

The Catholic Journal

The Only Catholic Newspaper Published in the Diocese.

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CHRISTMAS.

Once again the swiftly passing days have brought to us the great feast of Christmas, the day on which we commemorate the most wonderful self-sacrifice that could be made, when God, the Son, forsook His stary throne on high and became as one of us that we might escape the penalty justly due our first parent's fall. He laid aside His kingly robes and assumed the shape of sinful man, not because of any benefit that might accrue to Him, but to fulfill the promise made to our first mother, and also that the predictions of the prophet might prove true that there might arise a Savior.

He that was mightier than any earthly potentate did not come into this world attended by angelic hosts. Neither was He born in a palace. He did not come to save the rich and the mighty. He came to save all mankind. He was conceived without sin, it is true, but His earthly mother was the wife of a humble carpenter and His earthly associates were poor people. He grew up amid the haunts of poverty, and when the time arrived that He should go forth to fulfill His divine mission, His chosen apostles were those from humble walks in life. His successor, His representative on earth, was but a humble fisherman. We, too, should strive to emulate Christ's example of humility. We should not allow ourselves to be encompassed by pride. We should always remember, too, His command to love our neighbor as ourself, and we must always bear in mind that our poorer fellows are included in the command, just as well as those in our own station or those who are above us.

When, therefore, the bells peal out to-morrow morning, telling us that the Christmastide is at hand again, we should assist at mass with heart filled with joy that Christ came into the world to save us and to make it possible for us to enter Heaven and to see His face there. We should renew our baptismal vows and resolve to receive Christ into our hearts.

THE JOURNAL wishes to each and all of its readers a Merry Christmas, and hopes that God's choicest blessings will be showered upon them, not only this Christmas, but many succeeding ones.

Our congratulations are offered to Mrs. Katherine J. Dowling, who has been retained by the Board of Education as librarian in name as well as in fact.

As a result of the determined and taken by the citizens against the music halls, general orders have been issued by Chief of Police Cleary for the enforcement of state laws and city ord-

THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST.

Editor of CATHOLIC JOURNAL:

"Christmas Eve," '98
Our peal of bells doth softly ring,
From St. Mary's steeple the notes doth bring—
On hill, over lake, and in silent glenn,
The coming of the Son of Man.
Hark! re-echoed from the gorge's deep
Of Watkins Glen, these bells so sweet—
Send forth the message in midnight hour,
The coming of the God of Power.
Re-echoed again o'er silver lake,
His advent is for man's soul's sake—
The notes vibrate along the shore—
Redeemed to God forever more
Gladsome to the Catholic hearts.
Of our fair village doth impart—
Such tidings, as the angels sing,
And to the lowly cradle bring—
To worship God our only King.
What Faith! and admiration mild,
Is shown to this our child.
Of Her, of whom the angels say—
Adore the child to His Mother pray.
Mortals awake! With the angels sing
That joy that is old and grand,
The "Gloria in excelsis Deo!"
Is chanted in every land.
"Et in terra pax hominibus"
Of good will the salute is given.
By myriads of angels happily sent
By God from the Courts of Heaven.

What happiness and consolation, the Feast of the Lowly brings to the heart of every Catholic who contemplates the celebration of that great mystery in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ in His Nativity, as he will appear to our souls this very night in the guise of a helpless infant—our God wrapped in poor swaddling linen clothes by the transparent hands of His Virgin Mother. The scene where this greatest of all subjects takes place in Bethlehem, is that rough, rude stable in which the manger is to be the throne to hold Him who is the King of Kings. The witness who beheld Him in that great mystery with His Holy Maiden Mother are His foster father and the three lowly shepherds. In that cave are the ox and the ass. The former kindly draws near to keep Son and Mother; while the latter on his knees falls in adoration. The mother with her gentle hand makes her kindness felt to that ox whose warm breath keeps out the cold from her and her Divine Son. What a sight to behold—such dumb brute action! Silence, you man of the doctrine of "inhumanity of man to man." What of the inhumanity of man to this Son of God—who is given no shelter as "all the inns are full." Hence, He comes again and the inns He will fill are the soul of men of good will. His coming to each and everyone of us will depend on the large measure of humble oblation of respect to Her who endured the winter's frost in that unsheltered stable entirely for His sake. Why not this honor—when that Son is of Her immaculate flesh never to know separation—Son centered in Mother—Mother centered in Son. What an august union of love! Hence, in this season of the greatest festivity we should know the meaning in full of the birth of Him who lay upon His Mother's breast in the stable in that little town of Bethlehem. In that holy scene can be discovered the symbols of that grand truth that is vital and impressive this Christmas night as in the dawn of Christianity eighteen hundred years ago. What retrospective thoughts come to our minds of our childhood days when we so anxiously queried about Jesus of Nazareth. What delight filled our young minds as we heard the story of the babyhood of Christ—for we were told He loved all little children. What faith is youth! Verily, in many it has altered to that of indifferent knowledge drifting from the source of all wisdom. Hence, our knowledge and faith should be of the penetrating order in all that pertains to Christ's Nativity that we may share in the joy with which the Eastern Kings were gladdened at the Crib of the Man-God. What a scene that must have presented! The Son of God sheltered in the bosom of His Holy Mother. What heavenly music must have come from the Divine lips of that Son who called her "mother."

