

The Catholic Journal

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Lawless. Writers and orators to-day are lamenting that instead of the Universal Peace which these orators and writers have been pleading for, Universal War and Discontent stalks about every-where rearing their ugly heads in the air and disturbing the times.

A secular writer thus comments upon this condition of things: It is a queer proposition—but nevertheless true—that in this enlightened age the people of the earth are returning to barbarism; that there are wars and rumors of war just as in the earlier history of the world. Instead of universal peace and good will the God of War stalks grim and gaunt throughout the bounds of Christendom. In countries where the sword is resting in its scabbard industrial disturbances are not absent, and it would seem that tranquility has been lost in the reckoning.

In a recent address, National Advocate Joseph C. Pelletier, of the Knights of Columbus drew a somewhat similar picture of existing conditions. He referred however to present conditions in United States government and law. He told of increasing lawlessness and dishonesty in private and public life, the growing corruption in governmental administration, the repeated violations of the sacred oath in courts of justice.

By their example, Mr. Pelletier said, such men are scandalizing their neighbors and holding out false ideals to the young, more pernicious in their effect than the teaching of false doctrines. Reforms, or attempted reforms, are numerous enough, but they invariably lack one vital element—Religion. "To teach Virtue without Religion has been the effort of the last fifty years, but failure is being recorded in letters most indelible, as history writes our story of the passing days."

As Mr. Pelletier points out, there is but one remedy for these growing evils. That is Education, real Catholic Education, which inculcates reverence for the divine law, the source of all authority, and stands firm for the sacredness of all duly constituted civil authority by referring it to God Himself.

Reverence. Is reverence for age, is respect for authority, is obedience and self-denial taught only in Catholic schools?

We are prompted to ask these questions by daily observation. Young fellows, evidently college students, by their talk and dress are seen to engage in a mad hustle for entrance to and from seats in the street car without regard or apparent knowledge that women and children are waiting to board these cars.

Old men and women are shown scant politeness in the cars, on the streets, in public places. But let a Sister enter a car and it is noticeable that invariably a boy or girl—generally it is not grown ups who are do this—will arise

and give their seat to the religious.

This proves but little except that these boys and girls have attended Catholic schools and so have respect for the gentle women who give their lives to educating the young.

But we must go further afield. The other day a young girl was seen to give her seat in a street car to an old and crippled woman. There were men in the car but none of them vouchsafed the courtesy. A well dressed middle-aged woman noticed the girl do this. A few streets further on, her seat mate left the car and she motioned the girl to take the vacant place.

"That was very nice of you," she said, "to give that old lady your seat."

"Why she needed it more than I!" said the girl with evident ignorance that she had done anything out of the ordinary.

"Where do you go to school, my dear?" asked the woman.

"Nazareth Academy" was the reply.

"Oh" was the only comment, but the tone spoke volumes.

Good. Clear-headed, indeed, are those who guide the destinies of the Catholic Federation. At the recent annual convention, among other splendid resolutions these significant ones were adopted:

Resolved. That, convinced by the evidence of obvious facts, of the dangers to the faith and morals of our people, arising from a widely circulated literature, loose in its morally and infidel in its spirit, we remind all Catholics of their bounden duty to proscribe every form of sound moral reading, to exhort every head of a family to subscribe for a Catholic paper, indorsed by ecclesiastical authority.

CATHOLIC BOOKS AND PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

While the absence of Catholic books and magazines from public libraries and book stalls is both noticeable and deplorable, we feel that the evil is not without remedy, and we would strongly recommend that, as demand begets supply, our people should, by their repeated, insistent and concerted requests, make it clear to librarians and the venders of literature at railway stations, and in trains and in other places that it is to their interest to secure Catholic publications for the reading public. Moreover, we earnestly recommend the establishment and maintenance of libraries in Catholic schools and parishes.

The Catholic Columbian is not so far astray when it says: "Thomas Edison, the New Jersey inventor, has plans for a concrete house that can be built and completed for \$1200, and that will be fire-proof and indestructible. He cannot begin to build some of them to soon. They will give hope to many a poor man of some day owning a shelter for his family."

Elbert Hubbard in a recent issue of the Philistine told Father Phelan of the Western Watchman to "take his bell, book, and candle and go to Hell." Father Phelan responded "We will not, Fra Elbertus; we will be damned if we do." Obviously true, remarks an Exchange, but it is not swearing.

The "Silence and Rest Room" recently established in a Chicago Protestant church has been closed up. It is said that it degenerated into a gossip club.

Charles C. Ayer uses up general columns of "Forum" space in an endeavor to prove that we are an "Under-languaged" nation. Guess he never read the Congressional Record.

Evidently, there are few bigots left in Rochester.

WHAT KILLS MEN IN WAR.

Bayonet and Saber Compared With Firearms and Artillery.

In the Army and Navy Journal some data are given as to the number of wounds actually inflicted by the bayonet and saber as compared with firearms and artillery. Of all wounds treated by medical officers of the United armies in the Civil War about four-tenths of one per cent, or 222 out of 240,712, were saber or bayonet wounds. In the Crimean War the English and French had 2 1/2 per cent of such wounds, in the Schleswig-Holstein War about 3 per cent, while in the Franco-Prussian War the records show that the Germans received less than one-third of 1 per cent.

