

The Catholic Journal

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CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Charles R. Skinner is suspected of being a bigot. He can also give forth more downright "tommyrot" on what is supposed to be educational thought and wisdom than any one man we ever heard of. In a recent address on "The Schools and the State" Mr. Skinner had this to say:

"The state has a right to expect also that pupils from the beginning of their course be imbued with the spirit of honesty, with the love of truth and purity, with integrity of thought and action. Education to be successful can never be one-sided. Children cannot be trained physically and mentally with no moral and spiritual culture without loss to themselves, to parents and to the state. While it is never the province of the state to teach religious truth after the distinctive tenets of any form of belief, it emphatically is the duty of the state to see that children are taught the highest and purest morality. Inasmuch as this is a Christian commonwealth, the state must demand that the schools inculcate Christian morality.

"Has not the state also a right to demand that colleges and universities shall so use their privileges and opportunities that students shall become not only educated men and women of high character, of noble purpose, of lofty purity, of unquestioned loyalty, of incorruptible patriotism, trained to know what is right, and to do it, to love what is good and seek to reach it? Has the state a right to demand these results from the schools, colleges and universities it supports and protects? Have they the right to refuse the demand?

"The state has a right to expect from the schools receiving its benefactions absolute loyalty. Loyalty not only in outward subjection to law, but loyalty of the spirit, the recognition of the right of the state to order its system of instruction after its own conception of the needs of the state and of the highest interests of the schools; a loyalty that finds its best expression in the efforts of pupils, teachers, people to build up lofty ideals of manhood and womanhood, and of the broadest and noblest citizenship."

This insufferable drivell drives the Rochester Herald to the following report:

"Not one word is to found here about the duties of parents to their children; or of the duties of children to parents. The address reads as though Mr. Skinner had never heard of such duties. Yet they do exist, and they are a thousand times more important than all his metaphysical claptrap about which the state has a right to expect. What may be taught in the public schools is very limited. It is confined very largely to certain concrete subjects, like reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, history, civics, government, and a little natural science. Beyond that the public schools have no right to go in this field, their

work must be supplemented by parents. What child ever heard the English language spoken correctly that heard its parents disregard every rule of grammar every hour of the day? How is it to acquire a pleasing voice when it hears nothing from morning till night but a whining mother and a cursing father? Is it not the height of absurdity to say that the state expects from such a child the same that it expects from a child whose parents are cultivated and refined people?

"What is true of grammar and pronunciation is true to a far greater extent of courtesy of manner, politeness of speech, refinement of thought, of the spirit of truth and purity. Christian morality and all the other abstract actions that Mr. Skinner enumerates. Imagine the state teaching these. Who is the state? Nothing more nor less than its officials. Do they as a body exhibit courtesy of manner, politeness of speech, refinement of thought, Christian morality? Mingle with the members of the state legislature in Albany. Mingle also with the members of common councils and boards of education. Mingle, finally, with teachers that have all they can do to impart to their pupils a little knowledge of the branches that we have mentioned. The discovery will soon be made that the only place to teach the virtues that Mr. Skinner would have the state impart to all children is at home. To hold out the idea that parents can shirk this duty, which belongs to them alone, is to do harm to them and to their children, and to encourage views of the capacity of the public schools that are certain to end in disappointment."

There are schools in which the child can be taught faith and morals, but they are not state schools. They are parochial schools, in which the pupils are taught by instructors selected by the parents, and are supported by the parents. These are the Catholic parochial schools and the Lutheran parochial schools. The pupils of these schools are all that Mr. Skinner demands, and they could not be produced from the state schools, per se. With Mr. Skinner's lofty ideals it is difficult to understand why he made the decision he did in the Water Street case.

