$1 Per Year.

The Catholic Journal.

Vol. VIII, No. 20. Rochester, N. Y., Saturday, February 13, 1897. Price, 3 Cents.

ATHEIST SCORED.

PRIEST AND INFIDEL.

Father Brannan's Reply to Ben Williamson.

The following correspondence it self-explanatory.

"CINCINNATI, Dec. 13, 1896.

Dear Brann:—I am no A. P. A., but was raised a Catholic, and know more about Catholocism than you ever will know. If you admire Jesuits and nuns, why don't you become a believer in the infallibility of the Pope? Six popes issued bulls against witchcraft, whereby they became the real instigators of witchcraft—persecution that caused the torture and burning alive of hundreds of thousands of innocent people. Those bulls were "ex-cathedra" documents; hence they contained infallible truths. This is Catholic doctrine. You don't know much about nuns. They go into convents because they can't get married; or because they are too cowardly to fight the battle of life, to struggle for existence. You admire nuns because they are nurses in hospitals, etc. Don't you know that thousands are waiting for a place (like a nurse) in a hospital, or anywhere else? Don't you know that it is considered good luck to get similar positions? If you would not be a papal hireling, you would know and write that Catholic nuns build hospitals and orphan asylums only because they can beg for money easier; thereby feeding and enriching themselves and priests, and bishops and Popes. Nuns are the unhappiest creatures after the first few years of enthusiasm have passed away. I may also mention the fact that no girl without money is admitted into a convent. There you see the finger of Rome—money! A convent is a real penitentiary; gloom and despair the lot of most victims. Don't you know that the most effective and destructive and enemies of Popery and priestcraft were raised and educated in Catholicism? Voltaire was educated by Jesuits; Theodore Parker was a Catholic; Luther and Bruno were monks; Napoleon was a Catholic, and abolished the Spanish Inquisition and played ball with the Pope; Joseph II of Austria, a Catholic, confiscated the property of convents and churches; so did Catholic Bavaria. Munich, a Catholic city, sent two socialists to parliament in Berlin for many years past (German parliament, Reichstag.) Socialists, though, are materialists, infidels, glorious atheists, because they believe in humanity, not gods. Where, now, is your Gibraltar of Catholicism? Where was your Gibraltar of the Catholic church in the French Revolution, when priests were killed by the hundreds like mad dogs?

"BEN WILLIAMSON."

The letter of Mr. Williamson has been submitted to me by the editor of the Iconoclast, with the request that I answer it. To answer him fully would occupy too much of my time, which I can employ to better advantage, and also too much space in the Iconoclast, which can be used more profitably.

He says six popes issued bulls against witchcraft, etc. Which were the six popes and the dates of their issuance? This man so hates the popes that he mentions no one else in connection with witchcraft. The idea is implied that Protestants ignored the subject completely. The belief was thoroughly current in Protestant England, which is indicted in many works of dramatists in the Elizabethan era, including the great Shakspeare himself, who, however, was not a Protestant. It is a very ancient thing, and a chapter of the code of Justinian deals exclusively with the subject. It is mentioned in both the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament it is mentioned in 1 Sam. 15 c, 23; 2 Chron., 33 c., 6, Exodus, 22 c., 18, and several other places, and by St. Paul in Galatians, 5 c., 20.

It was an indictable offense at common law, and made a felony of an Act of Henry VIII. In the time of Elizabeth, (not a Catholic,) it was made a felony without benefit of clergy and punished by death. So great a lawyer as Sir Matthew Hale believed in it. Selden, Coke, and Bacon, all eminent lawyers, believed in it, and Mr. Blackstone said that its elimination from the category of crimes was not to be taken as a negative of the possibility of such an offense, though he would not give credit to any particular modern instance. Even Luther, favorably alluded to by Mr. Williamson, believed in witchcraft. So, also, the Protestant Puritans of New England in the United States. The devil, of whose existence I have no more doubt than of the existence of God, has many ways of magnifying his Protean powers. The evidence of his possession of some people is manifested by a virulent hatred of the "Old Pope" and the Catholic church, calumny of the Sisters of Charity, and the denial of the existence of a God. That's the shape in which he has Mr. Williamson; and if the devil has any special favorites in this world, and I am satified he has, the guerdon of excellence will be awarded to those who deny the existence of Him whom the devil hates, but cannot deny himself.

