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"The Catholic Truth" is the title of a new paper published in Mobile, Ala. We wish the publisher success.

TO CORRESPONDENT:

"Impressions of a Lawyer's Daughter" was published in THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL July 7th Send editor your address.

CHOSE THE BETTER PART.

The announcement that Robert F. Sesnon, widely known in Almeda, where he spent his childhood days and grew to man's estate, has forsaken the whirl of society and a promising career on the operatic stage to become a priest, comes as a surprise to his many friends. He was ordained April 1 last in a French Jesuit college in Rome, and is now on his way to the coast for a visit before entering upon his spiritual duties.

The renunciation of all his brilliant stage opportunities and devotion of his life to the cause of the Church has caused wonder among his friends in society and in musical circles, who never even dreamed of him taking such steps. Father Sesnon was educated at Santa Clara College, where he spent six years after leaving the public schools of Alameda. His parents were wealthy and he became a favorite in society, moving among the best people on both sides of the bay. He was possessed of a beautiful tenor voice, which he cultivated under the ablest instructors, and was often heard at musicales and concerts. About six years ago he decided to adopt a professional career, and with that end in view came to New York to study. After a year of application there he went to the Milan Conservatory of Music and studied another year. When the power and quality of his voice had been proved he suddenly changed his mind as to the pursuit of a professional career and entered a French Jesuit college at Rome. His studies at that institution ended on April 1, when he was ordained.

Father Sesnon is a native of California, having been born in San Francisco thirty-two years ago.

The widow of Gen. Grant once told an incident of Grant's visit to Rome, which shows the interest taken by the Pope in American affairs. When Grant was presented at the Vatican, the Pope said, "I have especially to thank you for the religious privileges which you granted to Catholic soldiers in your armies." The general considered for a moment and could not recollect any special privileges bestowed upon Catholics. Perceiving this, the Pope said, "I refer to the fact that before every battle you kindly notified the officers to allow the Catholic soldiers an opportunity to make their confession." With his usual directness Grant replied: "I did that as a military measure, because my soldiers fought better when they felt that their conscience was clear. But I had no idea that your holiness was aware of this custom." "Ah my friend," said the Pope, "there is nothing which affects my children in any part of the world which is not known to me, and every such benefit is cordially remembered."

Rev. Edward F. X. McSweeny, of Mt. St. Mary's college, Maryland, deprecates the tendency, which he intimates is widespread, among Catholic educational institutions, of substituting medals for books as prizes and premiums. He believes in the old [illegible] exclusively, [illegible] and bishop, many a nun, he declares, owe their first knowledge and introduction into Catholic literature to the prizes they got in the parochial schools. "I would rather see Mrs. Sadlier's works in the hands of a graduate than all the 'solid gold' medals in the universe; and what a great piece of missionary work is done by the college that scatters a thousand volumes of Catholic literature through its pupils every year!" Father McSweeny was at one time pastor of St. Mary's, Poughkeepsie, and is still affiliated with the New York archdiocese.

Francis Penman (Japan) writes that Catholics are working and advancing quietly and earnestly in Japan. According to the latest statistics—August 1, 1899—we have one archbishop, three bishops, 108 missionaries (foreign), and 30 priests (Japanese). The total number of Catholics, 53,924. The Rev. Mr. Loomis' report for the year 1898 gives the total number of Protestants in Japan—40,891, there being 37 different Protestant sects.

Three companies of soldiers from Governor's Island leave for China this week. Father Brosnan heard the confessions of the Catholics in these companies last Saturday afternoon, July 21st.

Among the passengers on La Bretagne, which arrived in New York recently from Havre were Fathers Monpeurt, Franche, Alexis and Albert and Sisters Marie de Paul, Marie de Jesus, Marie de Lourdes and Marie de Joseph.

In 1980 there were 1,208,000 Chinese Catholics in China. They were attended by 620 missionaries, 137 native priests and thirty-eight bishops.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

THE BRAVE YOUNG HEARTS WHO BECOME APOSTLES.

They bid Good-by Forever to Family, Home and Country to Labor in Distant Lands For the Conversion of the Heathen--The Solemn Parting.

There is in Paris a community of young ecclesiastics who attract universal attention, when taking the walk which is the only outdoor recreation to be had by such in a large city. They attract attention, not because of any peculiarity in their dress, which is that of all ecclesiastics in Catholic countries, but because they dash along the streets, as if it were a case of life and death to reach some goal. They are the students, and—in some cases—the priests of the Seminary of the Society for Foreign Missions. Their rapid pace is one of the preparations for their future apostolate—for they are going where their strength of physique and power of endurance will stand them in as good stead, in a way, as the flame for the salvation of souls that burns within their breasts and supplies the motive power to their physical exertions.

