

# The Catholic Journal

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Friday, Dec. 30 1910

## New Year's

How slowly the months roll in—a part of divine worship in the  
to twelve for the young, how Old Law (II. Kings vi., 14; Judg.  
swiftly they pass to the middle-xxi., 21; Exod. xv. 20) that card  
aged and the old persons! playing around one's fireside or  
It seems but yesterday that we at a public euchre may be quite  
were preparing for 1910, yet in an innocent means of enjoy-  
few hours we will be writing ment. But if, on the contrary,  
1911. Twelve months, 365 days, the theater becomes a school of  
876 hours, 525,600 minutes have vice by its immoral plays. If  
been marked up in the endless dancing excites the passions and  
ledgers of Father Time and have means the companionship of the  
passed into eternity with all they wicked, if card playing implies  
brought of good or ill, of joy or the feverish excitement of the  
sorrow, of peace and war, of hate gambling table, then Christians  
and charity. Whatever their mes- know at once that in such cases  
sage to each of us, that message amusements that are harmless in  
has been delivered, the record themselves become the occasion  
cannot be changed.

If we have made mistakes in cil of Baltimore legislated against  
1910, let us strive to repair them, dangerous amusements, espec-  
as far as possible, in 1911. If we ally certain kinds of dancing.  
have not had love for our bro- The Catholic Church declares  
ther let us mend our ways. If we that any person, place or thing  
have not been at peace with God that by our natural or acquired  
and have not obeyed the pre-weakness leads us to grievous  
cepts of the Church let us not, sin, must be avoided under pen-  
delay putting our house in order. alty of sin. However, to forbid  
Begin the New Year right! certain amusements in general  
To each of its readers, the Ca- merely because if abused they  
tholic Journal, extends its sincere lead some to sin is peculiarly a  
wish that 1911 may be to them a Protestant tradition without war-  
year never to be forgotten. rant in reason or in Scripture.

## These "Lovely" Spinalards!

To those who prate so loudly about the splendid qualities of Kaskaskia Commons, St. Clair  
the new men in charge of Span-County, near East St. Louis, Ill.;  
ish affairs, we commend a care- was confirmed to the Immaculate  
ful perusal of the following Un- Conception parish Tuesday by a  
ited despatch:—

"Madrid, Dec. 23.—After a The Illinois legislature had sought  
desperate attempt on the part of a to sell the land, the money to go  
the Carlists to impede its consid- to the school fund of Kaskaskia  
ation, the Cortes today passed Commons.  
the famous "Padlock" bill which The land was granted to the  
practically separates the church parish by the French government  
and state and restricts the es- in 1700, and the grant was con-  
tablishment of religious orders, firmed in the constitution when  
of various sorts. the state of Illinois was formed.

"Premier Canalejas stole a The 1909 legislature instructed  
march on the government oppon- Gov. Deneen to name three com-  
ents, and was thus able to push missioners to dispose of the land  
the bill through. He gave no no- and they brought suit. Judge  
tice to the opposition that the Crow held the legislature's action  
bill would be called up today, but unconstitutional.

quietly notified all the anti-cler- Father Downing's idea of an  
icals and government party mem- "International Defense League"  
bers to be in their seats." seems to meet with general ap-  
Such tactics are usually attrib- proval, judging from expressions  
uted to the "wicked politicians," in the Catholic press.

to "the grafters" to the "pica- Milwaukee Socialists are mak-  
yane statesmen" by those who ing the most of their control  
espouse the reform cause in the of that city's resources.  
United States. If such tactics were employed by Tammany  
Hall to push through a pet meas- John Redmond looks like a  
ure the very elements back of second Parnell. Perhaps, he will  
the anti-Catholic movement in see Ireland's long-deferred hope,  
aid of the Spanish infidels would Home Rule realized.

rise up in holy horror. There can be no doubt as to  
the authenticity of the despatch we have quoted. There is no  
special love for things Catholic endeared in the despatches sent  
out by this newsgathering agency. Moreover in the despatch  
from which we have quoted there are several paragraphs of  
the stock abuse of the religious orders in Spain.