To describe that scene in justice, is among the impossibles! The brush of the world's greatest painters have attempted it on canvass, making but a faint picture, as they themselves admitted. The pen of the mightiest genius assumed the task to express in full degree in verbal forms to that Holy Family in the Mid-night Cave, only to discover their own failures in the endeavor. Poets, in like order, since the dawn of that event of Christianity, have realized weakness of their own lofty imaginations when dwelling on that august subject. Philosophers in like manner have always experienced the dwarfishness and limitation in their own wisdom, when pondering on the light and knowledge exhibited around the Crib of Bethlehem.

That scene in its real power, majesty, beauty, and the "Feast of the Lowly," is reserved for the life to come in the presence of the Author of Life, Mary and Joseph.

That such may be the lot of each and every one of us is the sincere wish this Christmas eve of him who has attempted to give the CATHOLIC JOURNAL readers a glance as it were, into the scene of the Nativity of Christ.

To all "A merry Christmas" and all the blessings and happiness the term implies.
WATKINS, N. Y., Dec. 12, '98.
H. O'G.

LAND-GRABBING PARSONS.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 19, '98.

EDITOR OF THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL.
Dear Sir—A letter has been received by the members of the Good Citizenship Association assembled in Washington from Rev. Wm. Henry Roberts of Philadelphia. Rev. Mr. Roberts is secretary of the Alliance of Reformed churches, and in his letter he advocates and recommends the seizure by the United States of all property owned by the Catholic church within the newly acquired possessions which have come into our hands through the Spanish-American war. In short, Mr. Roberts advises the United States to start on a Cromwellian pilgrimage of plundering and despoiling people of lawfully acquired lands. In support of his remarks he stated that when the South American republic obtained their independence from Spain they immediately confiscated all church property. We have heard of no especial inconvenience suffered in South America by the church or by Catholics in general, by reason of federal confiscation of their property. The Catholic church is the established church in that continent, and it is very improbable that the church was pillaged to any great extent by the respective governments of the countries in South America. As a further reason why the government should do as he advises he quotes and upholds the English Reformation of the time of Henry VIII. Any person who is a citizen of the United States, and who in this age of universal enlightenment can countenance any act of that notorious profligate and libertine, the bigamist, wife-murdering king of England, is undeserving of the rights and privileges of a free born inhabitant of the freest country on earth. Of course the Rev. Mr. Roberts would have the populace understand that he is entirely disinterested in the matter. He is undoubtedly advocating these strict measures entirely from a love of country, and to see the inhabitants thrive and enjoy the benefits of just laws, etc. To be sure if the government did confiscate the property of the church in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines as Mr. Roberts would have it do, himself and his holy (?) followers would have no use for stolen property. Perhaps they would favor tearing down the churches and monasteries, and selling the land. In the opinion of the writer Mr. Roberts and his constituents are a greedy pack of would-be land-grabbing knaves, and would be delighted to get their hands on the valuable property of the Catholic church, and they could then go ahead and do proselyting on a large scale and without having to go to the expense of putting up their own churches and other necessary buildings. Then another thing. What a kindness these holy men would be doing the poor benighted priest-ridden Catholics of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico. Such men as Rev. Mr. Roberts are unworthy of the name of men. Low, designing and treacherous, they are a nuisance to the public. By their miserable selfish planning they seek to stir up religious strife among their fellow men, which might possibly in the end cause riot and bloodshed. Seizure of the lands belonging to the Catholic church in our new territory would be unjust and illegitimate, and would certainly cause the bitterest feelings between Protestants and Catholics in the United States as well as in all other countries where the population is divided as to religious belief. Archbishop Ireland has declared against any such measure, and the church will have many other brave champions to defend her rights by tongue and pen, now, as she has had in the past. Rev. Roberts is undoubtedly a religious fanatic and rarer in whose mind the poison of bigotry, jealousy and envy is rankling. If the public press did not sensibly abstain from upholding such doctrines as he preaches the country would soon be in a bad way socially. Bad feeling between fellow citizens would crop out which would culminate in lawlessness and uprising which would, of course, be blamed on the Catholics. The question is only one of the many which must necessarily emanate from the policy of imperialism, which policy is apt in the end to cause no end of trouble as well as bring on overburdening expense to the people. The majority of the American people, who are fair-minded and honest, will oppose any and all such business, which would be nothing more or less than downright robbery. The Catholic church in Cuba, as elsewhere, has the same right to hold and enjoy property as any other individual corporation or company. The law is on their side, and no such measure could be resorted to only in violation of the constitution.
Yours, respectfully,
A CATHOLIC.

