

The Catholic Journal

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SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1901.

MASONRY AND CREMATION.

The Cremation movement is avowedly Masonic—that is, it originated among the Italian Masonic lodges. The "Rivista della Massoneria Italiana," the organ of Freemasonry in Italy, says: "The key-stone of the entire system which is opposed to masonry was, and is, that ascetic and transcendental sentiment which transports men beyond the existing world, makes them regard themselves as travelers of very brief sojourn on this earth, and induces them to sacrifice everything in order to acquire felicity in a life which would begin in the cemetery. This whole theory must be destroyed by the hammer of Freemasonry."

It then goes on to advocate the destruction of cemeteries by enacting laws forbidding the burial of bodies and requiring their cremation. They have pretended to base the burning of bodies on certain hygienic principles, but their real purpose is anti-Catholic. An article in the Catholic World Magazine for July discusses the question, and brings a number of proofs to show that there is a concerted movement all over the world against the time-honored custom of burying bodies.

There may not be any significance, but rather a mere coincidence, in the fact that the United States Cremation Company quotes Bishop Potter as the champion of the burning of bodies as a way of disposing of them, rather than the burial of them. Bishop Potter is known to be a very ardent Mason.

With ceremonies witnessed by 2,000 people, 50 priests and two bishops, Rt. Rev. William H. O'Connell was on the Fourth of July morning installed as Bishop of Portland (Maine). The new bishop has already captivated his new flock. Only the sanctity of the edifice and the solemnity of the occasion prevented his hearers from openly applauding the patriotic sentiments the new prelate uttered in his address. Sinking his own individuality, Bishop O'Connell used all through his address the ecclesiastical "we." His admirable address, so full of patriotism for New England, his love for his religion and his people, made a deep impression on those privileged to hear him. Bishop Bradley, of Manchester, N. H., preached the sermon and Rev. Michael C. O'Brien delivered the address of welcome. After the installation ceremonies the visiting clergy were entertained at dinner at Kavanagh school, where also the bishop addressed them again.

Brothers of the Christian Schools have the care of a trade school for Catholic colored boys among the hills of Powhatan county, Virginia—St. Emma's Industrial school, Bishop Van de Vyver, of Richmond, recently visited the school and a few days later there was another distinguished visitor, Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia. The institution was founded by Mrs. L. D. Morrell, of Philadelphia, and was formally opened by the Brothers in January, 1895. The site is a beautiful one, on the historic James river, and is about 40 miles from Richmond. This was the Belmead homestead and plantation, formerly owned by Gen. Philip Cooke, who figured among the Southern patriots during the Civil war. There are, at present, about 60 boys in the school. Connected with the school is the Belmead wagon factory, where about 40 boys learn to make wagons, carriages, and other vehicles. Blacksmithing, carpentry, shoemaking, and tailoring are also taught at the school. There is a brass band, composed of pupils, and the residents of Belmead and vicinity are entertained by the band several times a week.

The attendance at the inquiry class for non-Catholics which is held in Cochrane Hall, West Sixth Street, New York, on Tuesday and Friday evenings, was very large.

is the result of the non-Catholic mission which was given recently in the Church of St. Paul the Apostle and is in charge of Rev. Father O'Callaghan, C. S. P. A class of instruction consisting of about 35 persons who have declared their intention to join the church is in charge of Rev. John J. Hughes, C. S. P.

Catholics should not get married in the evening. The right way is to receive the sacrament at a nuptial mass. Don't be ashamed of marriage. It is natural, honorable, designed by God, enter it like Christ—pure in mind, clean of heart, doing the Father's will and hoping in a holy state to fulfill your mission in life and to save your souls. Avoid night weddings.

Paderewski, the great pianist, is a Catholic. In a recent letter to a friend in this country he apprised him of the death of his son, "Alfred Paderewski, who died at Goggingen, Bavaria, March 20, 1901, aged 20 years," adding the simple wish, "Pray for him." If the great Pole has lost his son it is evident he has not lost his faith.

A WORK OF LOVE.

Christ's Life Carved in Wood With a Pocket Knife. To illustrate the life of Christ in wood with only one tool, and that tool a pocket-knife, twenty-seven years of John O'Donnell's life were required. He has finished the work. It stands in his home, at East Fourth street, a marvel of ingenuity and an example of patience and perseverance, the equal of which may not be found in history. There are more than one hundred and fifty life-like figures, each one of which was carved by hand out of a solid block of wood. The whole, in its frame, represents three years' actual whitening. It is called "The crib at Bethlehem."

