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Why Is It?

Now that the Spanish American war is supposed to be over, the friars' lands have been sold, the friars themselves dispersed as far as possible and American bishops sent to the Islands, why will writers and talkers persist in charging up all of past, present and future ills to the alleged malign influence of the aforesaid friars?

In few instances is mention even made of the good done by the friars; how they maintained schools, and educated the natives; how they built roads, constructed bridges; how they founded universities in which such recent "discoveries" in America as manual training and agriculture, were taught.

Possibly, probably, there was a commingling of Church and State which was not quite congruous from the American viewpoint. It may be that the padres were forced to exercise too many of the functions of government but wherein has there been a change in the order of things? In his campaign talk here last fall, Secretary Taft asserted that the Filipinos are not yet capable of self government and that the American government must stand in a paternal capacity towards the islanders for many years to come. In what other relation did the friars stand to the Filipinos? May it not be a matter for time to settle whether the new protectors will be more solicitous for the welfare of their wards than were the friars? Will American soldiers and American politicians teach the Filipinos to be better Christians? Better bred ladies and gentlemen? If not, why abuse the friars for exercising the same relations toward the islanders that we now exercise and propose to exercise indefinitely?

In an article in the "Outlook" of December 10, Allegheny Ireland, who is styled "Colonial Commissioner for the University of Chicago" takes the fashionable fling at the friars. He quotes Aguinaldo as follows: "These priests have been for a long time the absolute masters of the life, honor and property of the Filipinos. For this reason it is a widely known and notorious fact, recognized by all foreigners who have studied Philippine affairs, that the primary causes of the Philippine revolution were the ecclesiastical corporations which have robbed the country, preventing progress and liberty."

We prefer to take Aguinaldo at the valuation of Secretary Taft, as a vain, cunning, not over-scrupulous politician. Take away Aguinaldo's evidence and the Ireland case falls to the ground in the main.

The Reason

In the course of an editorial on "The Growth of Protestant Churches" a non-Catholic contemporary holds that the average increase in membership of two per cent in three Protestant sects is a healthy growth. Perhaps it is. Indeed in view of the breaking down and putting aside of old principles; in view of the apparent willingness to permit a man to believe what he pleases or to believe nothing at all, so long as he inscribes his name on the membership lists, any increase at all is remarkable.

But the amusing part of the editorial is when the writer tries to explain away the disproportionate increase in the membership in the

Catholic church in the United States. It must be borne in mind that the non-Catholic mission boards make the basic point of their appeals for funds with which to send missionaries to the old time Catholic countries of Europe, that the inhabitants of those countries are living of the Catholic faith and church and that they are hungering and thirsting for knowledge as to the innate beauties of the hydra-headed creed of the non-Catholics.

In the second place, our non-Catholic friends continually and persistently are attacking the class and character of our immigrants, telling the public that these immigrants are ignorant, irreligious and of a character directly in opposition to what is needed in the citizenship of this republic. Personally we believe that crime and licentiousness would continue to increase if immigration were to be prohibited absolutely, because the trend of our riotous living tends in that direction, but that is neither here nor there; in discussing the question at hand.

Either our non-Catholic friends must misstate conditions in Catholic countries or the slander about Catholic immigrants is repeated in an insidious form in the following statement: "The contribution made to the increase of population through immigration is very largely Roman Catholic."

Possibly, the statement is true but there are other and potent reasons. First and foremost it may be noted that "Catholics do not practice 'race suicide' nor do they carry on the installment plan." No divorce court is open to them whenever they see a partner whom they fancy may be preferable to the one they have chosen. They observe laws of God and man. Hence it is that the Catholic communicants increase in number. Besides the church attracts a few non-Catholics, not perhaps so many as to make a large percentage of increase in the total membership but sufficient to make a real difference in percentage of increase if added to any one of the minor non-Catholic bodies.

Excuse as they may explain as they will, our non-Catholic friends only make a worse matter. The Catholic church is God's representative on earth and that is why it flourishes and grows.

It is a good resolution that the "Columbian" offers for the New Year: "Let us, as Knights of Columbus, each and every one of us, firmly resolve to live in 1905 as true knights and sons of holy mother church. Then we can never fail in our duty as citizens of our great Republic."

