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SATURDAY, DEC. 23, 1905.

"Peace on Earth."

Once more the Christmas bells are pealing their message to the children of men. Once more they ring out the wish "Peace on earth; good will all to men."

Could a more joyful event be commemorated than the advent on this sinful earth of the Divine Son of God, coming to fulfill the prophecies of a Saviour of mankind? His coming robbed the mosaic law of its sternest features. While justice was still to be meted out, it would be tempered with mercy and Love was to be the keystone of the religious arch. Christ the Divine sacrifice was to replace the symbolical offerings of the Judaic rites. Christ the Saviour was to establish a kingdom of Love instead of one whose basic principle was an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. Christ the Saviour elevated charity to the pedestal of the greatest of virtues. Christ brought light into a world of darkness. Henceforth there was a Mediator at the right hand of the Father.

Is it not then fitting that Christmas, the day of His birth and Easter the day of His resurrection should be commemorated in gladness and joy by those who believe in Him?

Then banish sorrowful sorrow at the Christmas feast. Even if our loved ones are gone from us, let us be glad that they are privileged to celebrate the feast in Heaven. Even if poor, we can be as rich in Christmas cheer as the millionaire. He cannot corner Christmas sentiment; he cannot shut the poor out from the Christmas mass; he cannot drive away the Blessed Infant's love.

Therefore, there is happiness for all on Christmas day. To each of its readers the Catholic Journal wishes the utmost happiness of the blessed season.

Who Is To Blame?

On all sides, the baleful influence of the sensational press is acknowledged. Probably, a majority of our people will join the chorus of protest against undue prominence being given to crimes and the doings of vicious in society.

Whom shall be blamed? If the people refused to purchase, subscribe to or advertise in the "yellows" their proprietors would change their tactics as they are not in business for their health.

We regret to say that Catholics are not mindful of their duty in this respect. In many homes the solicitor for the Catholic paper is met the excuse "We cannot afford it." Yet every Sunday in these same homes is found a copy of the New York "yellow" with its gaudy colored supplement conveying distorted ideas of art and inciting the youngsters to disobedience, irreverence and other violations of the laws of man and the regulations of society.

These Sunday "yellows" are a gross fraud. They purport to give the news of the day but they are printed the night before, hence they do not give even the news of the day as do the home Sunday papers. Yet they cost seven cents each or \$3.50 per year. We do not know of a Catholic paper in the United States whose annual subscription reaches this amount. So the excuse "We cannot afford a Catholic paper" falls to the ground. It must be that we do not want a Catholic

paper. We prefer to give our money toward the support of a fraud, considered from a news, moral or artistic standpoint.

The New York "News" a secular paper, does not put the case a whit too strongly when it says:

"Catholic parents—Protestant parents, too—who value the future of your children, and the morality, the security and the happiness of your homes—who know that religious and moral teaching is the shield between your loved ones and the road which leads to depravity, crime, the prison, and all the other evils and miseries resulting from moral degeneracy—it is time for you to act! It is time for you to shut out from your doors as you would a poisonous reptile the press which ignores religion as something to be avoided and treated with contempt! Your dearest interests are at stake; the welfare of your loved ones, both material and spiritual, may, and probably does, depend upon your course. In the choice of your daily reading place the Church above the Tenderloin; put morality ahead of crime, and demand that the real home in America, the real home of New York, the home of virtue and love and truth, shall have preference over the daily picture of degradation, vice and bestiality. The vast majority of New York homes are those of virtuous parents and moral and dutiful children. It is for those homes to see that the right side of life is presented in the news of the day, and that their children are not given the false impression that vice is master and virtue and religion are weaklings in comparison. Refuse to patronize the poisonous press, and very selfishness will compel the reform which the highest interests of the community, of the millions of human souls in this Greater New York, and wherever the press of New York circulates, so imperatively demand.

The Reason Why.

Many non-Catholics and not a few Catholics have wondered that Bishop McQuaid has expressed himself adversely to the proposition that Catholic girls, at least, should not attend the University of Rochester.

In the first place, even non-Catholic educators are divided as to the expediency and value of co-education.

In the second place let us quote from the "Catholic Union and Times" of recent date:

"We are well aware of the elasticity of the term 'unsectarian.' But applied to the sciences it has a specific meaning, implying the rejection of all that has any reference to a personal God, implying the principles of materialism, pantheism, evolution, in short, of any theory invented to supplant the idea of a Creator. Such, accordingly, are the underlying principles of the text books in use, such the guiding principles of those that are to minister to the needs of the thirsting student. As a proof of this, we need but refer to the text books in use at the various so-called unsectarian institutions of to-day. But who will doubt that such principles inculcated day after day as the indisputable dogma of science, will finally prove most detrimental to the religious convictions of Catholic youth? And can anyone, therefore, take it amiss if Catholics refuse their support to an enterprise thus endangering their highest interests?"

"Again, the great events of the world's history are to be taught, but in the same light of 'unsectarianism,' which only too frequently develops into sectarian bias and prejudice against the Catholic Church. The latter is ever portrayed as the mother of ignorance and error, the patroness of superstition, the advocate of treachery, whose sole object is the enslavement of man and personal aggrandisement. And for the spread of such a perversion of history the Catholic is supposed to lend support!"

In support of the second count in the indictment may not the recent talks of Professor George M. Forbes against the traditional belief in inspiration of the Scriptures be urged? If he may seek to break down belief in inspiration in his Bible class,

Why may his brother professors of the University faculty do likewise?

