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THE WAY OF THE CROSS

In these days of enlightenment, when many people not of our faith are seeking the true light, it would be well to explain some of the parts of our holy religion which appears so mysterious to those who are not of our faith.

A Protestant on entering a Catholic church, no matter where it may be, sees fourteen paintings on the wall, representing "The Way of the Cross"—that is, scenes from the journey made by the Redeemer from the judgment seat of Pilate to the hill of Calvary, and the Crucifixion there. At many, perhaps all, of them he sees devout Catholics kneeling and repeating prayers.

If this Protestant happens to be bigoted or ignorant, the comment is: "See the idolators praying to graven images."

Suppose we see what the "idolators" are saying to the "graven images," remarks an exchange.

The first of these "Stations" represents Jesus after He had been scourged by Roman soldiers and crowned with thorns. The "idolator" is kneeling in front and says, in part: "My adorable Jesus, it was not Pilate; no, it was my sins that condemned Thee to die. I beseech Thee, by the merits of this sorrowful journey, to assist my soul in its passage to eternity."

At the second Station, which represents Jesus carrying the cross, the "idolator" says, in part: "I beseech Thee, by the merits of the pain Thou didst suffer in carrying Thy cross, to give me the necessary help to carry mine with perfect patience and resignation."

At the third Station, when Jesus had fallen beneath the load of the cross, the "idolator" says: "My Jesus, it is not the weight of the cross, but of my sins, which has made Thee suffer so much pain."

And again, at the eighth Station, when Jesus said to the weeping women, "Weep not for Me, but for your children," this "idolator" says: "It is Thy love, more than the fear of hell, which causes me to weep for my sins."

At the eleventh station, when Jesus was nailed to the cross, the "idolator" says: "My Jesus, loaded with contempt, nail my heart to Thy feet, that it may ever remain there, to love Thee and never quit Thee again. * * Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always; and then do with me what Thou wilt."

And so it is to the end of the fourteen Stations, when Jesus died, was buried and rose again "to redeem the quick and the dead;" and every one of these fourteen prayers ends, "And then do with me what Thou wilt."

Are these the prayers of an idolator or of a devout believer in the Saviour of Mankind?

No honest man can answer but one way, and we can safely rest the verdict of honest men.

THE VIRGIN MARY

"Catholics are accused by some of the ignorant and bigoted of idolatry because they pray to the Virgin Mary, the mother of God."

Let us examine into that question, says the Washington Calendar. "Any one in distress naturally seeks consolation somewhere. The Protestant who feels the burden of his sins bearing heavily upon his conscience, seeks his pastor or his religious friend, and says, "Pray for me." And in every instance this mortal, burdened with the sins of the flesh, offers up prayers for the forgiveness of the sins of his friend

What does the Catholic do?

He says, "O, Blessed Virgin, mother of my Redeemer, mirror of innocence and sanctity, and refuge of penitent sinners, intercede for me;" or, "Pray for us, O holy mother of God;" or, "Holy Mary, mother of God! Pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death;" or, "Mother of God, make intercession for us."

We ask, in all candor, whose prayers are most likely to be accepted by the Throne of Grace, those of the sinful man in behalf of the Protestant penitent, or those of the Catholic to the mother who transformed Divinity to the form of humanity?

Are these prayers to the Virgin Mary idolatrous?

Then so are the prayers of every man who asks for the forgiveness of sinners.

And we, who are Catholics, ask the intercession of the Disciples—the men whom our beloved Saviour Himself selected as His companions upon earth. We ask them "to pray for us." We ask the Apostles who disseminated the gospels; the Martyrs, who gave their lives as a testimony of the truth; the Saints, who have joined the immaculate hosts of heaven, to "pray for us."

Is this idolatry?

If it is proper for the penitent, and no one denies it, to go to his religious friend and ask his intercession with the Redeemer for the sins committed, is it not equally proper to ask the intercession of the mother of God, of His companions on earth, of the Apostles, Martyrs and Saints, who are near the Throne, to intercede for us—to pray for us?