Why did not the local Catholic organizations pay visits to the orphan asylums and other Catholic institutions as did the Shriners, the Elks and other non-Catholic organizations of the roistering stripe?

Say, "I will" and stick to it is a motto which should win respect and success as well.

And now a doctor comes along and declares that while kissing may facilitate an interchange of microbes and bacilli these are not harmful but really are aids to digestion. Pah! Swains and maids have known this for centuries.

Charles Frohman is trying to test whether the public wishes a Shakespearean revival or not.

In a thoughtful article on the federation of churches the Rochester "Herald" remarks that statistics show that in all denominations, save the Roman Catholic, there is a dearth of young men students for the ministry. Catholic students enter upon a sacerdotal life because of a love for religion. Too often, the non-Catholic student embraces the life for a "career" and the prospects for emolument and advancement are far brighter in other professions and walks of life. Besides, too many non-Catholic young men are growing up minus faith in revealed religion, or even a wholesome respect for the creed professed, ostensibly by their fathers—for Sunday consumption only.

Secular papers, often, are not fit to be read by younger members of your family, but the Catholic paper is always wholesome and clean.

A MOUNTAIN AIR CURE.

Summer and Winter Alternate Daily at St. Moritz.

The summer season at St. Moritz, a health resort high among the Alps, is short—a scant two months—when the temperature is mild. But even in August snow sometimes falls in the valley at night. The sun is the life of St. Moritz. The moment it appears over the mountain tops it assails the frost and the cold of night like a devouring flame. It sends the mercury in the thermometer chasing up the tube twenty degrees in an hour. Where there had been snow at midnight ladies in lawn dresses and men in cool flannels are lounging about at noon. Then late in the afternoon comes another change. The life giving sun drops behind a mountain peak. Instantly a chill shivers through the valley and it is winter again.

There are springs at St. Moritz and baths, but they are not patronized with the regularity of lowland resorts. The air is a better cure than the water. Mountain climbing is more beneficial to the muscles than massage. Long drives through the valley, excursions to glaciers and diligence journeys over the passes take the place of doctors. Outdoor life is the cure of St. Moritz. Everybody's.

Origin of the Turbine.
The steam turbine is regarded as a new machine, but the idea is probably as old as mechanics itself. The water turbine forms one of the simplest means of utilizing hydraulic power, the steam turbine, which is almost as simple in principle, dates back at any rate to 129 B. C. when Hero of Alexandria gave the earliest known description of it in his book on pneumatics. In 1629 Branca invented the impact turbine. The device consisted simply of a jet of steam impinging upon the vane of a paddle wheel and blowing it round.

The modern turbine represents the highly developed results of the combination of these two principles. A series of inventors since the days of Branca have experimented with the steam turbine. Watts among them. Ericsson patented a steam turbine in the United States in 1830. De Laval in 1828 introduced a machine closely resembling Hero's model. But it was in Great Britain that the first turbine engine of practical utility was constructed in 1884 by the Hon. Chas. Algernon Parsons, son of Lord Rosse, of telescopic fame. St. James's Gazette.

Some Monster Cannon.
Some experiments conducted on near the Long Range with the new model big French fort gun show that this question of gun caliber touches interests outside the purely military sphere. The gun is of 245 inch caliber and although only three shots were fired it had been a great precedent to warn the neighborhood inhabitants to leave their windows and doors open as a precaution against the tremendous concussion expected. In fact, the first shot did great damage to the earthworks around the gun, and as there was no time to warn the officer in command the next two discharges completely shattered them. Luckily, the men ordinarily serving the gun had been kept at a distance until the effects had been tested. In the result new service rules will have to be devised, and a larger uninhabited area around these guns will be necessary.

Strange Food for Humans.
According to a writer in the Scientific American, perhaps the most singular food for human beings is the larvae of a fly which is common in parts of California. This insect is found in such vast quantities in Lake Mono that it is washed upon the shores in vast windrows and can be collected by bushels. The water of Mono is very singular, seemingly heavy and smooth like oil, so much so that it resists ordinary wind and refuses to become ruffled. When the larvae begin to appear Indians gather from far and near and scrape them up, place the wormlike creatures on cloths and racks in the sun and dry them, when they are beaten up and husked, looking then like rice. The Indians call the food "koochah-bee," and many bushels are collected at this time. That larvae are nutritious is shown by the condition of the Indians, who soon grow fat on the rich diet.