Mr. O'Donnell, who is of the Catholic faith, lived in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1874, during which year he did his first piece of work on the subject. He used only common pocket knives, wearing out fifteen in the twenty-seven years he was at work. The work is included in a cabinet representing a church, which stands about three feet high, is four feet long and two feet wide. The first group of figures is in a smaller church on the inside, and describes the birth of the Saviour. The infant is seen with its Mother and foster father at the manger, while the Three Wise Men are making their offerings, and the shepherds, the ass and the oxen are shown. The flight into Egypt, with the Mother and Child seated upon the ass, while Joseph leads the animal, is represented. The last supper is described by thirteen figures seated around a table, and Jesus is standing as though addressing His Apostles. The capture and trial of Jesus are depicted with minuteness, even to the kiss of betrayal. The scourging and the placing of the crown of thorns upon the Saviour's head are other pictures. The journey to Calvary is followed out, and Simon of Cyrene is shown taking the cross from the Saviour when he falls under its weight. The Crucifixion is represented by several groups of figures. There are many others not here numbered but each important event in the life of the Saviour is given place.

The figures are from three to nine inches in height. Some are in hardwood and others are in lighter material. They are all varnished or painted, and will exist long after the author is dead and gone. Mr. O'Donnell intends to leave his work to someone who will appreciate it. It never entered his mind to sell it or part with it for remuneration, but he has spent all his time and labor out of pure love for the subject. He has lived in Salt Lake for the past eleven years.—Salt Lake Herald.

POPE LEO'S LOVE FOR BIRDS. The Pope is a great admirer and friend of birds. In his library and in the alcoves of his reception room, a number of them are kept, and their chatter always interests the Pontiff. "You see," he once said to a foreign minister, who had called to pay his respects, these birds are my diplomats. Whenever I receive anyone here he can only make a report as to my amiability, and can seldom understand my words, because the chatter of these songsters drowns all that I say. The visitor often cannot tell whether I have even spoken."

BISHOP O'CONNOR'S GIFTS.

Priests and Sisters of the Newark Diocese Remember Him. Bishop John J. O'Connor, of the Roman Catholic Church received the priests of the Newark diocese at Seton Hall College, South Orange, last Thursday afternoon. Those who were students under him at Seton Hall College presented to him a handsome cross, the staff of which is ebony and the head gold. The presentation was made by a committee of three priests, the Rev. John H. Fox, Vicar-General of the Trenton diocese; the Rev. William Cantwell, of Long Branch, and the Rev. Bernard O'Connell, of Perth Amboy. The presentation speech was made by Vicar-General Fox. The Bishop also received a ring, set with a yellow diamond, from ex-United States Senator James Smith, Jr., and wife, who became fast friends of the Bishop when Mr. Smith was a trustee of Seton Hall College. Another gift, a large gold ring set with a hyacinth stone, surrounded by diamonds, was from his fellow students at the American College at Rome, represented by the Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wall, rector of the Church of the Holy Rosary, in New York.

The Bishop also received a gold pectoral cross and chain from the members of his immediate family. The Sisters of Charity of the Newark diocese gave the Bishop five pairs of embroidered satin slippers and a gold pectoral cross. A precious mitre, made of

Gothic silk, embroidered with diamonds, was received from the Dominican Sisters of Newark.

FATHER MARQUETTE'S CRUCIFIX. A dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald says: Workmen on the new Ann Arbor hotel at Frankfort, Mich., have unearthed a golden altar crucifix eleven inches in length, set in a base two inches square, valued at from \$300 to \$500. It is believed to have been the property of Father Marquette, who was buried there 225 years ago. Some time ago a skull and rosary were found there, and the skull is preserved as that of Father Marquette. The cross is heavily plated with gold and bears the initials I. N. R. I. The contractor who is working at the hotel holds possession of the cross, but the authorities of Ann Arbor are trying to obtain it.

The ceremony of blessing the corner stone of the new Catholic church at Lyon Mountain, N. Y., took place June 30, Bishop Gabriels, of Ogdensburg, delegating Father Belanger to officiate. There was a large gathering present.

In the past five months one-sixth of the Cathedral portion of the diocesan debt of Columbus has been paid. Besides running expenses and many improvements which have been made.

A DRINK OF WHISKY.

How a Prominent Lawyer of the South Was Led to Embrace the Catholic Faith.

A Catholic missionary in North Carolina writes: It is wonderful what means God makes use of to be the occasion of his drawing men's minds and hearts to the truth. It often happens that a word or act to which we pay little attention brings salvation. Some time ago I met in my work a prominent lawyer of the state, who told me that he got his belief in and attraction to the church through a drink of whisky. "Let me tell you this, Father Price," he said, "during the war between the States I was severely wounded at Fort Sumter. I lay upon my cot groaning and suffering the most acute agony. There came to me a long faced Methodist minister, who, in canting words, made me 'get religion,' and poked at me a tract on hell! I was in no condition for any hypocritical cant to be practiced on me, and I used to him some strong language not allowed in Sunday schools and bade him get out and leave me alone.

