

The Catholic Journal

The Only Catholic Newspaper
Published in the Diocese.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT
134 1/2 East Main Street, Rochester, N. Y.
BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING
COMPANY

If paper is not received Saturday notify the office.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Per Year, In Advance, \$1.00
Entered as second class mail matter.

ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 2363.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1901.

PAGANISM VS. CHRISTIANITY.

The Catholic World Magazine for June comments editorially on the proposition to put imbeciles to death: "A sign of the pagan spirit that pervades the intellectual life outside the Church is the deliberate discussion in the Colorado State Medical Association of the advisability of putting imbecile children to death. Dr. Denison's contention was that 'humanity in general would be benefited.' The report goes on to say that if the suggestion is adopted a petition will be presented to the Legislature with the view of making such a practice a law.

"The deliberate discussion of a practice that Christian civilization has universally condemned among the pagans, and now condemns among the Chinese, is very strong evidence that the principles of a supernatural religion are losing their hold on the minds and hearts of non-Catholics. It is the legitimate outcome of the banishment of religion from the educational life of the country. Fifty years ago, when the system of irreligious schools was inaugurated, there was a large infusion of the religious spirit among the people. But two generations have now been educated without any knowledge of God and the supernatural life, and the second generation is beginning to show a decided lack of knowledge of Christian principles. The church and the home are no longer the auxiliaries to religious education they formerly were. The lack of positive doctrine on the great fundamental truths, the obscuration of the teaching concerning the rewards and punishments of the next life, which are the sanctions of the moral law—these have broken down the barriers against crime and vice. Suicide was never so common as it is now. Respect for the life of the soul is being supplanted by a care for the body, and the custom of the medical profession of administering anodynes on approaching death is becoming very prevalent; all these are but signs of a growing un-Christian spirit.

"We must get back to Christian standards again. It is not less religion but more that we want; we must begin with the children, by instilling into their hearts the great fundamental truths without which there can be nothing but paganism."

Let us lay hold of faith. Of what profit is it to us to gain a firm hold on life if we hold it but blindly without any light on the meaning of our present condition or the character of our future destiny? Faith, Christian faith, holds the key to the blessedness of the eternal life. Strong, serene, unquenchable faith in the loving kindness of God, the wisdom of Providence, the evidence of the Holy Spirit and the redeeming love of Christ will enable us to look fearlessly toward the end of the temporal existence and the beginning of the eternal and will make it possible for us to live our lives effectively, grandly. Letting go the unworthy things that meet us—pretense, worry, discontent and self seeking—and taking loyal hold of time, work, present happiness, love, duty, sorrow and faith, let us so live in all true manliness as to be an inspiration, strength and blessing to those whose lives are touched by ours.

The Very Rev. L. J. Van den Hende, D.D., Vicar-General of the diocese of Ghent, Belgium, and the founder and first president of St. Joseph's Provincial seminary at Troy, died on Tuesday, July 2, at his residence, 4 Marche aux Vaux Ghent. Father Van den Hende was born at Renaix, Ghent, and was 77 years of age. He was well known in this country having been

During this time he formed an intimate acquaintance with many of the older priests of the section, and was regarded by all who knew him as a learned and holy man.

Science and religion, like Martha and Mary, are sisters because they are daughters of the same father. They are both ministering to the same Lord, though in a different way. Science, like Martha, is busy about material things. Religion, like Mary, is kneeling at the feet of our Lord—Cardinal Gibbons.

No one has yet accused the Philippines of stupidity. How long before they discover that Protestant unity is assumed only for a purpose and in a Pickwickian sense? and what will follow on the discovery? Hardly what the Congregationalist expects when it cites the possible union of the Philippines with their United States evangelizers, as a fulfillment of the prayer of Christ. "That they may be one." Perhaps, however, the missionaries may unite with the Philippines.—The Pilot.

APOSTOLATE OF THE PRESS.

After Reading Your Catholic Paper Don't Destroy It, But Hand It to Your Non-Catholic Neighbor.

A missionary tells this story, says the Father Matthew Herald. There was a good man, a Presbyterian deacon, who believed most firmly in his own particular Protestantism. One day in bringing a small parcel from a shop he saw that it was wrapped in a piece of printed paper. He read the paper, which appeared to be a tract on the "Power of the Pope," being a commentary on the words, "Thou art Peter." The man read it through. "Nonsense," he said, "I don't believe that," and destroyed the paper. Several years passed on. The man had a great deal of trouble in his religious connections. He had experienced much of the instability and insecurity of Protestant belief, and one day, in great discouragement, he was thinking and wondering whether, after all, God had left His Church to the vagaries and caprices of men, when suddenly the words flashed into his mind—"Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Then he remembered the article he had read, the phrase stood out clear in his own mind. "There," he said, "there is the truth." He began to pray earnestly for light, and step by step, he was led to the knowledge of the faith. Eventually he was baptized into the Church.

