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EASTER.

To-morrow the Church celebrates once more the joyous feast of Easter. We have followed the Savior through His wanderings. We have wept with Him in Gethsemane. We have stood with Him before Pilate. We have listened to Peter denying his master. We have watched Judas betray his Lord with the traitors kiss. We have heard the rabble prefer a robber to the Savior of mankind. We have tread with Him the weary road to Calvary. We have watched his last agony and seen Him laid in the tomb.

To-morrow we will be with Him when He bursts the bonds which Death had riven and demonstrated that the dread Reaper had no power over the Son of God.

When we go to church to-morrow we will see the altars decked with flowers; the sanctuary will give forth the fragrance of sweet plants; the altars will be in white, emblematic of the joy which fills the hearts of all Catholics that Christ is risen. The strains of the "Gloria" will be heard for the first time in forty days and in many other ways the Church marks the great feast.

What cause of joy have we Catholics? Easter is for us a feast day, not a mere form, an occasion for fancy music and other forms of vaudeville attraction in order to attract the crowd to the churches.

Let us then rejoice that we have been spared to participate in the joys of another Eastertide.

Sacred Images.

It is the fashion with non Catholic bigots to call us "idol worshippers" For this reason and to furnish our readers with answers to such slings, it may not be out of place to discuss this question briefly.

The doctrine of the Catholic church regarding the use of sacred images, is clearly and fully expressed by the General Council of Trent in the following words "the images of Christ, and of His Virgin Mother, and of other Saints, are to be had and retained, especially in churches; and a due honor and veneration is to be given to them; not that any divinity or virtue is believed to be in them, for which they are to be honored, or that any confidence is to be placed in them, as was formerly done by the heathen, who placed their hope in idols; but because the honor which is given them is referred to the originals which they represent, so that by the images we kiss, and before which we uncover our heads or kneel we adore Christ and venerate His saints, whose likeness they represent."

For the sake of non-Catholic readers, let us quote their own great Leibnitz on the reverence paid to sacred images. He says in his "Systema Theologicum," page 142:

"Though we speak of the honor paid to images, yet this is a manner of speaking which really means that we honor not the senseless thing which is incapable of understanding such honor, but the prototype, which receives honor through its representation, according to the teaching of the Council of Trent. It is in this sense, I take it, that scholastic writers have spoken of the same worship being paid to images of Christ as to Christ our Lord Himself; for the act which is called the worship of an image is really the worship of Christ himself, through and in the presence of the image and by occasion of it, by the inclination of the

body towards it as to Christ Himself, as rendering Him more manifestly present and raising the mind more actively to the contemplation of Him. Certainly, no sane man thinks, under such circumstances, of praying in this wise: 'Give me, O image, what I ask; to thee, O marble or wood, I give thanks; but 'Thee, O Lord, I adore; to Thee I give thanks, and sing songs of praise.' Given, then, that there is no other veneration of images than that which means veneration of their prototype, there is surely no idolatry in it than there is in the respect shown in the utterance of the most holy names of God and Christ: for, after all, names are but signs or symbols, and even, as such, inferior to images, for they represent much less vividly. So that when there is question of honoring images, this is to be understood in the same way as when it is said that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bend, or that the name of the Lord is blessed, or that glory be given to His name. Thus, the bowing before an image outside of us is no more to be reprehended than the worshipping before an internal image in our minds; for the external image does but serve the purpose of expressing visibly that which is internal."

In conclusion: Have you not at home the portraits of living and departed relatives? And are not these likenesses of persons in heaven above and on earth beneath.

Then and Now.

It may be wondered if Theodore Roosevelt to-day subscribes to the following sentiments penned by him in 1897 and published in the "Review of Reviews" in January of that year:

"There are plenty of ugly things about wealth and its possessors in the present age, and I suppose there have been in all ages. There are many rich people who so utterly lack patriotism, or show such sordid and selfish traits of character or lead such mean and vicious lives, that all right-minded men must look upon them with angry contempt; but, on the whole the thrifty are apt to be better citizens than the thriftless; and the worst capitalist cannot harm laboring men as they are harmed by demagogues.

"As the people of a State grow more and more intelligent the State itself may be able to play a larger and larger part in the life of the community, while at the same time individual effort may be given freer and less restricted movement along certain lines; but it is utterly unsafe to give the State more than a minimum of power so long as it contains masses of men who can be moved by the pleas and denunciations of the average socialist of to-day.

"There may be better schemes of taxation than those at present employed; it may be wise to devise inheritance taxes, and to impose regulations on the kinds of business which can be carried on only under the especial protection of the state and where there is a real abuse by wealth it needs to be and in this country generally has been promptly done away with; but the first lesson to teach the poor man is that, as a whole, the wealth in the community is distinctly beneficial to him; that he is better off in the long run because other men are well off and that the surest way to destroy what measure of prosperity he may have is to paralyze industry and the well being of those men who have achieved success.

"It is criminal to excite anger and discontent without proposing a remedy or only proposing a false remedy. The worst foe of the poor man is the labor leader whether philanthropist or politician, who tries to teach him that he is a victim of conspiracy and injustice when in reality he is merely working out his fate with blood and sweat as the immense majority of men who are worthy the name always have done and always will have to do."

