

The Catholic Journal

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Well Said!

Not infrequently the Catholic Journal has warned its readers that they should be careful what reading matter they placed in the hands of their families. Especially should they be careful what reading matter goes into the hands of their daughters. Boys are more likely to choose tales of adventure and if they burn with a desire to emulate the exploits of the boy bandits of fiction, they generally "come out of it," unless depraved by nature.

But girls pour over their fiction, they absorb it and if the tale be on that passion-exalting, false-notion plane taken by so many latter-day novels, their mischief may be done to plastic natures which never can be obliterated entirely in after life. It may take a little expenditure of time and a trifle of comfort may be sacrificed, but the net result will more than repay.

While we need to watch out for novels, we must not exercise less precaution in the monthly and weekly magazines which come into our homes. Probably the "Ladies' Home Journal" is found in a large proportion of American homes. Undoubtedly, many Catholics take it because they reason that if a Catholic university conferred a degree upon its editor, it must be all right.

But a reverend correspondent of the "Catholic Standard and Times" conveys a different impression. In a recent editorial the "Ladies' Home Journal" casts doubt upon the Virgin Birth. The aforesaid correspondent goes on to say:

"The Rev. Dr. Crapsey of Rochester was unfrocked, lost his position and his livelihood and a life's calling for asserting the very thing for which a superficial journalistic dressmaker gathers in the shekels in the form of subscriptions. The people of Dr. Crapsey's parish had to stop paying their pastor a salary because he denied the virgin birth of Christ, and as an easy substitute they pay Mr. Bok for doing the same thing. Many honorable and learned Protestant divines will denounce an encyclical from the Pope of Rome, when they complacently pay for their wives' subscription to the 'Ladies' Home Journal,' which declares their celebration of Christmas and their sermon on that day a lie. How inconsistent we are! Orthodox Protestant ministers look with disfavor on Professor Harnack's theory on that subject, yet do not warn their flock against that journal.

"The Jews deny the virgin birth of Christ, and hence were unwilling to have their children participate in a public school celebration by those who do believe in it. Every one knows the stormy meetings of clergymen and the vehement denunciation of the Jewish people. Is the denial of that doctrine by Mr. Bok more tolerable?

"And we Catholics are equally censurable. Anything approaching a denial of the virgin birth by a Catholic would carry with it severe reproach or even excommunication, and such a publication would be placed upon the index. Yet our women pay for that denial in the 'Ladies' Home Journal.' An historical slip in a Protestant publication, a slighting remark on something Catholic, a favorable comment on Henry VIII., an historical comment apparently favorable to the Reformation by a man like Lord Acton would raise a storm of protest in Catholic papers under the headlines 'Poisoning the Wells,' but poison administered to the wife, sister and daughter, delivered monthly for 15 cents a package, leaves us undisturbed. A Franciscan Father has recently warned Catholic parents against permitting their boys to sell the daily papers in the street because things which they read may have a poisoning effect on their youthful minds. What good will the denial of the virgin birth have upon the minds and daughters in the Christian home?"

"One thing is quite certain, and that is that the 'Ladies' Home Journal' is not the place for the discussion of that question, and Mr. Bok is not the man in mental equipment to settle it. But if dogmatic theology is his field, then let us stop paying him a salary for denying ignorantly and offensively things we believe in. There is much we have to put up with in this life, but we need not put up with Christmas buns stuffed with Bok theology."

Strabismus.

During the conflict in progress between atheism and Christianity in France the American secular press, with rare exceptions, has espoused the cause of the atheists and could not see that Christianity, not Catholicism alone, was to be driven to the wall if the atheists prevailed.

Even to-day, the reader of the American Catholic press is led to infer that the atheists have won a signal victory and that Catholicism in France is dead.

English secular magazines and dailies are better informed and do not take their cue from subsidized Freemason correspondents. In the course of an article headed, "The Church Militant in France," the "Saturday Review" presents this clear and sane view of the French situation:

"The battle between atheism and Christianity across the channel is not over. The Church is still in a perilous position; but the thing which has suffered most in the fight has been the conception of the omnipotent state. For Plus X., with no physical force or diplomatic influence behind him to take up the gauntlet that French Jacobinism had thrown down, seemed to the ordinary man the height of folly. It was an act of the highest heroism. Plus VI. when he flung the civil constitution of the clergy in the face of the National Assembly, Plus VII. when he defied Napoleon, did no braver thing. But the brave thing was also the right and the wise thing. It brought home to French Catholics, clergy and laity alike, that French Christianity was at stake. And French Catholicism made a noble response. For the first time in the history of France, the French Church stood solid for the Pope against the rulers of the state. In a moment it was apparent that French Chauvinism had been beaten."

Called to Book.

Why will secular writers, pretending to culture and erudition, write themselves down as woefully ignorant of Catholic matters? If they feel they must assail the Church in order to increase circulation of books and papers, why don't they choose topics which they can handle with partial plausibility at least.

Writing about the dogma of the Immaculate Conception last week the New York "Independent" said: "On the eve of the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 7, 1907, the Congregation of Rites took the initial steps toward the canonization of Plus IX. A fit day, indeed, for 1854, on the same day, Plus IX. declared the Immaculate Conception of Mary a revealed doctrine."

"Vivisection" is the term to apply to the handling accorded the "Independent" by the "Catholic Standard and Times." Our Philadelphia contemporary rejoins:

"It does not accord with the reputation for erudition that the 'Independent' possesses that such a statement should be put forward without qualification. The venerated Pope did not act 'on his own authority' or 'without council' in this high matter. Four hundred years previously the doctrine was defined at the Council of Basle, but as that Council was not of general or numerical rank, the decision was not promulgated. But from the earliest ages of the Church the doctrine was held by many of the great fathers. Yet these facts were not enough to satisfy Pope Plus IX. as to the propriety of his intended procedure. Long before the time of the feast he had dispatched circulars to Bishops all over the world asking for their views on the definition of the Dogma. Bishop Kenrick was the prelate whom the Holy Father asked to forward the names of the American Bishops whom he thought best to consult on the subject. He was in Rome on the day when the Dogma was proclaimed, and he testifies as to the great solemnity of the splendid scene and the vast throng of Bishops from all over the world who attended in person to follow up the assurances of the hearty approval they had already given in writing. Therefore, the words 'without council' are merely a juggle with fact, and 'on his own authority' a bold and unwarranted liberty with historical truth."

The Sacred Heart Review brings this indictment against the secular press: Here is another "howler" from a report of a fire in a Catholic church, culled from one of our Boston dailies: "The flames destroyed all the sacraments and the other ornaments of the altar."

Converts.

D. J. Scannell-O'Neil has compiled a roster of converts to the Catholic Church which has been published by B. Herder & Co. of St. Louis.

It includes about 3,000 names. Of Protestant clergymen, 372 have gone over to Rome in this country, four of whom became prelates and 135 priests. Among army officers, 125 became Catholics; also 126 lawyers, 115 doctors and 80 occupying prominent official positions. Among authors, journalists and artists, there were 206 converts.

This comment is made by the "Catholic Citizen" of Milwaukee: "A list of this kind is apt to contain some minor inaccuracies. We notice for instance, a few names of persons (like the late Robert A. Johnston of Milwaukee), who were born Catholics. The compilers very properly omit Miss Caldwell and her sister from the list. It would have been safer to have omitted Anna Gould also."

Congress.

Says an Exchange: "The meeting of the sixtieth Congress reminds us that in the first Congress one hundred and eighteen years ago, there were three Catholic members. The first of these was the famous Charles Carroll of Maryland, who lived to the fine old age of 95, and who made famous his signature to the Declaration of Independence. He laid the cornerstone of the B. & O. R. R. in 1828. The second was Daniel Carroll, a representative to the first Congress from Maryland. He was one of the commissioners to locate the District of Columbia and died in Washington in 1829. The third was Congressman Adam Burke, who was born in Galway, Ireland, in 1743. He studied for the priesthood at the College of St. Omer in France, but being of an adventurous turn he gave up his studies and drifted to South Carolina, studied law and was finally made a member of the Supreme Court. In 1789 he was elected representative of the first Congress."

Apropos of this, it may be remarked that the death of Senator Stephen Mallory, of Florida, leaves but one Catholic in the United States, Senator Hon. Thomas H. Carter, of Montana. Senator Mallory was a fine representative of the old school gentleman and his death is a loss to the country. May God, in His mercy, grant eternal rest to his soul. In passing, it might also be remarked that the retirement of Judge Denis O'Brien leaves the Catholic population of New York state without a representative in the Court of Appeals.

Playfully does the "Catholic Standard and Times" toast some latter-day foibles when it says: "It is commonly believed that out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh, but now comes science to tell us that this is also a mistake of Scripture. It is out of the fullness of the stomach, according to the 'Medical Journal,' that lies come to the lips of the habitually mendacious. Certain forms of indigestion are responsible for the saying of those things which are not. Thus, children who spontaneously fib are unconsciously suffering from acute dyspepsia, and older people who misstate facts need only change their diet to become voracious. When the President has fully grasped the import of this great medical discovery, he will be disposed to take a more lenient view of legislators and nature fakery and prescribe a suitable dietary rather than pillory them in the inventors' gallery."

The Monitor of San Francisco cannot be controverted in the following: "The conclusion reached by Thomas Speed Mosby, a prominent attorney of Missouri, who has exhaustively studied the problem of divorce, that every person intending marriage should be required to file a 'declaration of intention' to that effect some months before marriage, is but another example of the veering of the world toward the position of the Catholic Church in relation to marriage. In the Catholic Church the bans of marriage are published to the world three times in as many weeks before the union is solemnized, and while Mr. Mosby believes that even this rule is not stringent enough he agrees perfectly with the Church when he says, 'publicity of matrimonial engagement, with lapse of time between engagement and marriage, not only facilitates the discovery of legal impediments to marriage but tends measurably to increase the prospect of infallibility in matrimonial selection.'"

Rev. Thos. Mackay, of New Haven, accused two of his fellow ministers of stealing their best sermons from Revs. Talmage and McArthur. For this he was cited before a church council. The verdict was that he had not stolen his brother clergymen's, but that he ought to be transferred to another charge!

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And that doesn't mean odds and ends, but our entire stock at deepest reductions we have ever named. Waists of white lawn, batiste, lace, colored mulls, nun's veiling, Jap silk, chiffon and taffeta. Most of them in styles that will be very popular for spring and early summer wear. All are subject to drastic price cuts in order to lower stock to the lowest point in anticipation of inventory, Feb. 1st. Space prohibits full details; these must suffice.

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Waists of plaid silk, fancy nun's veiling, wash flannels and a few in lingerie; many styles to select from, but not all sizes in each style.

Waists Worth Up to \$3.49, Now \$1.25

Waists of nun's veiling, mohair and flannel, only one or two of a style, not all sizes.

Waists Formerly Priced at \$3.98, Now \$2.25

Waists in black and white nun's veiling, very full plaited front, trimmed with embroidered bands.

Waists Formerly Priced at \$1.49, Now 69c

Waists of white lawn, batiste, gingham, colored mulls; also white Slips, many different styles. Former prices 98c to \$1.49.

Waists worth Up to \$1.98, Now 98c

Waists in white lawn, batiste, mohair and veilings; Jap. Silk Slips, in pink, light blue and lavender. Choice at 98c.

\$5.98 Waists, Now \$3.98

Waists of black and white Jap; silk, some very neatly trimmed with Val. and guipure lace or platings.

Waists worth Up to \$6.00, Now \$2.98

Waists of gray and black taffeta, black and white, blue and white stripes and check silks, trimmed with platings of mull and lace; others with Val. or Mechlin lace.

\$7.98 Waists, Now \$4.98

Waists of white and ecru lace and tucked net, trimmed with Cluny lace.

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Waists of black chiffon over linings of black or white Jap. silk, yoke of silk applique, trimmed with Val. lace or white filet net, velvet and applique.

E. W. EDWARDS & SON

It was reported a few weeks ago of others, always had a kind word, that William Jennings Bryan op- for those about her. She brought posed, as he had a right and as many to every station a womanly kindness, and a motherly love for all, and such organization is exclusively Protestant, an example of patient submission to the will of God as hers has been will the Y. M. C. A. From the following receive its reward.

It may be inferred that such is not the fact:

"Editor Catholic Advance, Wichita, Kansas.

"Dear Sir:—Answering your inquiry I beg to say that it is not true that I opposed abrogating the clause which excludes Catholics from holding office in the Y. M. C. A. That question did not come before the Y. M. C. A. convention. The question may, however, come before the next convention and while I believe that active membership should be confined to those who are members of some branch of the Christian Church (in order that the religious character of the association may be retained) still I am in favor of including members of the Catholic Church with members of Protestant churches and allowing them to become active members and officers.

"Yours truly,
"W. J. Bryan.

The "Western Watchman" well says: "It may seem a small matter to some to be excommunicated by the Church—a sort of brutum fulmen. But it is just as terrible as it ever was. It entails all the spiritual consequences ever connected with it, and means all it ever meant to the man of faith. But people do not tremble at the thought of it as they once did. They say: 'Yes, and they tell us that for the modern Christian hell has lost its terrors. Well, so much the worse for the modern Christian.

Penn Yan, N. Y.

Entered into rest on Monday, December 30, 1907, at 4 o'clock in the morning, in her 91st year, Mrs. Mary Grady, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Michael Guider, of Penn Yan, with whom she lived for the past 18 months. Prior to that she kept her own home, was able to do her own work and that of her son, Thomas, who lived with her, where the mutual affection of mother and son was fully demonstrated by each trying to do those kindnesses to the other that are always appreciated in a family where love dominates.

Hers is the record of a beautiful life, filled with a loving devotion to her family, and inobtrusive goodness to all and all who knew her have a word of praise. She was a kind neighbor and worthy of our esteem. She was self-sacrificing for the good

of others, always had a kind word, that William Jennings Bryan op- for those about her. She brought posed, as he had a right and as many to every station a womanly kindness, and a motherly love for all, and such organization is exclusively Protestant, an example of patient submission to the will of God as hers has been will the Y. M. C. A. From the following receive its reward.

Mrs. Grady was born in Queens County, Ireland, 90 years ago last July 3d. With her husband she came to this country in 1850, coming over in a slow-sailing vessel taking seven weeks and three days to cross the ocean. She has often told the writer of the hardships and dangers they passed through in coming over. They were located in Branchport and had a ways resided there until a year ago when her enfeebled health compelled her to go to her kind and devoted daughter, Mrs. Guider, where she could have the loving care she needed and faithfully received until she was called to the sleep that knows no waking. Her husband died nearly 31 years ago.

She was the mother of three children, John the oldest, who died four years ago, Mrs. Michael Guider, of Penn Yan, and Thomas, of Branchport. She was the grandmother of 12 children and great grandmother of 2. In her earlier life when there was no church in Penn Yan she officiating priest, Father Gilbride, used to go to Prattburg and hold services there and on seven different occasions held mass in her home in Branchport. The first collection to be taken up for a Catholic Church and cemetery in Penn Yan was taken up in her home in Branchport, showing the esteem she was held in by church and people. The funeral was held from St. Michael's Church Thursday morning, January 3, 1908. Interment in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Geneseo, N. Y.

The young people of St. Mary's congregation are preparing the laughable farce, "Snow Ball," to be presented at Emerald Hall, sometime next month.

Dennis Dawson of Canandaigua, invited relatives and friends here this week.

Mrs. Keating of Washington, D. C., visited her brother, Patrick Reagan and family her the first of the week.

Miss Eleanor Piper of this town is spending a month in Rochester with relatives.

A number from this village attended the funeral of Timothy Cullinan, who was buried on the 16th inst. Deceased was the father of Michael Cullinan of this town.

Miss Mary VanMiddleworth who underwent an operation for append-

icitis at Rochester a few weeks ago is convalescing.

On Sunday last Rev. A. A. Hughes, pastor of St. Mary's Church, had distributed the financial statement for 1907. The receipts are \$3,088.12. There remains due to the treasurer, \$99.75. The church is free from all debt, except a few bills of about \$25.

Father Hughes, who has charge of St. Raphael's Church of Pittard, distributed also the financial statement of that church for the year of 1907. At the last meeting of the Ladies Catholic Benefit Association the following officers were installed for the ensuing year: Rev. A. A. Hughes, spiritual advisor; Mrs. Ella M. Haley, president; Mrs. Nellie O'Connor, vice president; Miss Jennie Dytom, 2d vice president; Miss Mary Long, recording secretary; Mrs. Anna McCone, 2d recording secretary; Mrs. Mary Laehr, financial secretary; Miss Catherine Hughes, treasurer; Mrs. Welch, marshal; Miss Belle Fleming, guard; Mrs. Anna Delehanty, Mrs. Helen McCormick, Mrs. Catherine O'Brien, Mrs. Anna McCone and Miss Ellen Long, trustees. The society now numbers 23, and new members are joining at each meeting. After the installation the members presented the out-going president, Mrs. Ellen Leonard, a handsome present as a token for the valuable services rendered during the year. After which Mrs. Leonard entertained the members of the association at her home on Wadsworth Street, where light refreshments were served and an enjoyable evening spent.

The concert and ball given by the C. M. B. A. at Emerald Hall, on Tuesday evening of this week was well attended. Before dancing commenced the 54th Regiment Band Orchestra of Rochester, gave a concert from 8.30 to 9.30 o'clock, which was greatly enjoyed. An excellent supper was served in the dining room of the hall, by the members of the branch.

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