This Society for Foreign Missions is altogether unique. Unlike societies of religious, it can scarcely lay claim to any one person as its founder and father. It is the result of the zeal of different persons in different places for the spread of the Catholic faith. It dates from the middle of the seventeenth century, when the efforts of the pious missionaries who had labored in the far East combined with the ardor of some young Parisian priests to establish on a firm basis the results already obtained in the Orient. At first, vicars apostolic were chosen and appointed, and then, thanks to the pecuniary assistance of some devout women, and of Louis XIV. of France, a college was founded to train young men desirous of consecrating themselves to labor in this new vineyard of the Lord. Those who offer themselves for this field do not form a religious community in any sense of that term. They are secular priests without religious obligations of any kind—save, indeed, the promise to lead the lives of ecclesiastics, and to live, labor and die under the authority of the bishops and the Supreme Pontiff for the conversion of the people of the Orient to whom they may be sent.

These brave, young hearts enter the Seminary of the Foreign Missions filled with the burning zeal of the first apostles, and pass their days there preparing themselves for the hardships in store for them. From the day they enter the seminary they never leave it till the day on which they bid good-by forever to family, home and country, and go to verify their solemn promise to consume themselves in the conversion of the heathen.

The ceremony of his adieu to all that the natural man can hold dearest is one of the most touching ever witnessed. It takes place the evening before the departure. The young missionaries enter the chapel and kneel on the steps of the altar. Behind them kneel their confreres, and then come their friends and relatives. A solemn silence reigns in the holy place and every one experiences that indescribable clutching at the heart and swelling in the throat which precedes the performance of all touching ceremonies. Night prayers are recited, and the subject of the next day's meditation is read. The travelers of tomorrow remain standing, while the others sit down. A venerable missionary advances and delivers a discourse befitting the occasion. When he has finished the new apostles ascend the steps to the altar and there, not two feet from the tabernacle, they turn and face their brethren. The young aspirants to the same mission leave their places, and, followed by the friends and relatives of the departing missionaries, fall upon their knees and in turn kiss the feet of the young heroes, who tenderly raise them up and embrace them affectionately—the choir all the while chanting the words of the Holy Spirit: "Quam speciosi pedes evangelizantium pacem, evangelizatium bona'" It is a scene that touches the most hardened heart. To see those brave young confessors of Christ bid good-by to all that our human nature holds most dear; to see them with unwavering firmness clasp to their hearts, first the companions of their studies and then the friends of their youth, nay, at times, a beloved parent, and to know that the human anguish of the moment is lost in a feeling far higher, a feeling of joy coming from the prospect of a life of labor for the Master's sake, a life to be closed, perhaps, by the reception of the martyr's crown; all this must needs bring tears to the most reluctant eye, and rejoice the Christian heart that such love of God still burns on our earth. Over and above the sobs rising from the breasts of affectionate relatives, they hear the sighs and the groans of those who are walking in the valley of the shadow of death; the divine conquers the human, and with joy and desire they cry out "Behold we come'"

The weaker and tenderer hearts, those that loved most strongly a son or brother, have not dared to take part in this trying ordeal—or at least have not ventured any nearer than the gallery. How could a dear mother, at whose knee the future martyr leaned to lisp his infant prayers or a tender sister, the innocent pearl he as an elder brother watched developing, and who loves him with an unspeakable love, how could such as these witness a scene like this—much less take part in it—and survive' And yet with all honor to the nation that can give the Church such children—there have been and are such parents, rivals of the mother of the Maccabees, who falter not in making such a sacrifice Such a one must have been a French mother who when the news of her son's martyrdom was broken to her, exclaimed "God be praised' The fear is now passed that my child might yield to the temptation to fly so much suffering'"

As the leave-taking finishes, the song of farewell to the missionaries bursts forth. The ceremony is over, those who participated in or witnessed it retire; on the morrow there is another dispersion of apostles, and their friends at home await with Christian resignation and joy the reunion which will take place only in heaven.—Rev. T. J. Mulvey, in the Sacred Heart Journal.

