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Hooks of Steel.

In a recent article, the London "Telegraph" pays a somewhat remarkable tribute to the Catholic Church. According to the secular paper, there are about 200,000 Catholics in London, many of whom are of the poorest sort of Irish immigrants. They live in the poorer parts of the city yet, according to Charles Booth, they constitute "a class apart, being, as a rule, devout and willing to contribute something from their earnings toward the support of their schools and the maintenance of their religion."

Commenting upon this state of things in general, the "Telegraph" goes on to say:

"It is one of the strangest characteristics of the Church of Rome that she alone among the denominations has discovered the secret of grappling to herself with hooks of steel men and women from every rank of society and every grade of culture. Whatever their worldly position, whatever their degree of intellectual development, her power over them is a real and binding one. It is only those with some personal knowledge of her adherents who have any idea of the diversity of individual conviction which attains repose under the apparently rigid and unbending system by which her authority is exercised."

Yet, though she is perhaps the most varied, as well as the most united and compact force in the religious world, and though there is a general tendency to follow her example of pressing the arts into her service, her converts are not numerous. On the other hand, oddly enough, when they do come it is usually from the affluent and highly educated classes, and not a few of the most cultured skeptics turn to her at last in their despair and become her zealous supporters. Though their proportion is not a large one, the doctrinal unity, coherence and discipline of the Catholics give them a unique position among the denominations."

Truly Stated.

The Boston "Pilot" agrees with the Journal in its estimate of the case of Rev. Dr. Crapsey. Says our contemporary:

"The heresy trial of Dr. Algernon P. Crapsey, late the rector of a well-known Protestant Episcopal Church in Rochester, N. Y., has emphasized the line of cleavage in that denomination. The discussion of the case has revealed many Episcopalian of decided rationalist leanings who seem to think doctrine matters nothing, and who set forth Dr. Crapsey's deeds of charity, etc., as arguments against his deposition."

"But, if it does not matter what a man believes, why should Dr. Crapsey and his upholders want to remain within the shelter of a religious body which officially sets forth as a condition of membership, faith in the Virgin Birth and Bodily Resurrection of the Divine Christ, and exacts a solemn promise to uphold this faith from her ministers?"

"Would it not be simpler and more straightforward to have done with quibbling and range themselves where they belong, among the Unitarians? It is easy for a Catholic to appreciate the grief and dismay of the quasi-Catholics among the Episcopalian, but perhaps the incident and its consequences like the Gorham Judgment in the Church of England will show these good people the insecurity of their position, and hasten their return to the Centre of Unity."

Says the Sacred Heart Review: "Good people are not always good tempered people. They suffer from a sort of spiritual dyspepsia. Religion, which should sweeten them, sour them instead. The world wants people who can grow better without religion."

The Golden Rose.

The report that Princess Ena of Battenberg, now a princess of Great Britain and Ireland, may receive the Golden Rose this year moves the London "Catholic Times" to some interesting reminiscences of this ornament. It was originally a single "flower" made of pure gold, enameled red. Toward the beginning of the fifteenth century, however, it was modified into the shape of a small rosebush in a flower pot bearing one single "bloom" of beaten gold.

The custom of giving the Golden Rose to those members of royal families who have done most service to the Church during the current year dates from the thirteenth century, when Urban V. sent a golden rose to Joanna of Naples. Sixtus IV. gave a very elaborate golden rosebush to Eleanor of Aragon when she visited Rome and was sumptuously entertained there. Henry VIII. had the "flower" twice, and his daughter Mary once. From that time until the present no English Prince or Princess has ever received it, unless it be Mary of Modena, to whom it was despatched, although for some reason it was never received by her. In modern days the Golden Rose has been given to the Queen of Portugal (Maria de Gloria), to Queen Isabella of Spain, to the Empress Eugenie, to the late Empress of Austria and to the Queen of Naples. It has not been manufactured within the last thirty years. Such periods have been allowed by Pontiffs to elapse without presenting it, and then when some special and suitable occasion has arisen the custom has been resumed.