"After that there came in a Catholic priest a perfect stranger to me. He looked at me for a moment and saw I was suffering. With a look of deep sympathy on his face, he drew out a flask and said: 'My friend, you are suffering; a little of this will do you good.' "Now, there," said my genial lawyer—"that is what I call true religion, and that is the difference between the Catholic religion and the others. There was no pretense or cant about this priest. He didn't come there among the wounded with a lot of put-on talk and tracts about religion, but he came there in a true spirit of charity to relieve and comfort the wounded in soul and body, and he brought that whisky to me and brought relief to them. The action and conduct of that priest made me reflect on the difference between the Catholic religion and others, and my after observation and reasoning has confirmed me in the belief that if there is any true religion on earth it is the Catholic."

CATHOLIC NOTES.

July 24 will be Knights of Columbus Day at the Pan-American Exposition.

Nine Franciscans will be ordained to the priesthood at the house of the Oldenburg, Indiana, next Sunday.

The sixth biennial session of the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association will be held in Detroit, Mich., July 30 next.

It is cabled to this country that Queen Margherita, of Italy, contemplates founding at Rome an asylum for children whose parents have been murdered.

The Illinois commissioners of the Pan-American exposition have invited Bishop John Lancaster Spalding of Peoria, to offer the dedicatory prayer on Illinois day at the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo.

The Knights of Columbus, one of the largest and strongest Catholic organizations in the United States, will assemble at Atlantic City, August 3. It is expected over 15,000 will participate in the annual reunion.

Twenty-five years ago, February 13, seven Catholic families settled at Liebenthal, Rush county, Kan. The colony has grown until it now numbers 32 families and 500 souls, nearly all of whom reside in Liebenthal and vicinity, most of them having built good residences.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Montgomery on Sunday laid the cornerstone of a new parochial school at Oxnard, Cal. The building will cost \$16,000.

At Prague, the other day, Princess Adelhild who is a cousin of the Emperor of Austria entered a convent. In view of the princess had given her name to the future, \$250,000 to the Church.

Longkeepers' council of the Knights of Columbus presents gold medals for the most proficient Christian Doctrine pupils in St. Peter's and in St. Mary's Sunday schools. B. J. McDonald and Mary N. Maher were awarded silver medals by St. Mary's church for being next in proficiency to the first three medal winners at St. Peter's. Father Nilan presented a gold ring to Fanny Robinson at St. Peter's and Thomas McDonald, another scholar at St. Peter's, won a prize for proficiency.

OBJECTED TO MASONS. Father Charles Grobshmid, of Fort Washington, Wis., certainly does not believe in Catholic association with

Masonic fraternities, even on state occasions. Some days ago he sent out an order forbidding the Catholic Knights, or any other societies of his church to participate in the procession of ceremony of the laying of the corner-stone of the new courthouse at that place. This order was issued when the priest discovered that officers of the state grand lodge of Masons had accepted invitations to perform the ceremony. The invitations were sent by the Business Men's Association which had charge of the exercises. For the sake of harmony the committee withdrew the invitations to the Masons and notified the priest that he might have it as he desired.

MRS. RYAN'S GIFT TO BISHOP VAN DE VYVER.

Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan, of New York City, has just made a present of \$25,000 to Bishop Van de Vyver, of Richmond, Va., for the erection on Laurel Hill in that city of what will probably be the finest church in the State of Virginia. It is to be a cathedral, Romanesque in style, cruciform in shape, 170 feet in length by 70 in breadth. The plans for the cathedral are already well on toward completion and work on the building will be begun in the fall. Mrs. Ryan is a native of Virginia.

Division 7. A. O. H.

Division 7. A. O. H., adopted the following resolutions on the death of Brother Daniel J. Conolly: Whereas, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called from our ranks our late brother, Daniel J. Conolly, we bow in humble submission to His divine will, remembering that we know not the day or the hour when death may come to us all. Be it therefore:

Resolved, That in the death of Brother Conolly, this Division has lost a faithful and conscientious member, and that we tender to his bereaved family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in their hour of affliction and sorrow, remembering that our loss is his eternal gain. Be it further: Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the meeting, and that they be published in the THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL. John Rogan, Lawrence McGreal, Owen Ward—Committee.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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

If those of our subscribers who fail to find news of their respective parishes in these columns will kindly notify us we will endeavor to supply the omission. We desire a good correspondent in every parish in the diocese, and all favors in that line will be fully appreciated and duly acknowledged.

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Table with columns: RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, and SURPLUS. Resources include Bonds and mortgages, Land contracts, United States Bonds, etc. Liabilities include Due depositors, Other liabilities. Total resources and liabilities are \$15,000,594.59. Surplus is \$1,732,299.50.

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The jubilee of this diocese began May 1st and ends November 1st. Working people or persons who have not made the jubilee and who would like to perform it on Sunday must commence to-morrow, Sunday July 21st, because there are but fifteen (15) Sundays before the first of November.

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