As for history study, does any one suspect that an effort is made in the University of Rochester to give the Catholic version of disputed points?

Are these not convincing reasons? Why expose young women to possible attacks upon their faith when there are Catholic educational institutions of equal and superior facilities?

Archbishop Ireland is an optimist, so far as the future of Rochester is concerned. But so are we all.

So many experts have praised the excellence of Rochester's Catholic educational institutions that the people of whom they were introduced are coming to realize their true worth.

Funny, is it not, that newspapers have so much money to throw away on "cable dispatches," especially from Rome. Perhaps they don't, though. "Special cable deception" is so difficult to trace you know.

"We are sorry to notice more and more," says "St. Anthony's Messenger." We are sorry to notice more and more every year that the real meaning of Christmas, the most beautiful of all festivals, is being lost. The infidel is vying with a certain kind of Christian in keeping its observance, because it is the time to give and to receive—nothing more.

Writing in the "British Weekly," Ian MacLaren says: "One thing I have learned, and it has kept me from criticising the Roman confessional with the high spirit of many Protestant writers. There are certain situations where a man or woman must confide in some person to obtain advice or sympathy, or simply to unload the soul, and there is no one to whom it is more becoming they should turn than a sincere and honorable minister of Christ. For one thing he knows more of life, if he has been a receptive person, than even a lawyer or a doctor, and he is bound by every sacred consideration to absolute secrecy. During the course of his life he has become the depository of many hidden sorrows and family tragedies. He has been with people through many a cruel trial of which the world knows nothing, and has suffered with them in ways even his nearest friend does not suspect."

"A king's speech occupies about five minutes in reading; a President's message takes hours," says the "Catholic Standard and Times." It might have added that the senators, congressmen and newspaper editors are about all who read either.

This letter, written many years ago by a prelate, now dead, but its doctrine is still sound and applicable:

"Sir: I have often been pained and astonished at the frequent appeals of editors and proprietors of newspapers to their subscribers, urging them to pay their just debts. Catholics at least cannot be unaware of their obligations in this matter, and that abolition to a penitent heartily sorry for his sins does not free him from the obligations of paying his just debts. The statement for oblivion of justice in this world will certainly be exacted in the next. The editors and proprietors of newspapers, on their part, give their time, the product of a high education and experience, together with their money for stationery, printing and wages to employes, and they expect and should have, in common justice, a return, often by no means adequate for their outlay. A man who will not pay for a paper he has subscribed for, reads and whose contents he enjoys, is a retainer of another man's goods, and is on a level with a thief. Yours faithfully, JOHN JOSEPH LYNCH, Archbishop of Toronto."

Newark, N. Y.

Editor Catholic Journal: I wish to express my appreciation of your recent timely article entitled, "Snobbish," which should be read by every person of Irish descent.

I have been writing on this subject more or less during the past 18 years, and it is gratifying to know that the humble newspaper correspondent is supported by such an excellent publication as a member of Ladies' Auxiliaries as the Journal.

Why should we not be proud of our Irish descent?

Shall we blush for Jackson, Barry, Logan, Sheridan, and the many other people of our blood whose names have added lustre to American history? Shall we forget brave Major Patrick Keenan, who said: "Tell my poor old father that I died like a true Irishman, fighting for the land that gave us shelter and liberty?"

The great Bonaparte surrendered to an Irishman; and as we look over

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- \$7.50 Shawl Collars \$5.00
Sable and Isabella American Opossum Shawl Collars, lined with Skinner's satin—\$5.00 worth \$7.50.
- \$8 Jap. Mink Throws \$5
Jap. Mink Throws, sable color, various lengths and styles—\$5.00 upward, worth from \$8.00 upward.
- \$12.50 Fox Neckpieces \$6.00
Sable and Isabella American Fox Neckpieces at \$6.00—worth up to \$12.50.
- \$6 to \$8 Fox Scarfs \$3.75
Sable and Isabella Fox Scarfs, values from \$6.00 to \$8.00, choice \$3.75.
- \$7.50 Squirrel Zazas \$3.75
Natural Russian Squirrel Zazas especially suitable for young women—\$3.75, worth double.
- \$10 Krimmer Throws \$5.00
Gray Krimmer lamb Throws lined with pearl gray Skinner satin—\$5.00, worth double.
- \$22.00 Electric Seal Coats for \$12.50
A limited number of Electric Seal Coats in a 24-inch model, 32 and 34 sizes only—\$22.00 value for \$12.50.

In addition to the scarfs and neckpieces above specified there are muffs to match at correspondingly low prices.

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the history of country after country we exclaim with Thomas Dunn English:

"And Ireland's valor, learning, wit,
All other lands shall stir;
And give them progress and renown,
But not, alas! for her."
We should pray daily for the welfare of the dear "island of sorrow" and feel more pleasure in saying that we are of Irish descent than in making any other statement, except that we are Catholics. I have noticed that those who are ashamed of their ancestry are apt to be ashamed of Christ and the glorious faith which He lived and died to establish.
Yours truly,
WINIFRED BILBEN JOHNSON.

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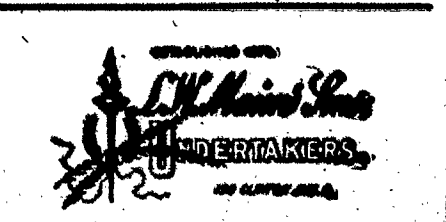
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