We Beg to Differ.

We hate to differ with the esteemed "Church Progress," but we cannot accept the rebuke implied in the following paragraph:

"We deem the advice, which is appearing in many Catholic papers, urging readers to make their Easter duty, wholly out of place. It is certainly unnecessary. Those who subscribe for and read a Catholic paper are not in need of any such reminders."

With equal force it might be said that those who attend mass do not need to be reminded of the close of the Paschal season but the zealous pastor never fails to do so. Then why is it not a proper function of a Catholic paper? It may be that included in the members of the family which the paper reaches is one black sheep, one wayward member. The reminder of the unperformed Easter duty may impel a train of thought that will lead that wayward one to the altar.

If a Catholic paper may not aid the hierarchy, priesthood and laity to bring about a better understanding of our Holy Church and her laws among Catholics and non-Catholics. What excuse can be offered for its existence? The secular press can print more "news" and dish it up in more attractive style because of the absence of limitations as to subject and treatment.

If the appeal of which our contemporary disapproves be unnecessary of what need are the "missions" held at frequent intervals all over the land?

Perhaps we do not understand the viewpoint of "Church Progress." Let us hope that is the true explanation of its reprimand.

"Sassility"

Speaking to the Daughters of the Faith at the first general meeting of that society, Rev. A. J. O'Rourke, S. J., laid down these needed admonitions to the women of to-day:

"What is the ideal of the Christian woman? Not wealth, nor intellect, not social prestige, but moral worth—the Christian character which our Savior said was the love which expresses itself in the service of others. "But how many people look for these virtues in their social relations? How many are careful to look into the antecedents of a hostess? Is it true that manages the automobile or holds the reins at the horse show or the hand that rocks the cradle which rules the world? Evil in society needs the influence of men and women in society to destroy it."

Now, what do you think of this? Washington, April 29.—The Southern Railway Company has granted clergymen's half-rate privileges to "St. Patrick, the Presbyterian," a dog owned by the Rev. A. W. Pitzer, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church South, of this city. The dog is known among Mr. Pitzer's parishioners as the "assistant pastor."

The total population of Milwaukee is 315,000. According to a census taken recently by order of Archbishop Messmer, the Catholics number 105,000—one-third of the total population.

Editorial Notes.

While it may be hard for the New York "Evening Post" to rid itself of its bigoted tendencies, inherited from the late lamented "Larry F. Godkin, there is no necessity for its making an asinine exhibition of itself as it did the other day when it stated that the Bible was on the Vatican Index. Godkin would never have made such a break.

"Did you buy a Catholic book this year?" asks the "Catholic Columbian." "How are our authors to live if they get no support?" To this query might be added: "Do you take a Catholic paper? If not, how do you expect the Catholic press to keep up?" The Paulist Fathers, who closed a mission in this city last Sunday, know pretty well what is needed by the Catholics of to-day and one of their closing appeals to their hearers was to subscribe for a Catholic paper.

Very pertinently remarks the "Catholic Standard and Times": "To obey" has been stricken out of the lexicon of youth. Such a word is abhorrent to the theory of independence. Neither at home nor abroad is it to be tolerated. The old schoolmasters recognized the value of the principle and enforced it, nowadays it is the pupils who lead, the masters who follow.

That "patriotic" order, known as the Junior Order of American Mechanics, did its level best to defeat an appropriation of \$50,000 for St. Mary's Industrial School by the Legislature of Maryland on the ground that the institution was a Catholic one, despite the fact that boys and girls of all denominations were to be admitted. It is a pleasure, however, to record that the bigots were unsuccessful.

Probably it was as well that Father Thomas Sherman did not repeat his father's "March Through Georgia." But there is reason for wondering if the episode merited all the newspaper space it received.