He says, "the Sisters go into convents because they can't get married, or are too cowardly to fight the battle of life, etc." The cruel malignity of this infamous accusation! It would paralyze the genius of the English language to furnish suitable phraseology to express my fathomless contempt for any man who would make such a cruel charge against women. This malignant and loathsome defamer says in one place that they go into convents because they are too cowardly to fight the battle of life, and immediately after says that no girl who has not money can get into a convent at all. His black calumny has overleaped itself, and he makes one assertion cut the throat of the other. A girl with money can fight the battle of life anywhere, and it is an important element in this utilitarian age in enhancing matrimonial opportunities. Besides, he says, the convent is a penitentiary, and yet girls pay money for the privilege of being "victims of gloom and despair." Mr. Williamson possesses a unique interest from the fact that most men who are liars are so from one point of view; but this man proves himself to be the chief apostle of Ananias from every point of observation.

Women who leave parents and friends, home and kindred, devoting their lives in zealous fidelity to the physical and spiritual interests of others, nursing the sick, feeding the orphan, comforting the widow, reclaiming the outcast, blunting the sting of melancholy, gilding the gloom of sorrow, and painting the fragrant rose of hope in the wilderness of despair, often ending their lives, which have been lived for others by fearlessly entering the portals of deadly contagion, and in their efforts to subdue the fierceness of the great monarch of desolation, have become willing victims of his devouring wrath. Are such women cowards."

It has been said:

"That whether on the scaffold high,
Or in the battle's van,
The proudest place for man to die,
Is where he dies for man."

Measured by this criterion, in what vocabulary can we find language that would fitly damn a man to eternal infamy for calling her a coward who even risks her own life to save the life of her impious traducer?

He says: "Don't you know the most effective and destructive enemies of Popery and priestcraft were raised in Catholocism? We likewise know that the most effective and destructive enemy of Jesus Christ was one of His Apostles. He talks of the cruel treatment of the Pope by Napoleon. What became of Napoleon after that? He was dragged down from the empyrean power of aggrandizement to unsounded depths of humiliation and degradation. The poet Byron said of the hero of Marengo and the genius of Austerlitz, when at St. Helena:

"'Tis done! but yesterday a king,
And armed with kings to strive;
And now thou art a nameless thing!
So abject yet, alive."

The Pope whom he had imprisoned said this to him after being offered a cockade through general Berthier, as a French symbol and as a compliment: "Sir, I can accept no ornaments except those with which the church invests me, the pastoral staff and this little crown on my head. And remember, although you may at present throw down the monuments of the living, and uproot the tombs of the dead, you will soon be confined to the grave, and this little crook and this crown I wear will govern the universal earth when your name and race and power are forgotten amongst men."

He tells of the exploits of some bad Catholics. A Catholic may go to the devil like anybody else, if he wishes to, and they very often do so. Mr. Williamson is a living exemplification of this truth.

He says priests were killed like dogs during the French Revolution. So were Jesus Christ and eleven of the twelve Apostles.

Mr. Williamson, by implication, says he is a materialist, an infidel., and a "glorious atheist," that is, he don't believe in spiritual existences, he has no faith, and he dare not believe in any God.

He says in his letter that Napoleon played ball with the Pope. Whether he did or not, in the sense meant by Mr. Williamson, is open to question; but there is no doubt whatever that the devil has got everything fixed up to play hell with Mr. Williamson.

P. F. BRANNAN.

Weatherford, Texas, December 21, 1896.

THE GOLDEN ROSE

This Year It Will Go To Duchess Marie Therese of Wurtemberg.

Pope Leo has announced his intention of presenting the Golden Rose this year to Duchess Marie Therese, of Wurtemberg, wife of Duke Philip, who is destined to succeed to the throne of Wurtemberg on the death of the present ruler, and of his childless uncle, Nicholas. He will be the first Catholic king of that important south German state since the days of the reformation. The Duchess Marie Therese is a very charming woman, the only surviving daughter of old Archduke Albert, who died last year, as generalissimo of the Austro-Hungarian army, her other sister having been burned to death at the palace of the Schoenbrunn, through her gauze and muslin summer dress catching fire from her lighted cigarette.

