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Dom Gasquet

Rochesterians owe a debt of gratitude to Bishop McQuaid and the newly organized Cathedral Entertainment Association for an opportunity to bear and see Dom Gasquet, the head of the Benedictines in England and noted all over Europe as a historian of more than ordinary merits. This famous monk has given the lie to those would-be historians and bigots who for 300 years told the world that the monks of England prior to Henry VIII, were notoriously immoral men, money-grabbers and all else that was bad and reprehensible.

While Catholics were morally certain that these stories were, for the most part, fabrications, pure and simple, they had no proof to offer in rebuttal, and so were compelled to bear the odium of these false accusations. Dom Gasquet conceived the idea of searching out the original archives and ascertaining whether the charges were true. He persisted in his work, and a few years ago the world of letters was surprised and the Catholic world gratified at the publication of works by the learned Benedictine, in which he proved conclusively from official records in the archives of the British government that the monks before Henry VIII were much maligned men, and that the wholesale charges referred to were trumped up to serve as a plausible pretext for confiscating their monasteries and other valuable property.

A Cornell professor is reported to have said not long ago that, in view of Dom Gasquet's discoveries, English history, to be accurate, must be rewritten, so far as Henry VIII's time was concerned.

Dom Gasquet comes to Rochester shortly to lecture on history before the students of St. Bernard's Seminary, and on the evening of Sunday, Nov. 6th, he is to lecture in St. Patrick's Cathedral on "France and the Vatican—Past, Present and Future Relations." The Cathedral should not be large enough to hold the audiences which assemble to greet the famous historian, theologian and author.

### Nonsense.

Secular newspapers of Rochester indulged in a deal of nonsensical speculation and some deliberate misrepresentation last week over the past, present and future conditions of the diocese of Rochester.

The duly constituted authorities of the diocese of Rochester are quite competent to administer its affairs without the advice or assistance of the newspaper press.

Reporters, enterprising and otherwise, might fare better in newsgathering if they were to accept as veracious the statements made by men who are classed as gentlemen, instead of manufacturing stuff out of whole cloth and persisting in their misinformation in the face of denials on the part of men who are not noted prevaricators, to say the least.

This sort of work is worthy of the yellowest of yellow journals.

Very aptly the San Francisco "Monitor" remarks, anent the planting of a tree near George Washington's tomb by the Archbishop of Canterbury, that a former Pope of Dr. Davidson's church would have suspended Washington from any old tree had he been able to lay hands on the "doughty rebel."

### Religious Education.

Whether so intended or not, the Protestant Episcopal Archbishop of Canterbury, in the course of his address before his brother American prelates on the divorce question, put forth the strongest sort of plea for religious education in the schools when he said:

"It would be vain to ignore the warning voices which tell us—on either side of the sea—of a certain decadence in the definitely religious life of the ordinary home—a falling off, that is, in the very force which gave it distinctive inspiration and its distinctive power to so much of our grandfathers' life.

"If that be true, and in spite of all explanatory qualifications, nobody will, I think, say it is wholly false, it surely behooves every gathering of churchmen to consider well what they can do to safeguard the men and women, and above all, the children, of American and of England from a peril whose gravity it is impossible to overestimate, because it affects the very foundation of our Christian life. I am not presumptuous enough to try to judge of the degree to which this danger is at present yours.

"You can tell, as of course I cannot, whether adequate provision is somehow being made in the America of today for securing that the children of your people shall nowhere grow up ignorant of the fulness and significance of their Christian heritage."

It might easily happen that religious instruction in the schools would tend to decrease divorces, unhappy marriages, and improve home life. But to many of our American non-Catholics believe, apparently, in divorce, and are willing that its deleterious effects should continue.

### Foul Mouthed

There are two Protestant bishops abroad in the land who are no credit to their calling. Their names are Burt, recently made a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal persuasion, and the other is Brent of the Protestant Episcopal denomination, and not unknown in Rochester.

Burt is so perverted morally and mentally that he cannot believe Catholic women to be possessed of virtue. Of course he makes his mouthings apply to Catholic countries. He lacks courage to make such charges against Catholic American women. Here is the way he described the city of Rome to an audience of his Methodist brethren:

"Converted Hindus, who had witnessed the sacrifices in the Ganges and the various other diabolical practices of the Brahmans and Buddhists have never witnessed in their own country such inhuman practices as they saw in 'Christian' Rome. Romanism in Rome stifles intellectual and economic progress. It destroys individual conscience and personal responsibility. It makes salvation to depend on kissing the bones of the saints and going upstairs on your knees. If you don't care to go on your own knees, hire some one else to kneel and the result will be the same. Rome is the center of an ecclesiastical hierarchy, of all reactionary intrigues. The peace of the world is being disturbed by secret plots in the Vatican."