One never can tell where some good result may show itself from the circulation of a Catholic paper. We have seen Catholic papers in the hands of persons, who one would suppose would take no interest whatsoever in them. Catholics ought to do all they can to encourage the circulation of papers which explain Catholic doctrine and expose erroneous statements about it.

THE SUPREMACY OF RIGHT.

Oh, it is hard to work for God,
To rise and take his part
Upon this battlefield of earth,
And sometimes not lose heart.

He hides himself so wondrously,
As though there were no God;
He is at least seen when all the powers
Of ill are most abroad.

Or He deserts us at the hour
The fight is all but lost,
And seems to leave us to ourselves
Just when we need Him most.

Ill masters good; good seems to change
To ill with greatest ease,
And, worst of all, the good with good
Is at cross purposes.

Ah! God is other than we think;
His ways are far above,
Far beyond reason's height, and
Reached
Only by childlike love.

Workmen of God! Oh, lose not heart,
But learn what God is like;
And in the darkest battlefield
Thou shalt know where to strike.

Thrice blest is he to whom is given
The instinct that can tell
That God is on the field when He
Is most invisible.

Blest, too, is he who can divine
Where real right doth lie;
And dares to take the side that seems
Wrong to man's blindfold eye.

For right is right, since God is God;
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin.

ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN'S CONSTITUTIONAL.

It is when fashion has about deserted Fifth avenue, or is about to do so for its dinner, says the New York Times, that Archbishop Corrigan regularly makes his appearance there. Quite alone, with his hat pulled down over his forehead, with eyes downcast, and rarely noticing anyone, the Catholic prelate strolls down as far as Thirty-fourth street, turns, and walks back to his residence at Fifth street and Madison avenue. Occasionally a hat is doffed as he passes, and this infrequent mark of recognition always meets with a prompt response, no matter whether the party recognizing him be merchant, prince or beggar. The Archbishop never stops to talk with anyone, however; as he strolls along he is the type of the thoughtful student.

WORK SPREADING.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND TO INAUGURATE NON-CATHOLIC MISSIONS.

The Touching Story of the Conversion of Baron Von Skobensky, His Elevation to the Cardinalate and the Brilliant Oration Accorded Him at Prague

Unless a person is in a position to know, he is very apt to think that the work of non-Catholic missions is not making any very marked progress. But in fact those who are informed know that in every direction the work is spreading rapidly.

Priests, hitherto contented with parochial labors, are listening to the suggestions urging them to engage in the new toils. Bishops are inviting missionaries to their diocese, and placing every facility in their way for the prosecution of this enterprise, while the laity are roused as never before to an interest in the conversion of their fellow countrymen. Only recently, as though in confirmation of all that has been done, it is reported that Archbishop Ireland intends to set on foot in his diocese and through the Northwest, non-Catholic missions, by setting apart some of his diocesan clergy, so that they may devote themselves exclusively to such preaching.

Indeed, it would have been done before had not the lack of priests to serve the numerous small parishes in the diocese made it impossible to undertake any new work until Catholic stations were supplied. Now, however, with the coming ordinations, it becomes possible to inaugurate the new work, and it is hoped that the preaching of missions systematically, to persons outside the Church, will eventuate in much practical good.

All this expenditure of energy must result in numerous conversions to the faith. It is impossible that it should be otherwise. And moreover, those who now come into the Church are welcomed by the authorities, and made to feel that this is their rightful home. High honors even have lately been bestowed on converts, one notable instance being the conferring of the Cardinalate upon Baron Von Skobensky, of Austria, a young man not yet forty years old, who was brought into the Church from atheism. His parents, who are members of the Austrian nobility, had reared him in entire disbelief of Christianity, and so he continued during his early youth. At this time, Baron Von Skobensky was betrothed to a beautiful and aristocratic young girl, whom he loved with all his heart.

Shortly before the time appointed for the marriage, the young woman suddenly died, and the Baron was left inconsolable. Nothing that his parents or friends were able to do could heal his grief.

It happened one day that he was passing the Cathedral in Prague that he heard through the open door the sweet melodies of the organ and choir, and attracted by them, without any religious feeling at all he entered in. The music ceased, and a venerable preacher began to deliver a sermon on the text "Come to me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." It seemed as if heaven itself opened his soul, and then there he became converted, and determined to devote his life to the Church. Society and the world were given up, and all his energies were concentrated to the task of bringing to his fellowmen that peace and consolation which he himself had found.

