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Friday, Sept. 15, 1911.

The Aster Shame

While, perhaps, one need not waste too much sympathy upon the young girl who has sold herself to a multi-millionaire for a \$2,000,000 marriage settlement, nevertheless, she may not be all to blame. Apparently, her mother and father are dazzled by the prospect of having a daughter in America's "Four Hundred" and also by a handsome monetary consideration for themselves. A girl of eighteen is likely to be influenced, somewhat, by her parents' arguments and so she may easily have been led to the old man, at least he is aged in comparison with his young bride, not realizing that she is missing the crowning joy of an American happy wifehood and prospective motherhood.

And what shall we say to the old man who is willing to purchase the life and body of an innocent girl? The least said is the better lest we forget our man's duty.

While we pay tribute to the Christian consistency of the many American clergymen who refused to be tempted by the millionaire's gold to forswear their consciences and sully themselves by lending the air of Christian approval to a sacrilege, we must hang our heads in shame at the thought that there was one so-called minister of God who yielded to the temptation. How can he preach against divorce or infidelity in the future? How can he preach obedience to the law when he himself is an accessory to law-breaking? We say this because the decree of divorce obtained against the aged bridegroom forbade his marrying again in New York state during the life of his former wife. In remarrying, he has disobeyed the law and the minister who officiated has made the bride a harlot in the State of New York and, we believe, amenable to the laws of New York state if our public officials care to proceed in the matter.

It is a shameful affair throughout.

Then and Now.

"Fifteen years ago," said Monsignor Russell, preaching a few days ago at the laying of the corner-stone of St. Elizabeth's Church in Baltimore, "the two largest non-Catholic denominations—the Methodists and Baptists—combined numbered two million souls more than the Catholic Church. Today the Catholic Church has surpassed that, and has one million more members than these denominations. The explanations for this are many but the fundamental one is the fact that Christ is the corner-stone of the Catholic Church. It is the Church to which He has given the mission to preach the Gospel to all nations."

Fact and Fiction

We wonder how the ministers who inveigh against Sunday baseball and other forms of recreation on Sunday reconcile their

stand in this respect and the fact that they leave their churches locked for one, two and three months every summer. If the devil is in baseball on Sundays, why do not these ministers stay at home, keep their churches open and try and give the boys and girls something to occupy their minds?

If our young folks cannot go to church or Sunday school on Sunday and if they may not indulge in recreation in Rochester, is it any wonder, they go to the Beach or some other of the nearby resorts there to patronize the fake shows and the saloons?

These ministers sneer at the Catholic Church but the latter is never shut on Sundays, her priests do not take vacations to let the devil get in his work. Every Sunday morning, often three and four times over, our churches are filled to the doors with those who come to pray because they are tempted by vaudeville, or late politics, or a rehash of the latest scandal.

Our non-Catholic friends could well learn a lesson from the Catholic Church if they only would.

Watch This!

It is rumored that there is a new "civic movement" on foot in Rochester, the ostensible object of which is to "keep the schools out of politics." This sounds good, but we have our suspicions since one of those prominent in the new movement, not so long ago was very indignant at the report that a majority of the teachers in the public schools in Rochester are Catholics. Of course, the report is false. There would be precious few Catholic teachers now if those in charge had their way, but straw show the way the wind blows.

This new movement will bear watching.

Peculiar

Evidently, we are coming to a queer state of public mind when a supposedly reputable paper like the Boston Globe commends Governor Foss for his extraordinarily large number of pardons of convicts in State prisons on the ground that nearly every person convicted of crime is only guilty of "an error of judgment" and should not be incarcerated in prison. This assertion is an indictment of our courts and also of our juries composed of the associate citizens of the person on trial.

The "Globe's" position is that our criminal classes are worthy of better treatment than the honest citizens. It amounts to an assertion that Henry Clay Beattie should be set free because his killing of his young wife was "only an error of judgment."

What are we coming to when a great metropolitan newspaper speciously and covertly, yet none the less actively, defends crime and advocates mitigation of punishment for criminals, no matter whether they be hardened or not. It should be noted that the Globe's characterization was general, not exceptional.

How To Spoil Them.

We trust that none of the parents among our readers need this adverse advice tendered by the "Augustinian":—

Laugh at their faults; encourage white lies; give them their own way; tell them pretty untruths; give them what they cry for; shout at the top of your voice to them; never encourage their efforts to do better; fly into a passion with them several times a day; punish them if they break some trifle by accident; don't enter into their games; when they ask for information tell them to be quiet; let them think the streets are the best place to play; never take any notice of their childish sorrows; when on Sunday reconcile their

don't have any toys or playthings

tossed around the house; don't bother yourself inviting to your house the children of the house they go to; don't trouble inviting their companions to your house; always take part against their teacher; try to forget as much as possible that you were once young yourself; get servants to teach them their prayers and don't trouble how they say them; send them to Mass and the sacraments and don't go with them.

Rev. Canon O'Leary, of Castle Lyons, has had conferred upon him the freedom of Dublin, in recognition of his eminence as a Gaelic scholar and of his many books of highest linguistic excellence in that language. Canon O'Leary is bracketed in this honor with the first scholar in Europe in the department of Gaelic studies. Dr. Kuno Meyer.

The Poor Clare Nuns of New Orleans, La., ask that it be announced that no one has been authorized to collect money for their convent.

Rev. Wm. McMahon, LL. D., editor of the "Catholic Universe" of Cleveland, who recently suffered a stroke of paralysis, has rallied and his physicians express hopes for his recovery.

Sister Frances Xavier, of the Holy Name, one of the founders of the St. Mary's Academy, of Portland, Ore., died in that institution on July 23d, in the 81st year of her age and the 61st of her religious profession.

Our advice to the boys and girls who have not returned to the parochial schools:—Do not miss Mass, join some one of the confraternities—the boys should affiliate with the Holy Name Society—do not be in a big hurry to join in with non-Catholic friends in their societies and, above all, do not neglect morning and evening prayers.

The National Order of Hibernians placed itself on record unequivocally against Socialism and condemned the treatment accorded the Church in Portugal and France.

The new State Athletic commission had better clean up the "manly sport" else the people will rise up in their might and demand the repeal of the new boxing law.

The National Eucharistic Congress is scheduled to be held in Cincinnati, September 28 to October 1st.

And so the Legislature is to continue with us a little longer?

Aviation bids fair to surpass football, automobiling, and hunting as a fatality producer.

Read a Catholic paper to keep informed on Catholic matters.

Now is the time to subscribe for a Catholic paper!

Weekly Church Calendar

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Gospel, St. Luke vii., 11-16

S. 17. Seven Sorrows of the B. V. M.
M. 18. St. Joseph of Cupertino,
F. 19. St. Januarius, B. M.
W. 20. St. Eustachius MM. Fast
Th. 21. St. Matthew Ap.
F. 22. St. Thomas Villano, Fast
S. 23. St. Linus, P. M. Fast

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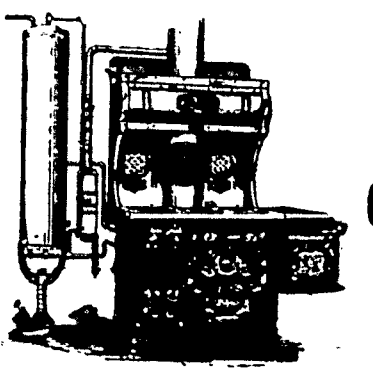
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