

The Catholic Journal

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Friday, Jan 5 1912

True Leader of Men.

Despite his years and his many onerous duties as an ecclesiastic, Cardinal Gibbons finds time to devote to the topics of the day...

Scarcely a week passes that the press does not chronicle a sermon, an interview or a set statement from his Eminence dealing with some great topic of the day...

The Cardinal's interview with a magazine writer may furnish to the public the reason why men of refinement, culture and education are turning toward the Catholic Church for refuge from the restlessness, discontent and chaos of the other so-called religious circles...

Rich and poor, educated and illiterate, high and low we find in the Catholic Church the equality preached and laid down by Jesus Christ.

Battle of Future.

Rev. John E. Cavanaugh, C. S. C., believes that the religious battle of the future is to be fought around the Blessed Sacrament. In a notable discourse before the recent National Eucharistic Congress in Cincinnati on "The Priest and the Eucharist," Father Cavanaugh gave these reasons for his belief:

"The chief characteristic of our time is the encroachment of materialism on the field of the supernatural. Materialism has its own philosophy to explain the origin of things; it has its high priests, who utter themselves from pulpit and platform; its apostles, who make ardent propounds for it. Great universities, particularly in the Old World, expound and defend it; books are filled with it; scientists measuring the infinite with their little...

yardsticks rise up against all that is called God or worshiped. It has its social system, in which divorce—sometimes even free love is a prominent feature; it has its richly endowed education system, from which God is austere banished; it has its statecraft, which settles questions within the nation and questions among the nations on a basis of mere cunning and without reference to the laws of God and the claims of justice.

"It has its art, which ignores the spiritual and exalts the animal side of life; its drama, in which passion bears down virtue with great applause, or in which triumphant naturalism parades itself. It has its political economy its pagan theory of property, its theory of ownership without responsibility towards the needy. It has its press, which colors the news of the world to advantage of materialism and to injure Christianity; it has the seductive influence of Socialism or communism, which dangles before the eyes of hunger or poverty or ambition dazzling vision of what the world shall be when property or wives are common to all men indiscriminately; and when children are the chattels of the State, to be educated and controlled under its sole responsibility. It has the enormous power of money to further its purpose by brutalizing and despiritualizing men.

Not True.

In the course of an article in favor of Socialism, a Western follower of that politico-religious sociological organization, made this threat: "There must be no aristocracy of intellect in America."

This startling assertion was made in reply to a scathing refutation of some Socialistic tenets by a Catholic priest.

Of course, our Socialist friend did not mean exactly what he said. It was, as he thought, a neat way to evade showing his own ignorance and also to avoid reply to his Catholic antagonist. But in effect, it proclaimed exactly what Socialism is: an advertisement for the advertisement of all sorts of sociological nostrums; it is, been proclaimed by an over-zealous devotee of the cult.

A press despatch reports that the President Madero, of Mexico, stood at a window laughing at the Mexicans who, frightened at an earthquake, knelt in prayer in the public streets. Let us hope in the press despatches exaggerated to say the least.

Another Austrian archduke has renounced his rights to the throne to wed the wife of his choice, a lady not of "royal blood." More power to that archduke if he stands by his wife and does not divorce her in a few years.

The Post Express concedes that the art of oratory and of elegant conversation in this country is on the decline, indeed, has disappeared almost entirely, but it does not state whether or not it looks upon this condition as a sorrow or a blessing.

A Republic in China! Who would have thought it? Next in order will be intervention, for selfish purpose of the "Great European Powers."

Mayor Edgerton has paid a compliment to the News Writers' Club by selecting as his secretary one of its number, one who has done much toward popularizing its memorable "Roast Fests."

Have you become used to "1912" as yet?

THE LUCK OF A TACTFUL MAN

Won Success by Appearing Better Than He Was.

When I was a young man I was a reporter. One morning I was sent to interview a United States senator. He was very kind to me, and during my call it came out that we were graduates from the same college. He asked me if I had been a good student. Blushing, I confessed that I had been a very poor student.