That is what the Catholics do, and we challenge any man to say it is idolatry."

FATHER BARLOW IS DEAD.

Rev. Arthur R. Barlow, rector of St. Ann's church, Hornellsville, N. Y., is dead. He passed peacefully away at 4 o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

Father Barlow, while on his way to attend the 50th anniversary of Father O'Brien of Lowell, Mass., was taken suddenly ill on the train, but continued on his way to New York city. After arriving there he went to St. Vincent's hospital, where he has been confined with typhoid fever ever since. It was thought at first that he was getting better, but a sudden turn for the worse blighted those hopes.

Father Barlow was appointed as permanent rector at Hornellsville only a few years ago, and his many parishoners will hold his memory in loving remembrance, for he was a father to them all.

Don't forget the orphans' concerts. It is only once a year they ask for any assistance.

THE SPIDER AND THE FLY.

Editor of CATHOLIC JOURNAL:

An honest man, and one in the capacity of a representative of the people in the government, is worthy of more than ordinary attention by the people at large, as well as the particular notice of constituents to their elected man in congress. Especially this should be so when a true representative gives strong evidence of having espoused the real cause and interests of the vast number of people who are the majority that send men to Washington to peform their duty to this young republic. Hence, I find it in season to refer again to that man of principle, Hon. Henry V. Johnson of Indiana. Not only is he true to his local interest in his own state, but he is ever on the alert to do justice to every good citizen of this republic. Therefore, by a sense of duty, I am actuated to dwell on the high ambition and noble impulse that characterized that gentleman in his hard fight against the policy of "expansion." Were your congress composed of men of Mr. Johnson's stamp our government by this time would have had matters settled or adjusted to meet the approval and applause of the majority of the citizens of this country. But the situation, at the present time, causes criticism from all directions - the people are complaining of wasted millions of dollars; the cry of "imperialism" is heard from ocean to ocean; bribery and fraud is charged by the press, and the conservative class of citizens are asking, "Where are we at?" The answer is forcibly and logically given by this Hon. gentleman from Indiana in his second great speech in condemnation of the president's Philippine policy. After the delivery of that noted speech scores of Mr. Johnson's colleagues complimented him on his powerful efforts, and admitted the truth of his arguments, and yet had the effrontery and "brass" to vote against his measure for the good of the people. It looks as if the congress of 1899 is to be branded with the weakness of "no conscience." How men in the office of servants for the people can play the role of hypocrite, kneel to the almighty dollar and play the fiddle to the man of the "big bargain" is really comical as well as a serious matter to be probed into In this scene, or "House of confusion," the blame is put upon the president, and he in return blames congress All this time England is making her "web" to play "spider and fly" with Uncle Sam.

John Bull evidently has an axe to grind, for his many complications in European waters and our "holdings" in the Phillippines are putting a sharp edge on John's axe to chop the universe into bits solely for himself and Uncle Sam! Too close an intimacy of the "spider and fly" brings destruction. Are we no longer to heed the words of Washington regarding entangling alliances? Is the handwriting not already on the wall?

Therefore, the open arraignment of our present administration (based on facts patent to all), by Representative Johnson and other great intellectual giants of congress should arouse every true American to a true realization of the hatching business in England and in Washington. In fact, there is a wholesale disregard both for the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

To further understand the situation in its many hidden workings, both on the question of the Philippines and English alliance, I would strongly urge the reading of the speeches of Representatives Johnson and Hoar. I am sorry to say a great portion of the daily papers gave the speeches on back pages, and very, very small print at that. Honest, fearless and undaunted editors now-a-day, are as rare as scrupulous men in congress.

In the meantime, we shall await the arrivals from London of lords, dukes, authors and poets to hear their silly effusions similar to the "White Man's Burden."

H. O'C.

WATKINS, N. Y.

THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. John vi. 1-15.—At that time: "Jesus went over the See 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 He sat with His disciples. Now the Pasch, 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 each 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 therefore sat down, in number about 5,000. 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 therefore, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves and two fishes which remained over and above to them that had eaten. Now these 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.'

