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Friday, April 12, 1907.

The Difference

Rev. John Price conducting the question box in the Pittsburg "Observer" was asked:

"Is it true that the worst Catholic is better than the best Protestant?"

To this he returned the following dignified but stinging reply:

"It is not true. It is a credit to any man to be morally good, but it is discreditable to any one to be bad. In addition, it is more discreditable to be a bad Catholic, for a Catholic is the less excusable, since he has so many reasons and so many helps to be good. No man ought to be morally a good man more than a Catholic for he cannot claim ignorance of his duty and responsibility. A good Protestant, who is sincere and firm in his faith, is a good Catholic in fact, for he belongs to the soul of the Church, and would belong also to it bodily if he was convinced of his duty in this respect. Formal conscious heresy only would constitute guilt. Hence a good, sincere conscientious Protestant is better than a consciously bad Catholic, who is Catholic in name only."

Not Creditable.

While there is no doubt of the warm spot for Theodore Roosevelt in the national heart, equally there is no doubt that the people wish he would be more discreet and less effusive.

Calling a man a liar every day in the year loses its effectiveness as an argument. Used infrequently and under stress of great provocation it is excusable although one might well wish that the president of the United States would allow some one else to apply the epithet.

Impetuous valor has its time and place but so has dignity. In times of peace, the people, we believe, would prefer that their president be more reserved in speech and in writing. No right-minded man blames the President for being outraged that he should have been on close personal terms with the railroad magnate who is just now in such opprobrium in the public mind, if he had reserved his case on dignified silence nine persons out of ten would have put the railroad magnate down as a liar.

But in rushing into print with sweeping denials, coupled with publication of part of a personal correspondence in which, reading between the lines, the writers were exceedingly friendly, raises the suspicion that some one is not entirely frank, to say the least.

What is growing in the minds of the people is that the President writes altogether too much in a personal way and not enough in an official way and that he does not appear at all times, to be able to observe the strict line of demarcation between the two.

It is to be feared, as the days go on that this fault of temperament may impair the place in history to which Theodore Roosevelt is clearly entitled.

The Post Express indulges in an ill-considered attack on Secretary of State White because he is following the opinion of a former attorney general just as did his predecessor. The case of Secretary of State White, John T. McDonald, is a case of which the Post Express is not entitled to speak.

The Difference

A Protestant minister, preaching an Easter sermon recently to a commandery of the Knights Templar in Milwaukee, pointed out clearly the salient reason why the lodge never can stand in the same place as the Church, as some "jiners" with greatunction.

Rev. Frederick Edwards was the preacher and this is what he said:

"The Church was founded for teaching man his relation to God and man. Your order was instituted for furthering the upbuilding of mankind. The priesthood of the Church was instituted and ordained by Jesus Christ. Your officers were inaugurated and installed by man. The service of the Church is divine, and cannot pass away. The ritual of the Masonic order was prepared by man, and may pass away.

"Your ritual was written over one thousand years ago, and it was for a institution, which taught the same things you do, but was for the rich and poor alike. The obligation that goes with it is not all that should make a man a brother to it. So when the present work was other men that should make him his hand in his pocket for the widow and orphans. Shame on the man who does that because of a secret society regarded Roman Catholic mission-obligation and will not do it in the work in Japan. Here is what church. His obligation in the church we found: 'But, as ever and every-just as great and just as binding where, the Roman Catholic mission-as that in the society.

"Your position should be to assist in building up the Church. Your membership is confined to one sex, and practically one class. What and place have you for women and children? You have an auxiliary to keep the women interested, but they are not the Masons. We take the whole family. Your ritual is carried on behind closed doors. Ours is open to the world.

"I say a man's obligation to the Church comes first and your order should be to the Protestant Church, well of Catholics he will surely give what the Knights of Columbus is to the Roman Church, an organization which restores to the Church its Christian graces, not takes them away. You have taught the Church many men, and are entitled to credit for it, but you have done it that may work into the Church, and no more sound obligation can be imposed than yours. God bless you in your good work, and may He restore you to the Church to which you belong by right. To deny it is blasphemy. You have sprung from the Church and should belong to it."

Not Well Informed.

William T. Stead may know much about politics and public men but when he comes to write about and analyze the situation in France, especially the Catholic side. Here are two typical sentences from a recent article by the English writer: "The majority of Frenchmen and no small proportion of educated Frenchwomen have long ceased to take my strong popular feeling against the government, which has expelled the religious orders, disestablished the Church, disendowed the clergy and laid profane hands upon church property. The government officers believe that, so long as they are not driven to shut up the churches or to imprison the clergy, they may do as they please. Hence the struggle, as far as it is visible to outside observers, partakes largely of a game in which the object of the Church is to compel the State to make martyrs, and the object of the State is to evade that undesirable consummation.

As to the utter ignorance of the Bible of the ordinary Frenchman, I had a curious illustration in my own experience. At the general election of 1900 I published a political pamphlet entitled "The Candidates of Cain", dedicated to all candidates who approved of the Boer War. A French publisher asked to be allowed to bring it out in a French translation in Paris. "But," he said, "you must give us another title. Nobody in France knows who Cain is." On repeating this to some literary friends in Paris, they declared the publisher was right. "Are none of the Biblical characters known to this generation of French-

men?" I asked. "Not one," was the reply. "Nobody reads the Bible in France."

So far as the last charge is concerned, Mr. Stead could find the same condition from examination papers handed in by the average non-Catholic boy or girl in either the United States or in England.

Test of Fairness.

Guy Carleton Lee, who conducts the literary department in the Baltimore "Sun" has a good standard for judging a book sent him for review when it deals with Christianity as a whole or a part.

Hence there is a double value and interest in the following:

"When a book purporting to be a history of Christianity in any part of the world is presented to us for review we at once say: What is the creed of the writer? and having found that we look first to see in what manner he has treated other same things you do, but was for the little use in reading the book; the shame of the author is stamped on his hand. So when the present work was handed to us we first ascertained that its writer was a Baptist, and we then sought to find in what light he regarded Roman Catholic mission-obligation and will not do it in the work in Japan. Here is what we found: 'But, as ever and every-where, the Roman Catholic mission-aries, male and female, have been carrying on their work with complete devotion and self-sacrifice in a quiet and unostentatious manner,' and further we read: 'The Catholic Church throughout the West is noted for its splendid charities. It does more to care for the helpless, aged and infirm than all the Protestant bodies combined.' When we found these and other like statements we were not surprised to find in what light he might be depended upon to tell the truth, for if he is found speaking immediately knows it and goes in search of it. He provides for the weak, and carries on his shoulders the sick Christ is all this in regard to us, His unfortunate sheep. He knows each individual soul, its quality, its merits, its defects, and its wants. If it goes astray He mercifully seeks it; if it is weak He assists Himself, and helps it by His ministry; if it is sick He treats it with the holy sacraments. In a word, He lovingly provides for all its wants. What a great happiness it is to belong to a shepherd so loving, powerful, and solicitous for our salvation. Secondly, we should constantly thank our good God for His great mercy. Lastly, we should show ourselves loving and obedient sheep. And as the sheep repay the shepherd for his care and labor in their behalf, so should we, by our affections, good works, and resignation to the dispositions of Divine Providence repay in a manner the sacrifices which Christ underwent for us.

Five Minute Sermon

The Good Shepherd.

A good shepherd knows each of his sheep in particular, and calls it by name. Hence he knows which is the best, the indifferent, and the worst; he knows which are the feeblest, and when one goes astray he immediately knows it and goes in search of it. He provides for the weak, and carries on his shoulders the sick Christ is all this in regard to us, His unfortunate sheep. He knows each individual soul, its quality, its merits, its defects, and its wants. If it goes astray He mercifully seeks it; if it is weak He assists Himself, and helps it by His ministry; if it is sick He treats it with the holy sacraments. In a word, He lovingly provides for all its wants. What a great happiness it is to belong to a shepherd so loving, powerful, and solicitous for our salvation. Secondly, we should constantly thank our good God for His great mercy. Lastly, we should show ourselves loving and obedient sheep. And as the sheep repay the shepherd for his care and labor in their behalf, so should we, by our affections, good works, and resignation to the dispositions of Divine Providence repay in a manner the sacrifices which Christ underwent for us.

Contrast this with the following, from the pen of James R. Randall in the New Orleans "Morning Star": "A friend of mine, most distinguished in his profession, has necessarily to travel over the greater part of this country. He also is brought into intimate personal relations with the leading editorial writers and managers. One Sunday morning after early Mass I happened to encounter this gentleman, much to our mutual surprise. * * * Many topics were hurriedly discussed, but I will only mention one of them, because it is a matter of very serious import. My friend, not a Catholic, but a Christian of that class among our separated brethren who clings to orthodoxy as distinct from 'higher criticism,' sadly said: 'There is one thing in this country that has not been sufficiently observed, and it fills me with alarm for the future. From personal knowledge I can state positively that more than ninety per cent. of the men who control our newspapers are either infidels, skeptics or agnostics. Not a few are indifferent, but practically irreligious.'

So in addition to Godless schools, so-called, we have a Godless press, and the combination is a fearful one. Rochester's Catholic summer reporters are solicitous about religious services while absent from home. Catholic chapels are under way at Summerville, Manitou and Conesus.

If the New York authorities would display a tithe of the activity in protecting life and property, in running down the human monsters whose God is vice and whose prey is innocence, instead of spectacular energy in breaking up games played only by those who can afford to lose and upon whom no pity need be wasted, the public welfare would be better conserved.

Women's Eton Suits

\$25.00

Worth \$30 to \$38

The drawing power of special offerings largely depends on opportuneness of presentation. To be tempting, they must be timely. So gauged, the special sale of tailored suits, which will be one of our star attractions for to-day, has prospects "to burn", seeing that it will be sprung at the "psychological moment"—a time when they are in greatest demand. Last Monday we made a clean sweep of another special purchase of tailored suits of similar values and at same price. But those concerned cutaways, while these are etons.

The jackets have broad straps and are trimmed with plaid silk and soutache braid in contrasting colors. Some have vests of silk and braid, others are in Tuxedo style with trimmings of dull silk. Skirts are the new box and side-plaited models, flat over hips and flaring at foot. Materials are: Fine worsteds in gray, tan and black and white, plaids, checks and stripes and smooth-face chevots in plaids and checks, mostly grays and tans. The lowest price such suits have sold at in regular stock is \$30.00. But most of them are \$35.00 models—some \$38.00.

How possible? Primarily to post-Easter cancellations on the part of over-stocked retailers. We might add that the fabrics referred to are scarce—sold-outs not being duplicable. So, you see, in this case, economy joins hands with exclusiveness.

McCurdy & Norwell Company

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About Large Rugs

The demand upon our stock of room-size rugs this season has been quite remarkable and we are congratulating ourselves upon being so well prepared for all contingencies. People seem to look upon the Howe & Rogers store as the place where fine rugs and good value are to be found, if anywhere, yet the assortment of weaves, patterns and sizes is almost invariably a surprise to our visitors. And we are as particular about the quality of the rugs we buy as we are about the designs and colorings.

Special attention is called to our showing of Brussels, Velvet, Axminster and Wilton Rugs, in 9x12 size, at from \$12.50 to \$39.50. Smaller size at proportionate prices. We also make a feature of rugs of unusually large dimensions and rugs for oddly-shaped rooms.

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