She is enormously wealthy, having inherited a considerable portion of the property of her father, who was renowned in his day as the wealthiest prince in christendom. She has several children, the two eldest married, Albert being wedded to Archduchess Marguerite Sophia of Austria, while Isabella is the wife of Prince John, of Saxony.

The Golden Rose as usual will be conveyed to the duchess by Count Edouard Sodertni, who, married to an American lady, enjoys the well-deserved reputation of being the most attractively ugly man of the court of the Vatican. He is vested, while bearing the Golden Rose, with the attribute and privileges of full-fledged ambassador, and is accorded all the honors, military and other, that are paid to dignitaries of that importance.

Death of a Religious.

The funeral services over the remains of Sister Martha Flood, who died February 5th, were held Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock at the South street convent chapel. Solemn requiem mass was celebrated by Rev. J. P. Stewart, assisted by Fathers Farron and Schmelz. Deceased was a daughter of Catharine and Robert Flood, and was born in this city. She entered the order of the Sisters of Mercy 24 years ago and had always remained at the South street convent. The cause of her death was heart failure, coupled with pneumonia. She was 45 years of age and leaves one sister, Bridget Flood, of this city.

The Catholic Literary.

On Monday evening next Rev. Fr. O'Neil, of Phelps, will lecture before the Rochester Catholic Literary and their friends: The subject of the lecture has not yet been announced; but knowing Father O'Neil's ability, we can safely say that it will be a treat to those who attend A small admission fee will be charged those who are not members. A short musical program will be given

A Pleasant Party.

About thirty friends of Mr. Clement Hudon of 71 Weld street gave him a surprise party Tuesday evening last, the occasion being his fifty-seventh birthday. The evening was enjoyably spent playing pedro. Harry Bertram played several flute selections accompanied by Miss Hattie Savard on the piano; Mrs. L. Savard sang a solo and Miss Meyering and Mrs. E. Leimgruber played several difficult selections on the piano. About midnight lunch was served.

Millspaugh & Green

Have furnished means by which the public may secure clean coal, neatly and carefully delivered, 100 pounds coal in a bag, 20 bags to the ton, the weight of the bags not included. Office 136 Powers block, yard Clarissa street bridge. 'Phone 273-A. C. S. Kellogg, manager.

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.

CATHOLIC WINTER SCHOOL.

Will Open February 28, With Pontifical Mass by Mgr. Martinelli.

The second session of the Catholic Winter School of America, will open on the 28th instant. All arrangements have been completed. On Sunday, 28th inst., Archbishop Martinelli, Papal Delegate, will celebrate Pontifical Mass in the St. Louis Cathedral, and Bishop Dunn, of Dallas, will preach. It is expected that the occasion will be marked by an imposing assemblage of church dignitaries. The formal opening of the school will take place the following day in Tulane Hall, and the sessions will continue until March 21, inclusive.

The nature of the intellectual feast to be enjoyed by those who shall attend may be judged from the following synopsis of the programme:

Rev. J. F. Mullaney, L.L.D., of Syracuse, N. Y. 1. Phases of Modern Literary Thought and the Church. 2. 2. Phases of Modern Philosophic Thought and the Church.

Rev. M. S. Brennan, A. M., of St. Louis, Mo. 1. Solar Physics. 2. European Travels. 3. Tornadoes—their Causes and Effects. All illustrated by lantern slides.

Miss Helena T. Goessman, Ph. M., of Amherst, Mass. 1. The Niobe of Bretagne. 2. La Pucelle, of Domremy. 3. An old Portrait restored, (Isabella of Castile.) 4. The Christian Woman in Society. 5. The Royal Recluse of Kimbolton Castle.

Henry Austin Adams, M. A., of Brooklyn, N. Y. A course of Lectures on "The Oxford Movement." 1. The Beginning of the Movement. 2. The Tractarians. 3. J. Henry Newman. 4. Ritualism. 5. The Present and the Future.

Rev. M. A. Knapp, O. P., of St. Hyacinth, Canada. 1. Influence of Monastic Orders on the World's Destinies. 2. Jeanne D'Arc, (in French.)