A JESUIT BROTHER DROWNED

Brother Patrick Nestor, S J., of Holy Cross College Loses His Life

Monday afternoon of last week Brother Patrick Nestor, S J, of Holy Cross, College, Worcester, Mass, was drowned in Coe's pond, which is but a short distance away from the college. He, together with several of the other brothers, started out about 5 o'clock to take a refreshing plunge in the waters of the pond Brother Patrick was a strong swimmer, and immediately started out to swim around an island in the pond. Whether he became exhausted, or was taken with a cramp will never be known He uttered no cry as he went down, and no one saw him disappear beneath the water The body was not recovered for three days, when it was found a few feet from where he had been last seen. The funeral was held Thursday morning at 7 o'clock, with services in the college chapel The burial was in the college cemetery.

Brother Nestor was forty-two years old, and was born in the County Kerry, Ireland He was at Holy Cross twelve years ago, afterwards he lived in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Jersey City, returning to the college two years ago, where he has been refectorian and had charge of the cemetery and college grounds. He has relatives in Philadelphia, and his mother and father live in Ireland

THE HOLY FATHER FOR PEACE.

While the powers are meditating vengeance for the Chinese insurgents, the Pope is praying and asking the faithful throughout the world to pray that blood may cease to be shed and that peace be again restored. A dispatch on the 18th says that His Holiness "has addressed a letter to the Vicar Cardinal, in which he says the sorrowful events in China, besides filling his soul with sadness on account of the spilling of so much Christian blood, inspire him with the deepest fear as to the situation of the Apostolic Vicars and the dangers to which Christians and missionaries are exposed in serious trials as well as sacrifice of lives. His Holiness therefore asks that all communicants pray ardently that God inspire thoughts of concord and peace and that He will end destruction and massacres." There is more sincerity in this act of the Representative of the Prince of Peace than there was in the Czar's Conference.

XAVERIAN BROTHERS MAKE PROFESSION.

At the close of the annual retreat for the Xaverian Brothers in the United States held recently at the Mount St. Joseph's College, Irvington, Md., the motherhouse of the order in this country, the following young men made profession as members of the brotherhood:

Brother Cecilius, Michael J. Norton, Louisville; Ky.; Brother Bertrand, Samuel Howard, Kentucky; Brother Arcadius, Edward Liese, Germany; Brother Henry, Thomas J. McGivern, Scranton, Pa.; Brother Florence, H. Bernard Cecil, New Haven, Kentucky; Brother Rudolph, John W. Shea, Springfield, Mass.; Brother Dydimus, James J. Cahill, New York; Brother Cornelius, Dennis Shehan, Worcester, Mass.; Brother Bartholomew, Geo. Elmendorf, Baltimore, Md.

THE GOSPELS

GOSPEL: — July 29.— Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, St. Luke xvi. 1-9.—At that time, Jesus spoke to his disciples this parable: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward; and the same was accused unto him, that he had wasted his goods. And he called to him and said to him: How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship, for now thou canst be steward no longer. And the steward said within himself: What shall I do, because my lord taketh away from me the stewardship? To dig I am not able; to beg I am ashamed. I know what I will do, that when I shall be removed from the stewardship they may receive me into their houses. Therefore, calling together everyone of his Lord's debtors, he said to the first: How much dost thou owe my lord? But he said: An hundred barrels of oil. And he said to him: Take thy bill and sit down quickly and write fifty. Then he said to another: And how much dost thou owe? Who said: An hundred quarters of wheat. He said to him: Take thy bill, and write eighty. And the lord commended the unjust steward, forasmuch as he had done wisely: for the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light. And I say to you: Make unto you friends of the mammon of iniquity: that when you shall fail they may receive you into everlasting dwellings."

Are the words of the steward applicable to us?

Certainly. He knew that he could not continue in office; he thought his situation over, and come to the conclusion that he was unable to do hard manual work, and that he was ashamed to beg. Now we should reflect thus: When we are dying we can work no more, we cannot then make good the abuse of the heavenly gifts by making good use of them; we can no longer work by doing penance, by invoking the help of a merciful God, or the protection of the saints, because then the days of mercy and the protection of the saints are over, and the days of rigorous justice and eternal punishment commence.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday, July 29--Gosp St. Luke. xvi. 1-9 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. — St. Martha, virgin.
Monday, 30—SS. Abdon & Sennen, martyrs.
Tuesday 31—St Ignatius Loyola confessor.
Wednesday, August 1—St. Peter's chains.
Thursday, 2—St Alphonsus Ligouri, doctor.
Friday, 3—Finding St. Stephen's relics.
Saturday, 4 —St. Dominic, confessor

FORTY HOURS' ADORATION.