PROTESTANT PERSECUTION

In the "Rosary" for June Bryan J. Clinch gives an extract from a Honolulu paper, the "Gazette" of June 29, 1839, which shows that even the Protestants are not above "inquisition" tactics in trying to force Catholics to embrace Protestantism: "A scene of cruelty then began which no words can describe, and for the truth of which we pledge ourselves, and at the same time defy anyone to contradict what we here assert. Conducted to the fortress at 5 in the afternoon, they were repeatedly summoned to renounce the Catholic religion and embrace that of Bingham, a Calvinist minister. They refused to comply, preferring torture and death to apostasy. The oldest of the women was then dragged to a tree, and her arms fastened to its branches with iron handcuffs, so that the wretched woman was suspended by the wrists, her toes scarcely touching the ground. The other woman was brought to a low roofed house, her arms were fastened to a projecting beam six feet high, her feet fastened near the roof that she was covered with blood by the thorns which were mixed in the thatch of the roof. During the night the rain fell in torrents on the two women, and on the next day, when the sun arose in all its burning ardor, its rays fell perpendicularly on the heads of the sufferers, whose strength was completely exhausted by the prolonged tortures they had suffered."

This happened in the Hawaiian Islands, under the regime of the Calvinist missionary Bingham, who gained the confidence of the queen and drove out the Catholics who had done much to civilize and Christianize the heathen inhabitants. The Boston "Republic" hints that it is the descendants of Bingham who wish to sell the Hawaiian islands to the United States. If this be so, this country would do well to go slow in annexing the islands.

TWO SENATORS

An exchange makes this comparison between the two United States senators from Massachusetts: "Our charitable contemporary, the 'Ave Maria' defends Senator Lodge right manfully on the score of bigotry. It says the charge that he sympathizes with the new Know-nothingism is unjust and serious. The grounds of its contention are that the senator's environments have been of such a nature that he could not be inoculated with the virus of bigotry, and that his father and mother were liberal and tolerant in such matters. We wish we could confirm our contemporary's judgment. But the facts prevent. Mr. Lodge has coquetted with the A. P. A. He has made speeches and written resolutions designed to please them, and he has never uttered a word to check their villainous crusade in Massachusetts."

"In striking contrast was the conduct of the senior senator, George F. Hoar, who has denounced these vipers in unmeasured terms. He has suffered defeat in his own ward at their hands, but he declined to modify his attitude. He has the satisfaction of seeing the vicious order now in a dilapidated condition partly through his efforts. Mr. Lodge did nothing to break it down. He did much to build it up."

Says the "Cathedral Calendar": "The intention recommended for July is the 'Propagation of the Faith.' 'The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church' is a saying which has been handed down for centuries. The more the church has been persecuted the more she seems to grow. History tells us how persecution seemed only to make the faith of the people stronger and caused many to recognize that the church was not a human institution. Persecution purifies the church, as fire purifies gold. The patient sufferings of so many thousand martyrs for their faith caused the pagans to consider the beauty and solidity of that faith. Hence it was that where the faith was crucified in one place it spread itself and grew up with fruit a hundred fold in another. If such was the fruit of the blood of martyrs, how much more powerful has been the blood of Christ which was shed for mankind. Now this month of July is dedicated to the precious blood of Christ. It is very fitting that this intention should be prayed for at this time. Let us then, during this month, earnestly that the most precious blood of Jesus may not be shed in vain, but that people may recognize the love God has shown them, and embrace the faith that He has taught them."

Says the Boston "Republic": "Some of our contemporaries seem to think that the opinion of the attorney-general carries with it the weight and authority of a judicial decision. Nothing could be further from the truth. The attorney-general is merely the law adviser and the prosecuting officer of the administration. His opinion is of no more value in determining a question of law than the opinion of any other lawyer whom the government might hire to advise it."

President McKinley has appointed Philip H. Sheridan, only son of the late General Philip Sheridan, a cadet, at-large to the United States military academy at West Point. This appointment shows that the president has no bigotry about him.

The "Catholic News" of New York has increased its subscription price to \$2.00 per year. This leaves THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL the only dollar weekly paper of importance now published in the state.

Bishop McQuaid will preach at the Catholic Summer School on Sunday, August 8th. It is to be hoped that among his congregation will be found many Rochester Catholics.