Father Skobensky was to be met henceforth wherever misery and sorrow dwelt. Thousands of poor were aided through his instrumentality. His own fortune was given away in a very few years. Drunkards and rogues reformed under his instruction. The prison, the hospitals, the abodes of crime—all felt the beneficence of his gentle ministrations. No wonder, then, that after his appointment by the Vatican to the Cardinalate, a distinction, he, of all men, least expected, he received a brilliant oration in Prague. The streets were packed with multitudes of devout admirers, many of whom he knew by name, and whose secret sins he had healed. He was received at the station by the burgomaster and a municipal deputation, and driven in the city gala coach, drawn by six horses, and escorted by a detachment of cavalry to the archiepiscopal residence on the Headscheln. Here was gathered the nobility of the land, all of whom joined in congratulating the newly-created Prince of the Church.—Rev. A. P. Doyle.

ST. WINEFRIDE'S INTERCESSION.

The shrine of St. Winefride was recently the scene of a remarkable cure, says the Catholic Times. A Mrs. Fenner, of Manchester, arrived in Holywell some few hours before noon, and returned home the same day perfectly rid of her infirmity. For a period of about two years she had suffered acutely from deformed feet. Walking was a most painful task to her. She visited a professional man in Manchester, but found no respite in her suffering. Mrs. Fenner, who is a Wesleyan, heard of St. Winefride's Well through relatives, and hastened to Holywell as a last remedy. Before entering the Well she spoke fervently of her faith in God and St. Winefride. She had no sooner touched the water with her feet than she cried out that she was healed. The amazed bystanders crowded round her, and praised God for His great mercy. All pain had vanished, for she walked with ease. In the evening she returned home full of gratitude, promising to become a Catholic, and further, to dedicate her boy to the priesthood.

Mrs. Craigie, more widely known as "John Oliver Hobbes," has just been elected a member of the council of the Authors' Society in England, being the fifth woman to be thus honored. She is a convert and author of "A School for Saints."

CATHOLIC NOTES.

Almost 1,500 members of the St. Vincent de Paul society of the Brooklyn diocese went on the annual pilgrimage to the mission of the Immaculate Virgin at Mount Loretto, Staten Island.

A new branch of the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin was formally opened on Monday, July 1, at Avenue-by-the-Sea. The new building was opened by the Rev. James J. Dougherty, the superior of the mission, and will be used as a summer home for poor boys.

The Pope has addressed an autograph letter to the King of Portugal appealing to his sentiments as a Catholic sovereign and exhorting him to cease to be hostile to the religious orders.

Bishop Sharrett, of Havana, has placed the Isle of Pines in charge of the Benedictines of St. Leo's College, Florida, and Father James, O. S. B., has been made pastor of the parish, which includes the whole island.

The Catholic population of the State of New Jersey has increased 55 per cent in the last ten years. More than half of the avowed Christians of that State belong to the Catholic Church.

The Pan-American exposition calls attention to the Catholic population of the city of Buffalo, which is 150,000, or nearly one-half of the people of the city. There are over 3,200 children in the parish schools of the diocese.

A \$400,000 cathedral, in the ancient Roman style of architecture, is being planned for St. Louis. A vast dome will crown the centre of the princely pile, while great pillars will ornament the front.

Fifteen hundred colored Catholics, members of St. Augustine's church, Washington, D. C., made the jubilee pilgrimage recently to the church of St. Aloysius, near Ganazaga college, and made a most impressive appearance.

The town of Multan, in the Punjab, India, long ago known as the ancient city of Malli, conquered by Alexander the Great 307 years before the Christian era, now contains 1,000 Catholics. It has a resident priest and a handsome church.

The Supreme Court of Missouri has recently rendered a decision to the effect that Catholic mutual benefit societies have the right to expel members who do not live up to their religion.

A wave of persecution is at present sweeping over the Catholics of New South Wales somewhat similar to the black cloud of Know-nothingism which overspread this country some fifty or sixty years ago. Just now in Sydney the Catholics are denied fair play. They are excluded from public offices, the rights of citizens are denied them, and insults are heaped upon everything they hold sacred.

Rev. Father Thomas P. McLoughlin, known as the "Singing Priest," who recently reached San Francisco on a lecturing tour, has been appointed by His Grace Archbishop Riordan temporary pastor of St. Matthew's parish at San Mateo during the absence of the pastor, Rev. T. Callahan, who has left for Europe for a much needed rest.

At Prague, last week, the Princess Adelheid, who is a cousin of the Emperor of Austria, entered a convent. Previously the Princess had given her entire fortune, \$250,000, to the Church.