The order of Forty Hours states that the devotions will take place as follows:—August 1— Macedon, McLean.

DIOCESAN CHANGES.

Father Hickey Appointed to the Rectorship of Holy Apostles Church.

Rev. James A. Hickey, of Geneseo, has been appointed by Bishop McQuaid to the vacant rectorship of Holy Apostles church, in this city. Father Hickey will assume the duties of his new position in a short time.

Father Hickey was ordained in this city in 1892, being a classmate of the late vicar general, Very Rev. James P. Kiernan. He made his preparatory studies at St. Andrew's seminary in this city and his theological studies at St. Joseph's Provincial Seminary at Troy. He served for a time as assistant at St. Mary's church, Auburn, and was then appointed pastor at Churchville. He went from there to take charge of the church at Geneseo. Besides the parish of St. Mary's at Geneseo, Father Hickey has had the care of the missions of All Saints' at Fowlerville, and St. Raphael at Piffard.

Father Hickey, while a quiet, scholarly man and a lover of books and reading, is an accomplished preacher. He has been singularly successful in his pastorates and his promotion to Holy Apostles' church is a deserved recognition of his ability and earnestness as a pastor. The appointment is without doubt one which will be pleasing to the people of the congregation.

Holy Apostles' parish is one of the larger parishes of the city. It extends over the northwestern part of the city, covering a large extent of territory. The membership is about 1,100 and it is growing apace with the constant growth of that section.

We congratulate Father Hickey.

C. Y. M. A. LAWN FETE.

The second annual lawn fete of the C. Y. M. A. was closed Thursday night after being held for two successive nights at St. Michael's church grounds on Clifford street. The affair was largely attended and thoroughly enjoyable. The grounds were brilliantly lighted with chinese lanterns and electric lights. Refreshments were served, and there were several forms of amusement, all good. With the proceeds of the fete, the club house is to be enlarged and redecorated.

PUZZLES

CONDITIONS.

All answers to puzzles and questions must be written on one side of the paper and contain name, age, address and date of the sender.

All communications under this head must be addressed to "Puzzle Editor" CATHOLIC JOURNAL

At least one person in the house from which answers is sent must be a paid up subscriber of THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL.

All answers must reach us before Wednesday noon.

No child over fourteen can compete in puzzle contest.

The first correct letter to reach the office this week was from Bridgie Reid, as follows:

ROCHESTER, July 21, 1900.

Dear Mr. Editor:—I am a little girl 8 years old. As my brother Willie missed last week I thought I would try my luck this week. The answer to the puzzle is, CATHOLIC JOURNAL.

Yours truly,
BRIDGIE REID.

The Honor Roll

Catherine Scheid, Anna Baierl, Jennie Cannan, Mamie Young, Raymond Flaherty, city; Margaret Walsh, Waterloo; Mary Monahan, East Bloomfield; Anna Gorman, Palmyra; Cecelia T. Murphy, Auburn.

Among the answers we noticed two things, first, that some children do not give their addresss in their letters, and second that some do not properly seal and place a two cent stamp on the envelope. Children should be careful of both, as letters sometimes go astray.

One little girl from one of the surrounding towns complains that the children in the country do not have as good a chance to win a prize as those in the city. In reply we would say that the postoffice dating stamp of Monday morning is the only time considered in awarding prizes. We think that gives all children a fair chance. If our young readers can tell us of any fairer method we would be pleased to have them write us.

This week we have something new. It is an unfinished sketch. The children are to take the lines and circle for a guide in completeing a picture. Make any picture you like. The only condition is that the lines and circle must appear in finished picture. For the best picture produced we will give a picture of our Rt. Rev. bishop; for the second best, a picture of the late Father Kiernan; third, Blessed Virgin.

The Baker Theatre.

Wm. Gillette's strong war drama, "Held by the Enemy," will be next week's offering by the Baker Stock company, and is a play in which stage realism plays a most important part. Its stirring scenes and exciting situations always arrouse an audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm; while pathos and humor are very much in evidence in the unfolding of the plot and the developing of incidents of the play, which is considered the greatest of all dramas presented on the American stage. A big royalty for the use of this play and the large expense adequate to give it an elaborate production, should be rewarded by a record-breaking business next week. The play will be cast to the full strength of the Baker company and there will be positively no advance in prices.

Don't Forget

When up town shopping to go to Hallock's market, 21-23 Front street, for your meats and groceries.

Full line, new and fresh, stock selling low as any.

Good meats, reasonable prices, prompt delivery. Give him a call.