Christian Scientists now say their prayers quenched the Baltimore fire! Whereupon the Rambler of the "Catholic Union and Times" remarks: "Why on earth don't they turn their hose on Hades?"

Philadelphia Knights of Columbus have subscribed and turned over to Archbishop Ryan a fund of \$3,000 to be expended in counteracting the proselytizing efforts of the non-Catholic sects in the Italian quarter of the city. Truly a laudable work.

Bishop Cusack.

Once more Rome has done the unexpected. When Archbishop Farley left for Rome it was given out that he would recommend the appointment of an auxiliary bishop to assist in the administration of the affairs of the archdiocese of New York.

Many of the prominent and honored priests of New York were talked of at once as probable recipients of the episcopal mitre. Rev. Dr. Lavelle, the leader of the Catholic Summer School and Sigour Munnay were thought to be about even in the race if race it could be termed.

When the appointment was announced the new bishop was found to be one whose name had not been mentioned even. After the first shock of surprise had passed, every one conceded that a fitting choice had been made and all wondered why they had not thought of him before.

Bishop Cusack is a missionary priest, one of the most successful in the country. He has traveled in this and other countries, is a close student, a great reader and a deep thinker. He ranks high as an administrator and it is the general opinion that Archbishop Farley has named and the Holy Father has honored a worthy man.

Mystery In Religion

One of Tom Paine's stock arguments was "Mystery is the antagonist of Truth, and Religion cannot have any connection with mystery."

To which reasoning Father North-graves rejoins: "Our existence, the vegetable and animal worlds, the influence of our soul on our body, the circulation of the blood, the action of gravity in the universe, chemistry, natural history, all are mysteries which we cannot penetrate. Electricity, that wonderful agent, many of whose uses we know and of which we can avail ourselves, is so mysterious a power that we cannot tell its nature. The greatest scientists can only theorize and speculate upon it.

"Thus in a matter which pertains specially to man, that is to say in the works of nature, we are in a world of mystery. Is it to be supposed that in the sphere which belongs to God we can understand everything; that there must be nothing mysterious or incomprehensible to us. God would not be God, He would not be infinite in His immensity and knowledge if we could understand all that relates to Him.

"It is, therefore, preposterous to assert that there must be no mysteries in religion. God is infinite. He knows truth which we cannot understand. Our highest wisdom is no knowledge that the number of truths unknown to us is infinite. If God reveals such it is reasonable for us to believe and unreasonable to reject them. In fact we owe to God the homage of our whole being, of our understanding, as of all our other faculties; and the only way in which we can pay Him that homage is to believe on His unerring word all that He has revealed, however incomprehensible it may be to us.

A new exchange "The Cross" of Halifax, speaks of Margaret L. Shepherd as "a mischievous woman going about from place to place creating animosities in the community." We thought that the gay Margaret was dead.

What sort of a spirit pervades the management of the St. Louis exposition? It is proposed, seriously, to establish a Woman's Hall of Fame, a prerequisite for enrollment in which is that "every woman represented must be a prominent member of fashionable society in one of the leading American cities." Gracious goodness, what are we coming to?

Read this if you are going West. Now is an excellent time to make a trip to the West or Southwest, and for the benefit of those wishing to go to that part of the country to look for farm lands, business locations, or for pleasure, the Nickel Plate Road has arranged to sell round trip Home-seekers' tickets at extremely low rates on March 1st and 15th, and April 5th and 19th. One way colonist tickets to same territory on same dates. Special one way colonist tickets to principal points in California, Oregon and Washington, at rate of \$42.50, on sale every day March 1st to April 30th.

For full particulars see local agents or write R. E. Payne, General Agent, 291 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Patronize the Fairs for the Aged.

"The Ladies' Outer-Garment Shop"  
Rochester's Greatest Garment House Bids You Welcome To Its Beautiful Display of Easter Garments This Week.



Your Easter garment is here—all ready to put on—and when you have made your selection you will feel satisfied that nowhere else could you choose to such good advantage as here. We emphasize this fact because Rochester women have given our garment display unstinted praise on every side. But you need not feel that this splendid showing is confined to high priced garments alone. We meet the demand of those who want a moderate priced garment as well, guaranteeing perfect style, fit and workmanship.

Let us show you our elegant line of Raincoats, Dress Skirts, Pedestrian Skirts and Shirt Waists.

PARISIAN CLOAK HOUSE,  
74 and 76 MAIN ST. EAST.

COOK OPERA HOUSE STOCK COMPANY GRAND OPENING Monday April 4th. The Girl I Left Behind Me. MATINEES: 10c. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday.

EASTER HATS NOW ON SALE. New Styles! New Colors! Meng & Shafer Special \$3.00 Guaranteed Non-Breakable Meng & Shafer Glove Fitting \$1.95 Meng & Shafer Nobby \$1.50 The Best \$1.00 Hat on Earth For Sale only by Meng & Shafer Manufacturers and Importers 11 State St. 186 Main St. E. 14 W. Main St.

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