Prof. Brown Ayres, PH. D., Tulane University, New Orleans. Two Lectures on "Physics." 1. What is Electricity? What is Light?

Rev. Wm. Powers, S.J., of Spring Hill College, Mobile, Ala. Three Lectures on "Revelation." 1. The Nature and Necessity of Divine Revelation. 2. The Fact of Divine Revelation fully established. 3. Difficulties raised against Revelation and its Proofs.

Mrs. B. Ellen Burke, of Malone, N. Y. Two Lectures on Pedagogy." 1. Child-Study. 2. Childhood's Ideals.

Rev. J. F. Nugent, of Des Moines, Iowa. 1. Civilization Before and After Christ. 2. High Pressure Civilization. The human Intellect and Material Progress.

Rev. D. S. Phelan, L.L.D., of St. Louis, Mo., Editor of the "West-Watchman." One sermon; Subject: "The Mystery of Faith."

Rev. J. L. O'Neil, O. P., of New York, Editor of the "Rosary Magazine." one sermon; Subject: "The Light of Faith."

Where round-trip tickets to New Orleans for "Mardi Gras" are sold, those going to the Winter School should purchase them. The terminal lines have agreed, under proper safeguards, to permit extension of limit upon certificate of attendance at the school. Such tickets must be deposited immediately on arrival with joint railroad agent.

Where "Madri Gras" tickets are not on sale, call for the winter tourist's tickets. These tickets are usually limited to June 1, and will not require to be deposited as aforesaid. By all means consult your several local railroad agents for rates and schedules.

A record of the hotels, boarding-houses and private families prepared to entertain visitors in this school is in preparation. Parties contemplating going to New Orleans for the school should make known in advance the accommodations desired, the price they are willing to pay, etc., and on arrival at New Orleans should call at the Catholic Winter School quarters, Tulane Hall, University Place, between Canal and Common streets, for assignment. Inquiries addressed to A. H. Fleming, Secretary, No. 308 Camp street, or to Benjamin Crump, No. 3726 Prytania street, or to Benjamin Crump, No. 3726 Prytania st., will receive prompt attention.

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.

Perpetual Help Society.

The annual meeting of the Perpetual Help Society of St. Mary's hospital was held Wednesday afternoon. The annual report of the secretary was read by Mrs. Joseph Fleckenstein. The report follows:

To the President and members of the society the following report is respectfully submitted:

It is with exceeding sorrow we have to record the death of our oldest and most efficient member and former vice-president, Mrs. Lulisita Barbeau Kirley, whose death occurred May 4, 1896. Minutes of her death were entered on the records of the society at the time, and a letter of condolence sent to the bereaved daughters. We also deeply sympathize with our president, Miss Cox, who has been so greatly afflicted during the past year by the death of a venerable parent and a beloved brother.

The society has held twenty regular meetings and two special meetings during the year, with an average attendance of nineteen members. Of course we have a great many honorary members belonging to the society who do not attend these regular meetings. About 115 names are enrolled on our membership list for 1896-97. Thirty-four new members were received during the year.

At the regular meetings the following articles were made for the use of the hospital: Ten comfortables, 46 sheets, 180 pillow cases, 205 towels, 28 aprons, 2 dresses; total, 470. The following donations have been received for the society: $10 and materials for two comfortables; also $2 in fines from Mrs. W. C. Barry; one blouse waist from Mrs. Phebe Euler; pair boy's pants from Mrs. A. G. Zimmerman. A lawn fete was held under the management of the ladies of the Perpetual Help society for the benefit of the hospital on the afternoon and evening of August 27th on the spacious grounds of the institution. Financially the fete was a success, as the net sum of $923.34 was realized. This amount was some little help to Sister Marie, who had been under great expense during the year in erecting suitable buildings for the ambulance system of the hospital.

We owe much thanks to our directress, Mrs. M. Kolb, for the energetic work in behalf of this society. She has been an indefatigable worker for its welfare since its organization.

The president and members of the society desire to thank Sister Marie, the superioress of the hospital, and her associate sisters for kindness and consideration shown them at all their meetings and for the many favors they have received from them.

We thank the daily press of the city for favors extended to us during the year. To the courtesy and wise counsel of our president we owe much of the success of our society.

The president of the society, Miss Julia Cox, presented her report, which covered the points reported by the secretary.