We must admire their great desire to hear the words of Christ and to be with Him—a desire that caused them to undergo willingly the fatigue and inconveniences of the journey and to lay aside their worldly cares We must deplore the negligence of so many Christians, who show no desire to follow Christ in the way of salvation and to hear His word announced by His ministers.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday, March 12—Fourth Sunday in Lent—Gosp. St. John vi, 1-15 St. Gregory, the Great Pope and confessor
Monday 13. St. Gerald bishop.
Tuesday 15—St. Mathilda, queen.
Wednesday. 15—St. Zachary, Pope and confessor
Thursday 16—St. Finian, the leper.
Friday 17—St. Patrick. Apostle of Ireland
Saturday. 18—St Gabriel. Archangel.

FORTY HOURS' ADORATION.

The order of Forty Hours states that the devotions will take place as follows:

March 12—Lyons, Port Byron, Pittsford; SS. Peter and Paul, Elmira.
March 19 East Bloomfield, Stanley, Spencerport, Holy Rosary, Trumansburg.

PLEASED WITH THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL.

COOPERS PLAINS, N. Y. Feb. 23,'99
Editor CATHOLIC JOURNAL,
Rochester, N. Y.

GENTLEMEN—Enclosed you will find postoffice money order for ($3) three dollars for your paper for one year for the following parties, J. F. McAvoy, J. H. Traynor and E. P. James all of the same address, which is Coopers Plains, N. Y. We all took your paper last year and are much pleased with it. And as our subscriptions were up Feb. 18th, and your agent has not yet been here and we wishing not to miss any issue of your valuable paper, we write you this letter to renew our subscription. I see by your paper that you give as a premium the picture of St. Anthony but does not say if their is any extra charge. If so, please let me know as we all want the picture

I remain yours,
J. F. McAVOY.

KIPLING, THE POET.

You, Kipling, and not Austen,
The Laureate should be
To sing the foul deeds of England
In all her deviltry.
Perchance Austen has the title,
But got it years ago
When England, never dreaming
She'd find a "poet" in you,
So sing the "White Man's Burden,"
And sing it loud and strong;
The Anglo men in chorus
Will move the "thing" along
The "fad" is now in fashion
Among a wealthy few,
To ape you in your "sentiments."
Really, Kipling, "by ging-go"
But in all your short effusions
Don't forget the stroke
When the "American Eagle" you branded
As carrions, and our feelings you provoke,
When on the heights of Quebec
To England the words you spoke
Not many years ago.

H O'C.

[His poem on the American Eagle was never printed in the American edition, it is prominent in the British edition.—]Ed.

Why Cats Hiss and Spit.

Why do otherwise well bred cats hiss and spit when enraged? Dr. Louis Robinson says The hissing and spitting of young kittens, even before they see, was, in the first place, probably an attempt to intimidate enemies by making them think that the hole where the helpless wild kittens resided contained a venomous snake. It is a very curious and remarkable fact that many different kinds of creatures which have their homes in shallow holes have a similar habit of spitting when an enemy approaches. Furthermore, I think it probable that the expression of a cat at bay is part of the same instinctive stratagem. We know how general is the horror of the serpent tribe throughout all nature, and hence it seems likely that the serpent-like aspect of the head of an enraged cat, together with its threatening hiss, might disconcert an enemy sufficiently to give an advantage to the cat. Curiously enough, cats of all species have their tails marked transversely in a way which resembles the marking of serpents, and several naturalists have remarked how similar are the sinuous, waving movements of the tail of any angry cat to the movements of the tail of the snake in a state of excitement. The true tabby cat when it is curled up asleep has a curious resemblance to a coiled serpent, and the same is true of many wild cats of different varieties and coming from different parts of the world. If this really is an instance of protective mimicry, I think it is possible that the chief foe guarded against was the eagle. Eagles are very fond of cat's flesh, and it has been remarked by naturalists in various parts of the world that these formidable birds habitually make war upon the smaller feudoe."