To Brent is ascribed this choice bit: "They (the Filipinos) are so credulous that they will kiss the hand of a tinsel-decked scamp, who, having smeared himself with shoe-dressing, announces himself as the Black Christ. They will drink the foul bubblings of escaping sewerage, because some one has started the report that it is a miraculous well."

As a contemporary says, very pertinently, it is a matter of surprise that Bishop Brent has not attempted to convert the deluded followers of John Alexander Dowie and Mary Baker Eddy. To be sure, they are civilized Americans, supposedly, but they indulge in practices fully as reprehensible as those ascribed to the ignorant savages of Filipinos.

Says the "Catholic Standard and Times": "When a great newspaper tells the public that of a famous corps 'the oldest survivor will be buried to-morrow,' it ought to advocate the raising of the tariff on the importation of horned cattle from Ireland. One of the veteran animals from Erin's

pastures was the line in one of the old 'comic songs,' 'My mother was a true-born Irishman.' The paper referred to 'went one better' in the same issue. In reporting the progress of a scandalous law case the interviewer is made to say: 'What have you to say about the assumption that your client's mother may have been an Englishman of noble birth?' Of course, the front place is for the noble Englishman, even if he be a lady." To this list might be added the paper that harrows its reader's sense of propriety by referring to "the present incumbent."

Andrew Carnegie would compel peace, making the war making power the exclusive property of England, France, Germany and the United States. Probably, the smaller nations would be bullied into giving up to the big fellows all that they wanted. But universal peace could be obtained, if the members of the order could be believed, if every Masonic lodge in the world were to vote to uphold the non fighting principle. It has been proclaimed and not denied that the masons were in control at every stage of the Spanish-American war.

Says the "Christian Register" (Unitarian): "Expensive ministers for the privileged, and cheap parsons for the East Side, will not reach the crowd of either side... The Catholics do far better. They have one church for all, and the great majority of priests are true to equality in the pews."

"The Catholic citizen is the heaviest taxpayer in the nation," says "Church Progress" of Saint Louis. "He is taxed to support a public system of education in which his conscience will not permit his children to participate, because that system has excluded God. Therefore, he is compelled to tax himself again to support his own system, which teaches a knowledge of God."

The "Sacred Heart Review" puts it well when it says: "A Protestant contemporary justifies the existence of so many sects in Protestantism by pointing to our country composed of many States and yet forming one nation. But the analogy is faulty. The United States may be made up of many States, but it is united in one government and head at Washington. Where is the one government and head of Protestantism?"

Employers who deprive Catholic servants of opportunity to bear mass will find out sooner or later that they have made a bad investment.

The Detroit "Free Press" estimates that if the Catholic schools in that city were closed, the taxpayers would be called upon once for new buildings and other expenditures needed to take care of the additional pupils the sum of \$2,854,800. Let's see. What would it cost the taxpayers of Rochester if the twenty Catholic schools were closed some fine morning?

The November number of "The Twentieth Century Home" is a superbly illustrated magazine, and its contents, for interest and variety, are on a par with the artistic side of this new and popular periodical.

Undoubtedly the article in the November "Cosmopolitan" which will attract the most general discussion is General Corbin's account of the "Third Battle of Bull Run" as he terms the recent military maneuvers near Manassas, Virginia.

### NATIONAL THEATRE.

Not many changes have been made in "The Fortune Teller" Company which is announced for a week's stay at the National, beginning next Monday night and including the usual matinees on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. The double role of Musette and Irma which brought Alice Neilson sudden fame is now in the hands of pretty Doris Goodwin, and the comparatively insignificant part of Mlle. Pom Pom assumes a new importance in care of Estie Janis. This little girl has really been made the star of the show, but it is particularly in her imitations that she shines. The trio of comedians remains the same as last season, Phil Eronson, Herman Kirshberg, and James Macklehen.

The golden grain is bursting, and the pumpkin's on the vine. For a ride out in the country. Call up Higgins, "49".

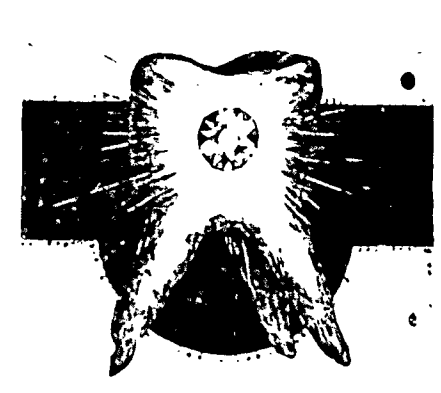
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