The German Navy.
Among the officers of the German navy are five admirals, seven vice-admirals, seventeen rear-admirals, sixty-two captains of ship, twenty-five of frigate and 111 of corvette. The ships of the navy consist of nineteen battleships, eight coast defence ships, twelve armored gunboats, ten armored cruisers, twenty-nine protected cruisers, seven ordinary gunboats, fifteen training ships, nine special service vessels, and nine harbor ships. Of these there are in commission nine battleships, four coast defence ships, one armored gunboat, seven armored cruisers, nineteen protected cruisers, six ordinary gunboats, eleven training ships, and eight special service vessels.—London Engineer.

Lack of Horses in Japan.
One reason given for the excessive reliance on manual labor in Japan is the absence of grass in the country. All hay has to be imported, and, naturally, horse-keep is very expensive. Under the old conditions of Japan's existence the banishment of the horse was a matter of small importance. But with the necessity of maintaining a huge army on European principles the circumstances constitute a serious drawback. Cavalry and mounted infantry cannot be dispensed with, and yet the Japanese have provided them only with extreme difficulty.—Exchange.

\$100,000 for Poor Negro.
Andrew Beard, a negro who has worked for 20 years in the railroad machine shops in Birmingham, Ala., has just sold for \$100,000 a patent for a car coupler which he invented.

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Pattern Table Sets.	
John S. Brown's Fine Pattern Sets—cloths 2x2 yards, dozen napkins 22x22 inches—regular value \$6 50 a set.....	\$5.75
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John S. Brown's Fine Pattern Sets—cloths 2x3 yards, dozen napkins, 22x22 inches—regular value \$7 75 a set.....	\$6.75
Lunch Cloths.	
Fringed Lunch Cloths—32 inches square—all linen quality—regular value 45c.....	35c
Hemstitched Lunch Cloths—36 inches square—all linen quality regular value 75c.....	59c
Mercerized Damask Lunch Cloths—very fine quality—36 in. square—regular value 86c.....	69c
Tray Cloths.	
Bleached Linen Tray Cloths—18x27 inches—regular value 35c.....	25c
Bleached Linen Tray Cloths—20x30 inches—ready hemmed—regular value 35c.....	25c
Hemstitched Tray Cloths—with openwork—regular value 85c.....	49c
Fine Damask Tray Cloths—size 20x30 inches—regular value 75c.....	50c
Napkins.	
Linen Dice Napkins—size 15x15 inches—regular value 45c a dozen.....	35c
Bleached Union Napkins—size 16x16 inches—regular value 50c a dozen.....	43c
Bleached Damask Napkins—size 20x20 inches—regular value \$1 a dozen.....	79c
Bleached Union Damask Napkins—size 20x20 inches—regular value \$1.12 a dozen.....	89c
Bleached All Linen Napkins—finished with tied fringe—regular value \$1 25 a dozen.....	89c
Loom Dice German Napkins—size 22x22 in.—regular value \$1 25 a dozen.....	\$1

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STATEMENT OF THE

Rochester Savings Bank

Cor. Main St. West and Fitzhugh St.
JANUARY 1, 1905.

ASSETS	LIABILITIES
Bonds and mortgages..... \$9,086,856 42	Due depositors..... \$19,600,977 81
Land contracts..... 99,359 46	Interest accrued on deposits..... 55,627 01
U.S. bonds, market value..... 655,000 00	Other liabilities..... 19,933 69
State bonds, market value..... 652,625 00	Surplus..... 1,845,427 40
County bonds, market value..... 499,600 00	
City bonds, market value..... 4,330,482 50	
Village and town bonds, market value..... 73,710 00	
R.R. mortgage bonds, market value..... 4,423,110 00	
Banking house and lot..... 200,000 00	
Real estate..... 190,000 00	
Interest accrued..... 202,678 01	
Other assets..... 5,455 92	
Cash on hand..... 242,948 23	
Cash in banks and trust companies..... 930,130 17	
	\$21,591,955 71

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