THE JOURNAL extends hearty congratulations to Bishop McQuaid on the twenty-ninth anniversary of his consecration, and to Rev. James P. Kiernan on the fifteenth anniversary of his ordination to the holy priesthood. "Ad multos annos."

Subscribe for THE JOURNAL.

The public at large would regard Mr. Marcus A. Hanna more in the light of a public benefactor were he to exert a tithing of the influence he put forth to nominate and elect President McKinley in settling the great coal strike.

The "Catholic Guardian" is the title of the latest addition to journalistic ranks. The paper is published at Binghamton, N. Y., and is bright and newsy. We wish the publishers every success.

The New York "Sun" is now posing as the organ of the trusts and monopolies.

It looks as though Rochester would furnish one of the candidates for chief judge of the court of appeals this fall.

THE GOSPELS

GOSPEL. St. Mark, viii. 1-10.—At that time: "When there was a great multitude, and they had nothing to eat, calling His disciples together, He saith to them: I have compassion on the multitude, for behold they have now been with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And if I shall send them away fasting to their home they will faint in the way, for some of them came from afar off. And His disciples answered Him: From whence can any one fill them here with bread, in the wilderness? And He asked them: How many loaves have ye? Who said: Seven. And He commanded the multitude to sit down upon the ground. And taking the seven loaves, giving thanks, He broke, and gave to His disciples to set before them, and they set them before the people. And they had a few little fishes; and He blessed them and commanded them to be set before them. And they did eat, and were filled, and they took up that which was left of the fragments, seven baskets. And they that had eaten were about four thousand; and He sent them away."

What do we learn from the Gospel? Jesus Christ, as St. Gregory says, taught sometimes by word of mouth and sometimes by His actions. Hence in all that He did to the multitude in this day's Gospel we see what He continually does in our souls.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday, July 18, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Camillus of Leillis, Confessor. St. Symphoros and Seven Sons, Martyrs. Epist. 1 John. 13-18, Gosp. John xv. 12-16, Last Gosp. Mark viii. 1-10. Monday, 19—St. Vincent de Paul, Confessor. Tuesday, 20—St. Jerome, Confessor. St. Margaret, Virgin and Martyr. Wednesday, 21—St. Praxedis, Virgin. Thursday, 22—St. Mary Magdalen. Friday, 23—St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr. St. Liborius, Bishop and Confessor. Saturday, 24—St. Francis Solano, Confessor. St. Christina, Virgin and Martyr. Vigil of St. James.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 26, 1897.—My wife was very weak and sickly, but a few bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla produced a wonderful effect. She is now strong and healthy and has gained in flesh. We believe Hood's Sarsaparilla is a grand medicine and cheerfully recommend to all who need a tonic or blood purifier.—Wm. H. Amos, 43 Linden street.

Hood's Pills are the favorite family cathartic. Easy to take, gentle, mild. 25c.

The New Tariff Law

Which has just been signed by the President may be appropriately considered an Industrial Declaration of Independence. An official text of the law has just been published by the American Protective Tariff League, and should be carefully examined by every citizen. Protectionists ought to have a few copies of this law for distribution. Five copies will be sent to any address for ten cents. Ask for Document No. 30 and address W. F. Wakeman, General Secretary, 135 West 23d street, New York.

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A PETRIFIED CROSS.

RELIC OF ADVENTURE FOUND IN A PENNSYLVANIA QUARRY.

Buried in 1749 by Priests With an Expedition From Lachine to What is Now Pittsburg. Dr. De Haas of the Smithsonian Institution Has Examined the Cross.

A blast in a quarry on the Stewart farm, half a mile east of Rochester, Pa., recently brought to light a cross which has been beneath the earth's surface since 1749. The place of burial was ground where limestones was an important factor, and the result is that the cross is completely petrified.

When the matter was first called to the attention of Ira W. Logan, the owner of the quarry, he was greatly puzzled to explain the singular formation of stone, but investigation has made the history of the sacred emblem clear and at the same time recalled the marvelous energy and tireless journeyings of the most famous of the Roman Catholic clergy, the Jesuits. Mr. Logan communicated the news of the discovery to the authorities of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. In response Dr. W. De Haas of the institution visited Rochester and carefully examined the cross. His report has not yet been made public, but it is likely to be of vivid interest when it is finally given publication.

The cross itself is 24 inches high, the crosspiece being 18 inches in length. Time and the limestone washings, the combination that petrified it, also fastened it securely in a bed of limestone. It is considered rather remarkable that the blast which tore it from its bed 20 feet beneath the earth's surface did not mar its beauty, but if it had been examined in the most careful fashion it could have been no more perfect than it is. It is hard to realize without observation how really beautiful it has become through petrification. It seems to have a luster or radiance, and when the sunlight strikes it fairly beams with light from it of prismatic hue, the whole forming a most charming spectacle.

The history of this cross, which careful investigation has shown, takes us back to the old days when western New York was little better than a wilderness and Pennsylvania was as free from the touch of the white man outside of the large settlements as virgin soil is from the cultivator. At that time the French soldiers and Roman Catholic priests were particularly energetic in penetrating the country in all directions, one seeking to establish the dominion of the state, the other that of the church. It was the century in which this combination achieved the most with which it has been credited. La Salle, Marquette and others had made their names famous already. The woods all along the Canadian border and nearly so far west as the Mississippi river had become familiar places to the Jesuit priest.

In the spring of 1749 a band of French soldiers, voyagers and others left Lachine, which is situated near Montreal, for a trip through the section of country which as yet really belonged to no one. The leader of the company was Captain Colerom, but associated with him was M. Deconrecoeur, who in later years became a commander of that famous Pennsylvania post known as old Fort Duquesne, the site of the present city of Pittsburg. From Lachine the party journeyed down through Canada into that portion of New York state just north of Buffalo.

It was a perilous journey. While the Indians were supposed to be friendly to the French, there were predatory bands of red men whose love for scalps and plunder often led them to forget the alliances their chiefs had made. They would pounce upon expeditions like the one described, and often was it the case that the first news the friends of the white men would have of their fate would be the report of a scout who had found their skeletons half buried under the leaves of a faraway forest.

Obstacles of this sort had no terrors for the French soldier. The Jesuit, besides possessing all the bravery that went to make up the man who fought for France, was guided by a religious inspiration and a fervor that almost amounted to fanaticism. No danger was so great, no peril so imminent that he would not face it. Through the trackless forests in a frail canoe, down unknown streams, where the song of the arrow might bring the message of death at any moment, he would journey, provided there was a possibility of bringing a single person from without to within the fold of the Roman Catholic church. A half dozen of these priests accompanied the French explorers.

When the expedition reached the Alleghany river, it was considered that its real duties began. Here the feud of the French and the cross of the Jesuits were placed side by side—church and state in a union that saved of nothing but pacification. At distances of ten miles along the route Captain Colerom buried leaden plates inscribed with the arms of France and the date of the expedition. Directly alongside the place of burial of these plates the Jesuits buried wooden crosses, of which the one found near Rochester is a sample.

Miles and miles down the Alleghany, encountering perils of every description, their numbers diminished by sickness, weak from want of food, these intrepid men continued their journey until they reached the junction of the Alleghany and Monongahela rivers. Here they established a camp, which subsequently became Fort Duquesne, although the sites of the fort and the camp are not identical in point of the exact space occupied. For six months, or until the spring and summer of 1750, it is recorded that this expedition maintained the place of residence indicated. After that no one seems to know what became of it, with the exception of M. Deconrecoeur, who, as stated, became the commander of the French post named Duquesne.—New York Herald.

FARMING BY WOMEN.

No Men Must Be Employed on These Nebraska Farms.

If Mand Moller could make a success of farming, there is no reason, so argues Mrs. Hattie N. Bemis of Arabia, Neb., why women of the present age and generation should not do equally well. She is going to see if the plan won't work. She owns a large tract of land in northwestern Nebraska, which, she says, she intends to give to 19 deserving widows of northwestern farmers. In return she will require them to cultivate it without man's assistance.