"Don't break your heart over it," he said sympathetically. "The best scholars don't always turn out the best men." Then, after pledging me to secrecy so far as using the real names were concerned, he told me the following story:

"In our class there was a man, Clarence Emmons, who led it from start to finish. He had the most astonishing mind for absorbing knowledge I ever came in contact with. His recitations were simply perfect. Often the professors used to start him at different points in the day's lesson in order to show him off. I was a graceless scamp, I am sorry to admit, whose only strong point was in making our instructors think I knew more than I did. It turned out, however, that I didn't fool them very much, for when we were graduated I stood at the foot of the class, Emmons standing first.

"I did not meet Emmons for five years after leaving college. I had gone into journalism and was doing the work you are doing now. Emmons was teaching school. Neither had advanced beyond the ordinary and, so far as I was concerned, had not given any promise. I still looked up to him, however, and expected that he would make his mark.

"When ten years had rolled round I was part owner of a small country paper and, an important election coming on, we happened to support the right man. After his election he came to the office, acknowledged his indebtedness and asked what he could do for us. My partner was unambitious and referred him to me. I told him I would like to represent my party at the next presidential convention. He easily arranged the matter, and I became a delegate.

"The faculty for appearing to be a better man than I was stood by me, and I was chosen to make the nominating speech presenting one of the principal candidates. I had not mastered his available points, but substituted points desirable in a candidate and endowed him with them. I sat down amid thunders of applause, and as I did so, happening to look in the gallery, saw my classmate Emmons looking down on me in astonishment. He afterward called on me at my hotel.

"That speech and the influence of our paper gained me several years later the nomination of my party for congress. I could talk glibly and, no matter what issue I touched, be able to tariff reform, civil service, I had the faculty of making my hearers believe that I knew all about it and was dead right every time. I was elected and re-elected for two additional terms. When I made my speech on the tariff that produced such a sensation, for the first time in my life I had collected some facts, but I pledge you my word I didn't know and don't know now which is the true theory, tariff or free trade. While I was talking I saw Emmons in the gallery following me with absorbing interest. After the speech he sent his card to me and I went out and met him.

"What are you doing Emmons?" I asked.

"Teaching," he replied. "While I had become convinced that if I were slow in absorbing knowledge I could make more than most men out of what I did absorb. As I grew older I accustomed myself to look wise, and whenever approached by men upon different subjects I looked wise in proportion to my ignorance. But when I knew the subject well I invariably pleaded ignorance and begged to be enlightened in this way I gained in respect and flattered those with whom I came in contact.

"Well, the next step for a representative is to be senator. I didn't begin my senatorial career by obliging people. I had got beyond that. I let them understand that they were to oblige me and the other part of it might come later. In this way I forced my election. Recently, you will remember, my name was mentioned for the most important portfolio in the cabinet. A few days later my old classmate Clarence Emmons called on me.

"I hear you are to become one of the president's advisers," he said mournfully.

"It isn't so, Emmons," I said confidently. "You will remember that in college I had one faculty."

"Yes; you could make more out of nothing than any man in the class."

"Right. I've kept on learning how to do that. I'm working my infinitesimal quantities to be the president himself."

"I believe you'll succeed."

"What are you doing, Emmons?" "Teaching."

"Doing well?" "I can't get my income above a thousand a year. Can't you do something for me here?" "I shall need all the offices at my disposal for substantial purposes, but I need a secretary. Would you take the position?" "At how much salary?" "Leave that to me. I will not be signally with the best man in our class, for I remember I was the worst."

Resolutions At the regular meeting of Division F. A. O. E. the following resolutions were adopted. Whereas, it has pleased our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom to remove from the family of James Collins his respected brother, be it Resolved, that we sincerely condole with the family of our brother in their severe affliction and trust they will be enabled with Christian resignation to bear their loss, which as all wise Providence has inflicted upon them Resolved, That these resolutions be embodied in the Division records, a copy sent to the bereaved family and published in the Catholic Journal. J. E. Redding, J. Caruody, W. J. McGrath, Committee

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