THE GOSPELS

GOSPEL: St. John i. 1-14.—In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him: and without him was made nothing that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men: And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to give testimony of the light, that all men might believe through him. He was not the light, but was to give testimony of the light. That was the true light, which enlighteneth every man that cometh into this world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, he gave them power to be made the sons of God, to them that believe in his name. Who are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we saw his glory, the glory as it were of the only-begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

SOME THINGS TO KNOW.

In some parts of Italy the government has to spend \$3,000 to collect \$2,000 worth of taxes.
It sometimes happens that it takes a speaker longer to clear his throat than it does to clear the hall.
The Bank of England contains silver ingots which have laid in its vaults since 1696.
Whistling is practically unknown among the Icelanders, who regard it as irreverent and a violation of the divine law.
When a man is sure that his friends never say unkind things about him, he may be sure that all his friends are dead.
Russia, with a population of 127,000,000, has only 18,334 physicians. The United States, with about 70,000,000, has 120,000.
It is said that men who never drink, smoke or stay out late at night live to a ripe old age. Perhaps that's their punishment.
San Francisco has a law by which a peddler who rings a doorbell of a house where the sign "no peddlers" is displayed is liable to a fine of \$100 or six months' imprisonment or both.

ITEMS FROM EVERYWHERE.

Married couples in Norway are privileged to travel on railways at a fare and a half.
Since the legislative foundation of arbitration courts there have been no strikes or lockouts in New Zealand.
One of the latest things in surgery is the practice of embalming an injured limb as a substitute for amputation.
The Emperor of China is an editor. His journal has the distinction of having appeared regularly each day for the last 800 years.

The Hobson kissing matches should be stopped, they are no credit either to Hobson or the Navy.
We welcome to our city the delegates of the Alumnae Aux. of the Catholic Summer School.

Gen. W. A. Olmstead of New York

city, a convert to the Catholic faith, has been ordained to the priesthood at Notre Dame, Laporte, Ind., will celebrate his first mass to-morrow morning.

Gen. Olmstead was a conspicuous officer during the civil war, commanding the First brigade in Hancock's celebrated division at the battle of Gettysburg. He was the first officer to board the Monitor at Newport News and carried the request of the commodore to Gen Mansfield at camp Butler.

He has for some time been living in retirement at Notre Dame preparing for ordination, although he was a prominent figure at the recent G. A. R. encampment at Cincinnati.

The Catholic Mirror has appeared in a new dress and has also reduced its price to \$2 a year.

A number of our exchanges issued handsome Xmas editions last week

BURKE, FITZSIMONS, HONE & CO.

LAMPS.

This Display embraces all the newest shapes.

- Sewing Lamps—decorated china base and shade—mounted on gilt metal base—\$1.10.
- Decorated Night Lamps—small size—base and globe of blue, green or pink china—\$1.35.
- Reading Lamps—large size—decorated base and shade—\$1.85
- Delft Banquet Lamps—exquisite effect—removable oil fount—\$3.
- Parlor Lamps—handsomely decorated—globe to match—removable oil fount—\$3.25.
- Banquet Lamps—blue or yellow porcelain with fleur-de-lis decorations—including globe to match—double-wick burner—\$4.50.
- Dewey Drawing Room Lamps—handsomely decorated base and globe—removable oil fount—\$5.50.
- Gold-Plated Banquet Lamps—standard in combinations of metal and Rookwood—decorated globe—removable oil fount—extra-special at \$5.50, \$7 and \$9.