The report of the treasurer, Mrs. L. W. Maier, showed the receipts during the past year to have been $359.17; disbursements, $221.42, leaving a balance on hand of $137.75.

Wedded in Palmyra.

Miss Maggie Callahan of Palmyra and Edward Beck of Rochester were united in marriage Tuesday afternoon at St. Ann's Catholic church in Palmyra, Rev. Father Hartley officiating.

Mr. John Callahan, brother of the bride, acted as best man, while Miss Minnie Dolan was bridesmaid. Mr. John Keating of Powers hotel officiated as usher. The church was tastefully trimmed with potted plants and ferns. The bride wore a wedding gown of pale green with velvet bodice, the same being trimmed with fur, and carried white carnations. The maid's gown was of green silk and velvet with lace trimmings, and she carried yellow roses.

After the ceremony the bridal party and relatives were conveyed to the residence of Mr. Patrick Callahan, brother of the bride, on West Main street, where a banquet was served and congratulations to the happy pair offered.

Mr. and Mrs. Beck left for the east in the afternoon, and after March 1st will be "at home" at No. 79 Jefferson avenue, Rochester.

Bargains.

We can sell you drop lights less than the cost of manufacture. A Welsbach will save [illegible] Gray & Hitchcock.

RULES FOR LENT.

CIRCULAR LETTER ISSUED BY BISHOP MCQUAID TO THE CLERGY.

Rt. Rev. Bishop McQuaid has issued to the clergy of the diocese the following circular letter:

Rochester, N. Y., Feb 11, 1897.

The holy season of Lent begins on the 3d day of March. All the week days of Lent are days of fasting as to one meal with a moderate collation in the evening.

All the days of Lent are days of abstinence from flesh meat.

By dispensation, however, the use of flesh meat is allowed without restriction on Sundays, and once a day on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturday, except on the Saturday of Ember week and the Saturday of Holy week.

The use of eggs, butter, or cheese at the collation, provided the quantity prescribed by the fast be complied with, is by general custom tolerated in this country.

Lard and drippings may be used in preparing fish, vegetables, etc.

The following persons are exempt from the obligation of fasting: Young persons under 21 years of age, the aged, the sick, nursing women, those who are obliged to do hard labor, and all who through weakness cannot do so without prejudice to their health.

Persons dispensed from the obligation of fasting on account of their advanced age, or hard labor, are not bound by the regulations of using meat only at one meal on days on which its use is granted by dispensation.

In churches where there is a resident pastor, there will be Vespers and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on every Wednesday evening, and the devotion of the Stations of the cross on Fridays.

Pastors in charge of missions or churches will give one sermon during the week, in at least two churches.

Prayer and the spirit of penance should accompany penance. Endeavor, therefore, to induce parishioners to [illegible] son according to the [illegible] church, and [illegible] their way for meditation [illegible] of penance and the [illegible]

Very sincerely in Christ,

†BERNARD, Bishop of Rochester.

Rochester, N. Y., February [illegible]

The offerings of the faithful [illegible] Epiphany or the Sunday [illegible] set aside for the [illegible] under the propagation [illegible]

The collections [illegible] of the faith will be [illegible] church of the diocese [illegible] is made, on the [illegible] and in all other churches [illegible] Sunday thereafter or when [illegible] mass.

The collections [illegible] for the Holy Land [illegible]

The annual collection [illegible] pence will be taken up [illegible] churches of the diocese [illegible] is made, on Passion Sunday, [illegible] 6th, and in all other churches [illegible] first Sunday thereafter [illegible] is made.

The amounts received will be forwarded to the [illegible] week.

Commending these [illegible] your aid, and [illegible] ity of our [illegible] increased blessings [illegible] remain,

Very sincerely [illegible]

†BERNARD, [illegible]

[illegible]

The Sisters of St. Joseph [illegible] case of Detroit, have [illegible] of adorning up all their good works during the [illegible] of March for all who [illegible] this way.

Such as desire [illegible] write their [illegible] and forward them [illegible] of the Sisters [illegible] before the 1st [illegible]

During [illegible] receipt of many [illegible] gratitude of those [illegible] obtained through [illegible] the Sisters [illegible] hearing, [illegible] hours [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible]