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One Reason.

Frequently non-Catholic clergy, men and laymen, too, express surprise at the growth of infidelity in this country.

Can it be wondered at when magazines of the standing of the "Atlantic Monthly" admit such rubbishy stuff as this to their columns?

These ghosts die hard, yet they too die. The Divine Right of Kings in its dying spasms of fiction to the legal which the 1793 and 1848, mangled many an innocent onlooker. The Divine Right of Property will doubtless die with not less deadly spasms; trusts and labor unions gird themselves already for the kill-billy. This is a hag-ridden world. Upon the pale brow of the school-boy at the ravens of Latin and Geometry, and when we would drive them away they flap their wings and creak "Never more!"

Artists, musicians, writers, fight their way through swarms of extinct ideas.

Long, gray arms reach out of the past and enfold the minister in the pulpit, and waving, hypnotize the occupants of the pews.

Viewless but potent monsters brood above the Senate, and threaten any live being who may occupy the White House.

Ghosts, ghosts, ghosts, thick as leaves, fall from the past to cover us, to smother us in their rotting mold."

Warnings

While we sometimes shrug our shoulders complacently at the gyrations, antics and ebullitions of the devotees of Science as if to say that "Don't bother your head. It amuses them and does not harm us." In the main this is true but Christians must not carry their complacency too far or these devotees will go too far.

Already, in Medical gatherings, the subject of putting out of the world chronic sufferers, epileptics, imbeciles and cripples has been discussed gravely and with apparent approval. In several instances, notably in the Western States, bills have been introduced in the Legislature to legalize such a proceeding. Robert Hugh Benson in his "Lord of the World" anticipates that such will be the common proceeding in 2000 A. D. and that the legal "alleviators of suffering" will be on hand in the case of railway accidents, conflagrations and the like to insure the speedy and painless death of those whom the physicians pronounce fatally injured. Mr. Benson's fiction also contemplates the use of anaesthetics to ease the death agony so as to remove the possible summons of God's priests and to spare the survivors the sight of suffering.

When devotees of Science attempt to usurp the prerogatives of Deity then they go too far. Even if they do profess disbelief in a Divine Being the law of the land wisely forbids murder and

it must always do so. Viewed in the purely material sense, such barbaric positions must be frowned upon. Who shall say when a person of work in Sicily and Calabria, must die or when he is beyond the cure? How often do the physicians make mistakes in diagnosis or treatment or prediction? Ever if these presuming Scientists have no fear of God, no limit in their presumption, decency and the moral order demand that they be curbed in their research. Let them fuss as much as they please in the search for what they are pleased to term "Life". But they must not be permitted to destroy life by warrant of a law, either under the guise of a boon to Humanity or in the mask of Scientific research.

Denied.

It is too bad that Catholics should be guilty of unauthorized sensationalism such as they charge against the secular papers. Yet we read the following in a Philadelphia Exchange.

"We are authorized by His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons to contradict the story which appeared last week in certain professedly Catholic papers connecting his name with that of a Wall Street magnate. There is no qualification to the denial which the Cardinal makes. He says that the story as far as it relates to him. The story is to the effect that an offer of the title of no-billy had been made to Thomas F. Ryan, the great financier, through Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Keane. The Cardinal tells us that he never asked for or obtained any such honor for himself."

Should the Holy Father see fit to honor Mrs. Ryan we fancy no discordant note would be heard. She appears to be a splendid Christian woman.

Different.

In the special correspondence of the New York "Evening Post" and other secular journals the opinion has been expressed often that the officialdom of Italy does not appear to know how to cope with the gigantic problem of relieving the sufferers and sufferings of the Messina earthquake. Charges are made that the abundance of red tape to be unrolled nullifies relief prospects to those who need it quickly.

Tales of overbearance are told with sufficient detail to inspire belief in their truth. Russian officers so often maligned are praised for their initiative and their vigor of effort. The English, the French, the German, the Americans all are praised, except the Italians.

It is gratifying, then to note the general praise accorded the relief service organized and maintained by the Vatican. Commenting upon this, the "Catholic Standard and Times" says:

"Painful stories come from portions of stricken Sicily as to impediments in the work of relieving the sufferers, and the blame is laid at the door of the system of bureaucracy and the inveterate habits of red tape. But the working of the machinery of rescue organized at the Vatican is acknowledged by all observers to be marvelously efficient. It is not alone that immediate relief has, by means of the Church organization, been afforded the starving inhabitants of the villages in Calabria and the outskirts of Messina and Reggio, but the Holy Father has secured homes all over Italy for a great number of orphans, and will support the large orphanage which the Bishop of Mileto is already organizing in Calabria. The Papal fund, which may reach three millions of francs, will not be

Sudden Death of Dr. Lapham.

Professor at St. Bernard's Seminary III Only Short Time

Rev. Dr. Ludlow E. Lapham, M. A., died Tuesday afternoon at St. Mary's Hospital. He had been ill three weeks, suffering from an intestinal disease.

Dr. Ludlow E. Lapham was born in Penn Yan, Yates County, June 24, 1860, and studied in the schools of that village. He graduated from Cornell University in 1884, and while in college was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. Following his graduation, he taught for a time at St. John's Military Academy, Manlius, and then went abroad to study. From 1887 to 1893 he was professor of French in Cornell, leaving that position to come to St. Bernard's Seminary, where he continued his theological studies and at the same time taught English literature. He was ordained by the late Bishop McQuaid on June 12, 1897, and was then given the chair of English literature at the seminary.



Rev. Dr. Ludlow E. Lapham

The religious experience of Dr. Lapham was one of interest. His parents were Methodists and he was reared in that faith, but while a student in Cornell University became a member of the Episcopal Church, and following his graduation became identified with the high church movement and at one time thought seriously of entering the order of which Father Huntington of New York City is the superior. But was converted to the Catholic faith at Wolfenbuttel, Germany. He was baptized there, but was confirmed in this country. For a time he studied at Innsbruck, Austria.

A year ago, while traveling in Germany with his friend, Dr. Frederick Zwirlein, a professor at St. Bernard's, Dr. Zwirlein, suffered an attack of typhoid fever. Dr. Lapham was with him constantly and on his return to the seminary a year ago last fall, he was taken ill with the same disease. Since that time he has not been strong.

Dr. Lapham was a scholar of note and as a linguist had few equals among educators. He could converse and write fluently German, French, Italian and Spanish. He traveled extensively and was a brilliant conversationalist. He was loved by the seminary students and was held in high esteem by his colleagues on the faculty.

He leaves a brother, George H. Lapham of Penn Yan; three sisters, Mrs. W. W. Quackenbush and Mrs. John P. Knox of Penn Yan, and Mrs. C. M. Page of this city.

When it became known that Father Lapham could live but a short time, Bishop Hickey, who was in Chicago was notified and immediately started on the return trip. He reached Rochester but a few moments before Father Lapham breathed his last.

The funeral took place at 9:30 o'clock Friday morning in the chapel of St. Bernard's Seminary. The solemn requiem high mass was celebrated by his closest friend, Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Zwirlein, Rt. Rev. Bishop Hickey delivered the sermon. The entire faculty of the seminary, in which Dr. Lapham labored for for sixteen years, assisted at the mass. The burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

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