.—St. Raymond of Penafort, confessor.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

We have just received a copy of the Yellow Kid Schottische, composed by Charlie Baker, the popular music writer. This piece of music is without doubt destined to have an unprecedented run of popularity. Most of our readers are aware that the character of the "Yellow Kid" is now the reigning fad through out the East, being the feature of the illustrated weeklies and newspapers. It is very easy, remarkable pretty, and can be played on piano or organ.

Price 40 cents per copy. All of our readers will receive a copy by sending 25 cents in silver or postage stamps to The United Mutual Music Company, 265 6th Avenue, New York.

More Curative Power.

Is contained in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any similar preparation. It costs the proprietor and manufacturer more. It costs the jobber more and it is worth more to the consumer. It has a record of cures unknown to any other preparation. It is the best to buy because it is the One True Blood Purifier.

If You Need a Typewriter.

We have them at your price; high grade, perfect in all respects—no competition. Gray & Hitchcock, 67 E. Main.

For Nearly A Quarter of a Century.

L. C. Langie has been supplying his trade with the best coal that money could buy. The result of this policy is seen in his large and flourishing business. Try his coal next time you order. Office, Triangle building.

But Begin With The

Welsbach light in your home and store, you can save one-half the cost of your lighting. Gray & Hitchcock, 67 East Main street.

A new Inverness overcoat, about 41 size, for sale cheap; just the thing for a clergyman. Inquire at the tailor shop, 324 1/2 East Main street.

It Brings Good Cheer.

Langie's pure coal makes home more cheery through the holidays. Yards on North street, near railroad, and corner South Clinton and Alexander.

Bargains.

We can sell you drop lights less than the cost of manufacture. A Welsbach will save its cost in 3 months. Gray & Hitchcock, 67 East Main st.

Look Out for the Slippery Streets.

Bring your horses around to the West Side Shoeing Forge and have them shod all round for \$1.00. All work done by practical shoers; satisfaction guaranteed. GEO. H. ROYCE, Prop'r, 162 West Main street.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver medicine. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Others have found health, vigor and vitality in Hood's Sarsaparilla, and it surely has power to help you also. Why not try it?

SOCIETY NEWS.

(Continued from 1st Page.)
Learn to Voice Your Ideas.

An exchange gives some good advice to young men, which is worthy of consideration, and could be profitably followed. Though we would not encourage procrastination, the value of ability to talk readily before an audience cannot be over estimated.

"Join a society and talk. It don't matter so much what you talk about, whether it is the constitution of the society or the speeches of Demosthenes, but talk, get on your feet, get over the horrible self-consciousness and witless stampele of every idea. Learn to express yourself, and then take up subjects that have a practical application to the life of the world we live in. The glittering generalities of the pseudo orator are going a glimmering. Talk sound sense just as soon as you find your tongue and can manage it, but begin anywhere. Now is a good time to form debating societies."

The plea of lack of necessary talent is often given by members of organizations for their failure to take part in the discussion and deliberation upon subjects that come up before a society meeting; and thus it happens that a few members do all the talking at each meeting. These members are not always the best fitted for this feature of the organization, and this form of procedure does not tend to the best interests of the society. But many members will not attempt to present views, because they fear the failure with which their effort may meet. A little more courage on the part of these timid persons would be conducive to the welfare of their organization, and add much to the interest of all the members. Much talent lies dormant in such people who do not realize that the power to speak must be developed, and are waiting for the time when their ability shall assert itself without an effort of the possessor. Let us have more speaking in our societies.

The first annual ball of Auxiliary No. 2 will be held at Cox Hall Thursday evening, Feb. 11th. Refreshments will be served during the evening.

Central Council, C. M. B. A., held its first meeting for the year 1897, as usual on the first Thursday of the month. The meeting was called to order promptly at 8:30, and the business of the 1896 council was all cleared up so nothing would be left for the incoming council but new business. The report of Secretary J. J. Nunnold, showing the increase in membership in the city during the last three years should be ample satisfaction to those who have wondered what were the duties of the Central Council, or what it has done since it was organized. It was very gratifying indeed to hear that the organization had increased during the last three years in our city over 400 members, which now brings the total membership up to nearly 2,000. If this work be continued by the council, assisted earnestly by the branches and all their members, it will be not only a great benefit to the association but a grand example for other localities to follow.

President E. J. Ernst on retiring from the duties of presiding officer to assume those of chancellor, very eloquently thanked the members for the assistance they had given him during his term of office. He briefly stated the good work that had been done throughout the state during the year just closed, and also of the great work that had been accomplished in our own city. In conclusion President Ernst said he hoped the enthusiasm displayed here this evening would be continued at all meetings this year. The following officers were then elected and installed by Deputies: John J. Kernan and James F. Casey, Chancellor, E. J. Ernst, Branch 81; president, F. G. Carberry, Branch 139; first vice-president, R. T. Noonan, Branch 88; second vice-president, P. J. Lechleitner, Branch 196; secretary, J. J. Nunnold, Branch 81; treasurer, L. G. McGuire, Branch 87; marshal, M. Tobin, Branch 93; guard, L. Fournier, Branch 134; organization committee, C. M. Bayer, Branch 81; P. Hargrath, Branch 82; D. Driscoll, Branch 87; ways and means committee, E. T. Burke, Branch 93; H. D. McGuire, Branch 88; J. C. Koesterer, Branch 81; finance committee, Eugene Doucette, Branch 134; F. Lavery, Branch 88; Charles Jackson, Branch 82.

We Received Several Loads of New Goods Last Week. Come in and see the new styles for Spring.

New Lamps.	New Jardiniere Stands.
New Rugs.	New Dressers.
New Pictures.	New Chiffoniers.
New Chairs.	New Parlor Goods.
New Rockers.	New Extension Tables.
New Couches.	New Folding Beds.
New Brass Beds.	New Sideboards.

And many other things. Look in our window and see the samples of some nice goods. We are selling Grand Rapids Carpet Sweepers this week for \$1.65.

GARSON & WOOD,
108 State Street

Put a Watch on your girl—on your boy—let them start the New Year with a brisk little timekeeper. There will be fewer tardy marks—fewer broken appointments. We'll sell you the watch—we would be glad to have you look at the stock whether you buy or not.

James M. Nolan,
Weekly Payments. 146 E. Main St.

WE WILL SELL YOU. COME IN



New and Second-Hand Cutters and Sleighs will be sold right. A few Robes, Blankets, Bells, and Harness to close out.

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