Went Home Naked.

The Bookman has heard of a Scotch professor who had been advocating the advantages of athletic exercise. "The Roman youths," he cried, "used to swim three times across the Tiber before breakfast." The Scotch professor exclaimed. "Mr. McAllister, why do you smile? We shall be glad to share your amusement." The canny Scot replied, "I was just thinking, sir, that the Roman youths must have left their clothes on the wrong bank at the end of their swim."

Long Distance Identification.

An English defaulting bank manager, who had eluded the police for three years by staying in a sea-side village near Plymouth, was discovered by a strange accident. While strolling on the beach with a young woman watching the warships a sailor on board a cruiser, who happened to come from the town whence the defaulter had absconded, looked through a telescope, recognized him, and informed the police.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

What is Transpiring in the Different Fraternities—Current Calendars.

C. M. B. A.

PERSISTENCE NOT ALWAYS ADVISABLE

Members should not persist in their opinions to the extent of bitterness, as life is too short and full of care and sorrow, and how much better it is to cultivate the habit of treating a brother, especially your officers, with respect.

Every member has the right, and should speak up in behalf of his branch, but personalities should never be indulged in. Loyalty is always in order, and while this principle is true, it certainly does not follow that it is necessary to speak disparagingly of your branch or its officers, no matter under what roof, whether in the branch room or elsewhere, I say, give your hearty and loyal support to your branch and association by word and deed, for you have promised to advance its interests. Then do or say nothing to injure its reputation, to weaken its power for good or retard its progress toward fraternal fellowship, for its honor is in your keeping. Therefore, do not sneak now and then into a corner of your branch room, especially during a session, merely to watch the chance to exhibit your wisdom or folly in opposing every new idea that may come up, and thus create discord, and then do not know where to stop, but stoop lower than a coward and be personal. Such conduct on the part of the poor misguided member generally disturbs the harmony of the meeting, and this is certainly one reason why a good brother does not care to sit in council with such people, and will not come to more than one or two such meetings and later drop out of the association entirely. "Sow judiciously and reap abundantly" is a good motto.

FRATERNALLY, J. J. H., Br. 81.

The New Popular Tailors

The M. E. Grady Co., the new popular tailors, are now established in their new quarters, corner of Main and Water streets. Here you will find all the latest styles of imported and domestic woolens on exhibition, not excelled in the city of Rocheester. An inspection of the many new novelties of cloths for pantings, suitings and overcoating will convince you that they are the best and the latest. Mr. M. E. Grady, the cutter, for fifteen years with the Furman Co., is the head of this new firm; and he is one of the best and most skillful cutters in the state. He most cordially invites his friends to visit him at his new quarters.

It Was His Inheritance.

SCOTTSVILLE, N.Y., Feb. 20, 1899.—Charles B. Rogers of this town says he has always had more or less scrofula about him. He was troubled with boils and roughness of the skin, and his liver and kidneys were out of order. Hearing a great deal about the curative powers of Hood's Sarsaparilla he began taking it. He says the effects were wonderful. It purified and built up his whole system.

There Are Others

Who sell coal, but it's not the famous Lehigh Valley coal. Best in the world, and costs no more. J. M. Reddington, 99 West Main street cor. Plymouth ave. Telephone 390.

OUR CITY COLLECTOR.

Mr. C. A. Hudon, who had charge of our city collections for two years, has again accepted the position of city collector, and will call on subscribers next week.

A beautiful picture of St. Anthony, an artistic aluminum medal, to all subscribers of the JOURNAL paying $1 in advance.

The Spring Months

Are most likely to find your blood impure and lacking in the red corpuscles which enable it to carry nourishment to the nerves and other organs. Therefore you feel weak, tired and listless and are troubled with spring humors. Relief is given by Hood's Sarsaparilla which purifies, enriches and vitalizes the blood.

Send your job printing to this office—best work and lowest rates.

Spring tiredness is due to an impoverished condition of the blood and is cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which enriches the blood.