How do the American lovers of fair play like the tactics of the  
apostle of "Spanish liberty and fair play"?

One good New Year's resolution:—To subscribe and pay for  
a Catholic paper.

## Question Answered

This question and answer in the "Register-Extensions" Question Box conducted by Rev. H. J. Canning is sure to be of so much interest to Catholics and non-Catholic's alike, that we take the liberty of reproducing it as follows:—

Question—I am not a bigot, in fact, I like your Church very well, but could never think of joining it because you never seem to oppose dancing, theaters, card playing, etc. Why don't you take a firmer stand in these matters?—Methodist.

Answer.—The principles of the Catholic Church are clear and explicit with regard to amusements. God delights in seeing His people enjoy themselves in innocent recreation. The Catholic Church declares that it is lawful to see a good, pure play in a decent theater; that dancing, far from an evil in itself, was often

a part of divine worship in the Old Law (II. Kings vi., 14; Judg. xxi., 21; Exod. xv. 20) that card playing around one's fireside or a public euchre may be quite an innocent means of enjoyment. But if, on the contrary, the theater becomes a school of 876 hours, 525,600 minutes have vice by its immoral plays. If the endless dancing excites the passions and ledgers of Father Time and have means the companionship of the wicked, if card playing implies brought of good or ill, of joy or the feverish excitement of the sorrow, of peace and war, of hate gambling table, then Christians and charity. Whatever their message know at once that in such cases to each of us, that message amusements that are harmless in has been delivered, the record cannot be changed.

If we have made mistakes in cil of Baltimore legislated against 1910, let us strive to repair them, dangerous amusements, especially certain kinds of dancing. The Catholic Church declares that any person, place or thing that by our natural or acquired weakness leads us to grievous sin, must be avoided under penalty of sin. However, to forbid certain amusements in general merely because if abused they lead some to sin is peculiarly a Protestant tradition without warrant in reason or in Scripture.

## Church Wins This Suit

Title to 6,500 acres of land in Kaskaskia Commons, St. Clair County, near East St. Louis, Ill.; was confirmed to the Immaculate Conception parish Tuesday by a decision of Circuit Judge Crow.

The Illinois legislature had sought to sell the land, the money to go to the school fund of Kaskaskia Commons. The land was granted to the French government and the grant was confirmed in the constitution when the state of Illinois was formed. The 1909 legislature instructed Gov. Deneen to name three commissioners to dispose of the land and they brought suit. Judge Crow held the legislature's action unconstitutional.

Father Downing's idea of an "International Defense League" seems to meet with general approval, judging from expressions in the Catholic press.

Milwaukee Socialists are making the most of their control of that city's resources.

John Redmond looks like a second Parnell. Perhaps, he will see Ireland's long-deferred hope, Home Rule realized.

John La Farge, the noted sculptor who died a few days ago was a devout Catholic.

We note that ex-Secretary of State John S. Whalen is spoken of as a possible Labor Commissioner under Governor Dix. He could fill the bill.

## New Telephone

For the convenience of our patrons we have installed a Bell phone, No. 1567 Main. When you want us call either line.

Both phones, Home 2353, Bell Main 1567.

## There is food for reflection in this paragraph from the Milwaukee Catholic Citizen:—

We should like to publish a symposium on "Losses of the Faith," and secure as contributors Gov. O'Neill of Alabama, Gov. Dineen of Illinois, Gov. Carroll of Iowa, Gov. McGovern of Wisconsin, Gov. Brady of Idaho and Gov. Burke of North Dakota. The last named is the only Catholic among them.

## Temple Theater

The Temple Theater offers this fine bill for New Year's week: Sam Chip, Mary Marble and John W. Dunne; The Uessesms one of the greatest novelty gymnastic act ever seen in this country; Berzac's circus; Ray Cox, the young Southern woman; Will H. Fox, monologist and pianist; Three Hickeys, dancers and acrobatic comedians; the village choir, the best singing act on the vaudeville stage. The Colibri midgets an acrobatic comedy act and the Photoplane, the new Mooreoscope pictures showing when all the lights are up.