A striking commentary this upon the advance of modern military science showing that with the general adoption of long range firearms the saber and bayonet are rapidly falling into disuse, and the time is coming, if it has not already arrived, when those old and honored weapons will become obsolete.

But it is not the bullet or the artillery fire which strikes down the largest numbers of men. It is disease in the Civil War one man out of every 67 was wounded in action, one of every 38 died of his wounds, one of every 427 was killed in action. Of the total mortality among colored soldiers 30 per cent was from disease. Of the total mortality among the white volunteers 70 per cent was owing to disease among the white regulars, 60 per cent—Chicago Tribune.

Some Strange Reasoning.

The following remarkable story appeared in Mr. Whigham's Manchuria and Korea. A Cossack, in a fit of drunkenness had shot a Chinaman, and it was necessary to bring several of the men to the bedside of the dying victim for purpose of identification of the culprit. The Chinaman, however, refused absolutely to single out the guilty man, saying: "Why should he be killed, since I must die in any case?" Then they explained to him that the man would only be severely punished to which the Chinaman responded that since he forgave the culprit there was no reason why he should suffer. Then the theory of punishment was adduced as an argument the Cossack must be punished in order that he might not repeat the offense. "But said the Chinaman he will never do it again when he knows that I forgave him and there the matter ended."

Lace Worth \$5,000 a Yard.

There is a legend that the first lace was made by a girl who preserved a beautiful bit of swanned by catching all the dainty part of leaves and stems to a piece of linen with fine thread. The most expensive lace manufactured to-day is valued at \$5,000 a yard. Such lace is made, however, in very small quantities. It is in imitation of "old point" and the thread used is the finest silk or silver the pattern being thickly incrustated with diamonds. The price of this trimming is about \$140 an inch. The high prices which the fine laces command are of course occasioned by the careful workmanship that is required in their manufacture. Besides the thread is very expensive, an ounce of Flanders' thread having frequently been sold at \$20 a pound. But this quantity can be turned into lace worth \$200.

Sailor's Peculiar Meal.

"The strangest meal I ever ate," said a sailor "was dished up to me in the Yellow Sea nine years ago. This meal consisted of an ostrich egg and a Japanese oyster. There was nine of us fell to, and the egg and the oyster made enough for all. The egg was hard boiled, cookie had shelled it, and it came on looking fine, all white and glistening, with a tart yellow sauce in the bottom of the dish. We sliced it down with a knife, the same as you would slice a turkey. It wasn't bad—a little eggy, that's all. "The Japanese oyster was nearly two feet long. Jap oysters is, you know, the biggest in the world. It was served raw, and when the boatswain stuck his long carvin' knife in it, it shivered all over and it seemed to me a kind of low groan escaped it. It tasted fine. There was enough left for a stew."—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Big and Little Things.

Big and little are relative terms. The great fairs in Paris were chiefly noted for the big things displayed—big towers, big maps, big wheels and big mechanisms generally. But in the missionary exhibit at the chamber of commerce in San Francisco is the smallest Bible in the world. It is too small for a "pocket edition." It is so small, indeed, that it has to be kept under glass. It measures but half an inch in thickness and three-fourths of an inch in length. Most of the words have to be read with a magnifying glass, but when so read the text is very distinct. This little book can tell some great truths. It could not tell greater if it were as large as a meeting house.

The Pyramid Limp.

The pyramid limp is a disease that usually attacks the tourist the second or third day after his arrival in Cairo. To many visitors the pyramids are all there is to see in Egypt, and once arrived there they proceed to make the ascent. It is not an easy climb, as these steps are so high that no one can reach the top without help from before and behind, and the result is strained and lamed muscles. Residents and habitues recognize the pyramid limp in an instant, and the sufferer is greeted with jeers whenever he makes reference to his sufferings.

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Materials for Children's School Dresses.

The first call for vacation's end must be sounded. Mothers will thank us, and the children will not be displeased.

Our thought to-day is for the school dress. There are some splendid new materials down at Basement counters. Did you know that there is 162 ft. of counter stretch devoted to dress goods in this Under-Price store? And we are devoting a good big share of this space to these weaves for school wear.

There are tartan plaids in serges and crepe weaves—a whole counter given to the display of plaids, priced at 21-2c, 25c, 39c and 50c a yard.

There are novelty suitings at 25c, 39c and 50c. These are in widths from 36 in. to 44 in., and include stripes, checks and fancy mixtures in great variety.

Self colored stripes, at 39c and 50c a yard—such weaves as serges, taffetas, satin raye, herringbone, and corded satins. The shades include taupe and elephant grays, olive green, wine, navy, myrtle, brown, peacock, cardinal, tan and castor

The staple weaves are represented at these counters by excellent assortments of cashmeres, taffetas, panamas, storm serges, Sicilians, surah serges and other fabrics.

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Many students registering in advance of the opening date. Registration may be arranged for by personal call, telephone, or correspondence. School office hours during August, 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Saturday afternoons excepted.

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