She says she will start them out with all the machinery they need, a sufficient supply of cattle, horses, swine and poultry to serve as a nest egg, and money to last them until the first harvest can be disposed of. She admits that the climate is dry, but proposes to instruct her wards in the operation of the Campbell system of soil culture, by which method experiments have proved that the rainfall of the section is sufficient to insure bountiful crops. The nearest the women will be allowed to come to dealings with men is to sell the crops to them. If Mrs. Bemis ever learns that a man has been employed about the premises, the farm will revert to her. Any member of the community who marries will also forfeit her title to a share in the property.—New York Evening Telegram.

BOY SAVED A TRAIN.

His Prompt Action Prevented Loss of Life Probably.

By quick action and presence of mind Frank Anderson, a 16-year-old boy, saved the Great Northern west bound express the other day from being wrecked. Anderson was walking along the road just out of Burwell, Minn., when he discovered a number of ties placed across the track. He tried to get them off, but was unable to do so. He knew that the flier was due at that point in a very few minutes. There was no house where he could get help within a mile.

He ran to the station at Burwell, and, breaking in a window, secured some waste, which he saturated with oil and placed in bunches along the road for a distance of 300 feet. As soon as he saw the headlight of the engine as the train rounded a curve half a mile away he set fire to the waste. This attracted the attention of Engineer Winny, who put on the airbrakes and reversed his engine. The train did not stop, however, until the pilot of the engine was on top of a tie that lay across the rails. Had the train been going at any speed it would have been wrecked and thrown down a 20 foot embankment. The trainmen think the ties were placed there by tramps who had not been permitted to ride free.—Exchange.

The Richest Woman to Visit Us.

Senora Isadore de Cousino, the richest woman in the world, is soon to visit this country. She is so rich that nobody knows just how much her possessions are worth. Her wealth is estimated to be at least \$100,000,000. The senora's property is in Chile. She inherited much of it from her father and brother, but her own shrewd instinct for business has served to add largely to the property. Among her possessions are many copper mines in Chile and Peru. Upward of 100 steamers and sailing vessels, the entire town of Lots in Chile, coal mines of incalculable value, farm lands, plantations, fruit ranches, vineyards and three palaces the like of which are not to be found outside the imagined glories of the "Arabian Nights." The senora's father, Senor Goyenechea, began his journey toward wealth with the development of a silver mine at Copiapo, Chile. He then turned his attention to copper mining, and when he died he left his fortune to his son and daughter. A few years afterward the widow married Senor Cousino, and it was his son who married Isadora. When mother, brother and husband died, Senora Cousino became the sole heir of the combined wealth of all. She paid strict attention to the business of her estate, and now her income is about \$8,000,000 a year. The town of Lots, of which she owns every foot of ground, every house and other building, works for her daily with its 18,000 population. One of her sumptuous palaces is at Lots, and in Santiago she has a white marble palace that cost \$2,000,000.—Exchange.

Remarkable Surgical Operation.

Report is made of a most interesting surgical operation recently performed at Parma, Italy, by Professor Camillo Verdelli, in the presence of all the physicians in the presence of the hospital and with very satisfactory results. The operation was nothing less than the washing of a youth's heart, the first of the kind, the washing apparatus employed being one lately invented by Professor Riva. After making the necessary incision Professor Verdelli first cleaned the pericardium of the patient, a 13-year-old boy, of the pus which had there accumulated and then proceeded to wash the heart with a strong solution of soda bicarbonate—borax. The attendant success was indicated by the fact that no further complication arose, and the boy was advancing to complete recovery.

Propping the White House Floor.

The crowds at the White House have been so great since President McKinley's inauguration that it has been found necessary to strengthen the floors of the old mansion. Colonel Theodore A. Bingham, U. S. A., Commissioner of public buildings and grounds, who has charge of White House improvements, made a written report to the chief of engineers the other day, in which he said that the floors of the east and west ends of the reception corridor had been strengthened and that portable supports had been made for use under these floors and under the state dining room and the east room. This was done, he said, "to strengthen them when subjected to the increased weight imposed by the large crowds attending receptions."