The Rev. Thomas F. Horan, the pastor of Holy Family Church, Canarste, and also of the new Catholic Church at Barren Island, N. Y., which has not yet been dedicated, has just been presented with a large steam yacht for his own personal use to enable him to attend both flocks under his care. The two places are on opposite sides of the bay.

Blessed and exalted be the Blood of Jesus, now and always, and through all eternity!

Rev. Charles Rose Chase, who was formerly Anglican vicar of All Saints', Plymouth, England, and was received into the Church not long ago, was ordained at Rome recently.

JUST LEGISLATORS.

There is little bigotry, and much justice and fair-mindedness in the Pennsylvania Legislature, as shown by the fact that by a vote of 153 to 17 it recently passed bills appropriating \$15,000 to St. Francis' Hospital, and \$30,000 to Mercy Hospital, both of Pittsburg, and \$10,500 to St. Vincent's Hospital, of Erie. These institutions are all in charge of Catholic Sisters, while being, of course, strictly unsectarian in their charity. But the appropriation was an act of such unusual justice as to be worthy of note.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP O'CONNOR.

Bishop John J. O'Connor, of the diocese of Newark, announced on Saturday last at his home in Seton Hall College, the arrangements for his consecration. The ceremony will take place in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Newark, on Thursday, July 25th, the Feast of the Apostle St. James, and will be a high ecclesiastical function. Archbishop Corrigan will be the consecrator and the assistant consecrators will be the Right Rev. Charles E. McDonnell, of Brooklyn, and the Right Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, Bishop of Rochester, and formerly President of Seton Hall College.

Cardinal Martinelli says the Pope's most ardent wish is Christian unity.

FIVE MINUTE SERMON.

SHORT INSTRUCTIONS ON THE GOSPEL BY A REVEREND FATHER.

Gospel St. Matt vii. 15-21.—The False Prophet.

The word prophet means a person who, being inspired by God, announces future events and foretells what will take place in the remotest times in regard to people and religion by the immutable will of the Lord. But the name was given good and holy men who, in the name of God, taught religion to the people.

As plants are known by their fruit, so also are false prophets known by their works. Thorns will not bring forth good fruit, nor can you gather figs from thistles. In the same manner a corrupt heart cannot produce good actions; and if a hypocrite does something now and then that is good in itself, you will in a short time discover the motive of his actions. A corrupt heart will strive to conceal itself, but its hypocrisy is revealed by its actions. The style of dress, conversation, recreation, amusements, friendships, etc., plainly show the true condition of the heart.

A good tree cannot bring forth bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bring forth good fruit. The same is the case with the heart of man. A humble, patient, modest, and devout person, a person fearing God, will as a rule, not commit sins against those beautiful virtues, unless suddenly surprised by human frailty. But a proud, dissolute, and avaricious person will fall at the slightest occasion and show his true self, no matter how hard he tries to conceal it.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR.

Sunday July 11, 1901.—Gospel, St. Matt. vii. 15-21.—St. Bonaventure, bishop, doctor.
Monday, 15.—St. Henry Emperor.
Tuesday, 16.—Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
Wednesday 17.—St. Alexis, confessor.
Thursday, 18.—St. Frederick, bishop martyr.
Friday, 19.—St. Vincent of Paul, confessor.
Saturday, 20.—St. Jerome of Emilias, confessor.

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BROTHER PAUL DEAD.

Brother Paul, a monk of the New Melleray monastery, Dubuque, died Sunday night. He was 60 years old and had been an inmate of the monastery over 30 years. His life was a mystery. When he applied for admission he was a young and handsome man. He said he came from Georgia. He had seen all of life, and his heart was not satisfied, and he wanted peace and rest. He was welcomed with open arms, and since then he had demeaned himself in the most exemplary manner. All the brothers loved him for his sincere piety, his complete devotion to duty and the nobility of his soul. Who he was or what his antecedents were will probably never be known.

ASPIRATIONS FOR JULY.

O Precious Blood of Jesus, cleanse and purify all sinners!
O Precious Blood of Jesus, may Thy powerful voice drive far from us all the scourges that threaten us!
O Precious Blood of Jesus, by Thee may separation be offered for the outraged glory of God!
Blessed be the Precious Blood of Jesus, which renders bearable the thorns of earth, redeem our souls, purifies them from their iniquities and prepares for them an eternal crown.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Our city collector Mr. Carl Reynolds, will call on subscribers in the following parishes during the coming week. St. Mary's, Immaculate Conception, Corpus Christi, St. Monicas and St. Boniface. Kindly have the money ready when he calls.

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