## GIVING NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

All France Buys Itself Poor in Bestowing Presents  
The custom of making New Year's gifts has gone completely out of vogue among the people of the United States with the exception perhaps of the very wealthy, who can afford to give on all occasions.

In France New Year's day or Le Jour d'Épiphanie (literally day of gifts) is the greatest day of the whole year. All France buys itself poor. The men are supposed to give bouquets and flowers to every lady upon whom they call, and Jan 2 finds women sick from eating sweetmeats and men sick from spending more than they could well afford, but the average Frenchman believes in the old observation that it is "all in a lifetime," or, according to our vernacular, that "Christmas (New Year in France) comes but once a year."

The practice of making presents on New Year's day was originated by the Romans and from them taken up by the Britons.

When gloves were novelties and luxuries that every woman wanted, but not every one could afford, they were the customary gifts, often very handsome ones made of silk and decorated with gold traceries and precious stones. Occasionally a sum of money was given instead of the gloves, the donor designating the gift as "glove money." Queen Elizabeth was especially fond of stockings as a New Year's gift.

Sir Thomas More when lord chancellor once decided a case in favor of a lady, who, to show her gratitude, sent Sir Thomas a pair of gloves containing forty gold coins. Sir Thomas returned the gold with this note: "Mistress—Since it were against good manners to refuse you New Year's gift I am content to take your gloves, but as for the lining I utterly refuse it."

When pins were first invented and brought into use about the beginning of the sixteenth century they were highly prized as New Year's gifts. They too, were made of very valuable material—of gold and silver, as well as of the common metals. The money which had been expended in gloves was then made use of for pins, and money given for the purchase of the new style gift was called "pin money." The term has gradually enlarged its meaning, and now the modern girl speaks of her "pin money," but she buys all sorts of things with it and instead of receiving it from friends once a year obtains it from "papa" once a month or once a week.

His interference.  
The twists and turns taken by faking horse dealers to get out of their bad bargains are proverbial. A little incident illustrative of the tribe took place recently at a stable on North Broad street, where an irresponsible settler had succeeded in palming off a defective horse on a too easy buyer. The new owner turned up with the horse a few days after the purchase and angrily exclaimed, "Didn't you say this horse was perfectly safe and wouldn't trouble anybody?" The dealer coolly asked, "What's the matter with the horse?" The dupe replied: "You know well enough. He interferes badly." With a curt "Well, he doesn't interfere with anybody but himself, does he?" the fake dealer brushed the matter aside, and the purchaser found himself without a remedy.—Philadelphia Record.

A Great Military Feat.  
Nonza, in Corsica, is very proud of the story of a great military feat performed there long ago. It is told in "Romantic Corsica," by George Renwick.

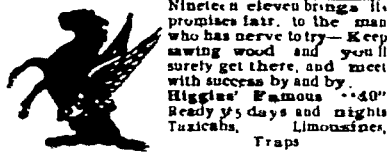
The French in 1768 had subjugated all the northern cape with the exception of the tower of Nonza, which for a considerable time sustained a close siege. Attacking parties were driven back by a fierce fire, but at last the garrison agreed to surrender if allowed to march out with all the honors of war. This was conceded, and old Captain Cascella appeared, staggering under a load of muskets and pistols. "Why is the garrison so long in coming out?" asked the French commander.

"It is here, sir," replied Cascella. "I am the garrison."

## Temple Theater

NEW YEAR'S WEEK  
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Call us up, 326, either phone; or better, come up and see us and let us talk the matter over with you. Our midwinter term begins next Tuesday. Ought you not to start right in at that time and get the power to do something?

Rochester Business Institute, Y. M. C. A. Building  
TELEPHONES 326

Welcome in the New Year

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