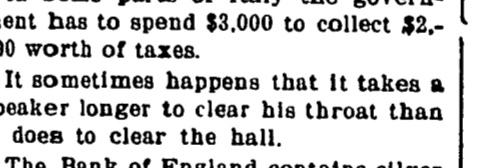
CLOCKS.

Probably one hundred different styles, sizes and shapes—all spick-and-span-new---to choose from. Good timekeepers, too.

- Nickel Alarm Clocks—Wood Case Clocks—Tiny Mantel Clocks—65c.
- Gilt Case Clocks—small as a watch—\$1.10.
- Fancy Metal Case Clocks—combinations of blue enamel and gilt—\$1.50.
- Large Dresden Mantel Clocks—\$1.85.
- Eight-Day Clocks—drum-shaped French gilt case—\$2.50.
- Octagonal Clocks—dial encircled with brilliants—\$3.50.
- Ariel Clocks—fancy French gilt case—\$5.
- Magnifying Clocks—a late novelty—various styles—\$6.50 to \$8.
- Large Mantel Clocks—in iron case—8-day movement—strike hour and half hour—\$9.58.
- Eight Day Mantel Clocks—gilt case and statuette mounted on enameled base—very artistic design—cathedral gong—\$13.75.

Burke, FitzSimons, Hone & Co.

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4 Per Cent, Interest Allowed on Deposits. Money to Loan. EDWARD HARRIS, PRES. JAS. S. WATSON, V. P. A. M. LINDSAY, V. P. FRANK M. ELLERY, Secy.

Why go up town

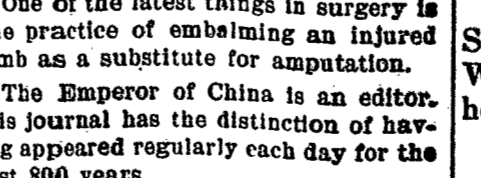
When you can save money by dealing at Hahn's Pharmacy, 561 State St. A FEW CUT PRICES.

- 1 dozen 2-grain Quinine Capsules, 5c; 100 doz. 2-grain Quinine Capsules, 95c; A good Belladonna Plaster, 10c; 3 for 25c; Allcock's Plasters, 10c; Beef, Iron and Wine, 30c; Comp. Syrup Hypophosphites, 75c; Emulsion Cod Liver Oil, 50c; Castoria, 25c; Humphrey's Specifics, 19, 39 and 75c; Munyon's Remedies, 15c; Stewart's Tablets, 60c size 30c; Wampole's Cod Liver Oil, 67c; William's Pink Pills 35c; Listerine, 67c.
- All other Remedies at Out Prices.
- See the box of Candy we are selling at 25c Sold elsewhere at 40c.
- GEO. HAHN.
- 561 State St., cor. Smith St. and Lyell Av.

REPAIRING.

All kinds of Wringers repaired. Sole agents for the Eclipse Wringer and other useful household articles. Agents wanted.

The American Wringer Co., 185 State Street.



Are much in little; always ready, efficient, satisfactory; prevent a cold or fever, cure all liver ills, sick headache, jaundice, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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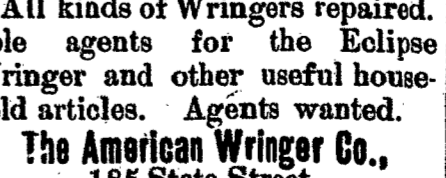
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68c

FOR THIS ANTIQUE CANE-SEAT ROCKER, 318 SAMPLE ROCKERS, 48c to 50c.

Cane-seat Chair to Match Rocker, 50c.

\$6.75 For This

Combination Writing Desk and Bookcase

New, Neat, Convenient. Choice Oak or imitation Mahogany.

77 inches wide, 62 inches high, brass rod with rings for curtains. This differs from other low-priced combinations in its good cabinet work, first class finish, choice wood and neat design. Combination Cases, \$6.75 to \$50. Library or Book Cases, \$1.65 to \$62. Ladies' Writing Desks, \$2.98 to \$16.

H. B. GRAVES,

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So much depends upon the purity of the blood that by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla many different diseases are cured.

For the Holidays.

You will need something for a Christmas gift, perchance a nice box of 25 or 50 cigars, and for the house a little nice Wine to give zest to the Turkey, or Brandy for the Plum Pudding, and in that event, remember, the many cheap Wines and Brandies are made from pumice only, and not fit for use. For that made from the first pressing of grapes and which you can always rely upon as being pure go to

Mathews & Servis,

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