It is reported that the Redemptorists are to establish a monastery of the order in the Philippines. Priests attached to the Australian branch of the order, it is said, are to go to the islands.

Those persons who are addicted to the "settlement fad" may find their usefulness impaired, at least their influence over the people they seek to reach, by reason of several settlement workers talking in palliation of Maxim Gorke's adulterous relations with a woman not his wife, even according to American divorce-made standards.

Who is not glad that the state legislature has adjourned?

The legislators from the Seventh judicial district added to their reputations by refusing to stand for the attempt to "grab" another unnecessary Supreme Court Justiceship.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians has succeeded in its effort to put Irish history in the public school curriculum of Boston as an elective study. Why could that not be done elsewhere? The rule nowadays is to prepare oneself for teaching some special branch and then exert one's own pull and that of his friends to have that specific subject included by the school board in the list of studies. Irishmen have just as good a right to follow suit.

Schoolkeepers in London now sell tea over the bar and report that there is a demand for it.

A London magistrate has ruled that size does not protect a little dog who attacks a man, and that it is not cruelty to kick him.

Writing in "Scribner's," Mary King Waddington contributes this typical case of government dealing with the religious orders in France: "In our little town they have sent away an old Sister who had taught and generally looked after three generations of children. When she was expelled she had been fifty years in the town and was teaching the grandchildren of her first scholars. Everybody knew her, everybody loved her; when anyone was ill or in trouble she was always the first person sent for. Now there is at the school an intelligent, well-educated young laique with all the necessary brevets. I dare say she will teach the children very well, but her task ends with the close of her class. She doesn't go to church, doesn't know the people, doesn't interest herself in all their little affairs, and will never have the position and influence the old religious had."

In June three priests of the Diocese of Munster, Westphalia, will celebrate the diamond jubilee of their ordinations, and, in the course of the year, 10 more their golden jubilee.

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Table Tumblers (Clear Glass) 1c

Floor Mops 50c Kind 39c

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RAILROAD NOTE.

The West Shore Railroad will sell round trip tickets to Syracuse on Decoration Day at one fare, or \$1.65, for the round trip. Tickets will be good only on trains leaving at 7:55 a. m. No baggage will be checked on the excursion tickets.

The New York Central and West Shore Railroads have arranged for an excursion to Buffalo and Niagara Falls on Decoration Day, when tickets for the round trip will be sold at \$1.00. They will be good only in coaches and on trains advertised, but will not be good for checking baggage.

Decoration Day Excursion to Buffalo and Niagara Falls via New York Central and West Shore Railroads Wednesday, May 30th.

Only \$1.00 for the round trip. Tickets good going in trains leaving Rochester at 6:48, 7:13, 9:00, 9:47, 10:15, 10:55 a. m. (6:02 and 8:25 via Falls Road to Niagara Falls only); good returning in trains leaving Niagara Falls at frequent intervals, leave Buffalo at 3:20, 5:20, 7:15, 8:00 and 11:10 p. m. via West Shore Central, 7:20 p. m. via West Shore. No baggage checked on these tickets nor are they good in Pullman cars. Two Eastern League ball games at Buffalo: parades, matinees at the theaters, etc. Niagara Falls is never more attractive than at this season of the year; wild flowers in profusion on the islands. Don't miss the famous Belt Line trip covering both Canadian and American sides of the river. Call on New York Central and West Shore ticket agents for tickets and all information.

Decoration Day Excursion to Syracuse via West Shore Railroad Wednesday, May 30th.

Only \$1.65 for the round trip. Tickets good going in train leaving Rochester at 7:55 a. m. Good returning in trains leaving Syracuse at 2:10 and 6:05 p. m. No baggage checked on these tickets. Grand opening of the White City on Onondaga Lake will take place on Decoration Day. Dedication of the site of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument will take place at Clinton Square, G. A. R. parade; matinees at the theaters, etc. Call on West Shore ticket agents for tickets and all information.

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