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Our Schools

In a few days more commencement exercises will be the order of the day in the schools. Pupils who have been together for four or more years will be bidding adieu to each other as well as to their alma maters. It is one of the sad features of school life that at each stage friendships are interrupted if not wholly sun-dered because no group will continue on in school life. One may go to this educational institution, another to a second and so on. Or it may be that, either from choice or from necessity, one chum may decide to complete his education in the open world and in the stress of toil and actual contact with the people.

But even with its sad features, commencement day is one to be looked forward to with interest. This one may be a prominent figure because of superior scholarship or because of the choice of his fellows. There is the glamour and glitter of pretty stages, fine costumes, high class of oratory, all these tend to enhance the pleasure and memory of the day.

Then, too, there is the satisfaction of having completed another stage in the educational journey. In our Catholic schools there is this added advantage. Our boys and girls, young men and women, have been just as well grounded in the secular branches as their associates in the public schools and, besides, they have been instructed in the all important subject of how to save their immortal souls and to win eternal life.

Verily, the boy or girl graduate of a Catholic school has much to be thankful for.

False Pretences.

The following extracts from a recent editorial in a Catholic Exchange gives the lie to the Socialist pretence of "love for the American flag"

Rampant anarchists ripped the American flag to shreds at a meeting in New York last week and declared they would have none of it.

If anything has been done about it, we have failed to note the fact.

Perhaps the New York police authorities could not apprehend the rippers.

The New York affair was the real thing. It was similar to the mob that put into effect the French Revolution. The band played the "Marseillais," and everything was strictly in keeping with the usual treasonable conduct of the foreign mob that unfortunately has been permitted to come to the shores of this free land.

"Take that dirty rag down," yelled a man when his eyes fell on the stars and stripes. "We don't recognize that flag," screamed another.

Miss Caroline Dexter, a member of the socialist party, but one who evidently does not know the foundation principals of that party, rose to the occasion and insisted that men who would

treat the flag as these fellows had done, ought to be shot.

Of course the socialists declare that the tearing down of the flag was no fault of theirs; but that statement will hardly do in the face of existing facts.

Only a short time ago children of Milwaukee socialists refused to stand and join in singing the "Star Spangled Banner." If socialists are not opposed to the flag, where did these little ones get the peculiar view that led them to act in this unpatriotic manner?

In a recent issue of the New York Call, a socialist organ, Richard Perin was permitted to say, "Down with the Stars and Stripes. Run up the red flag of humanity."

"Non-Sectarian"

These are the objects of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, of which there are several lodges in Rochester:—

To maintain and promote the interests of Americans and shield them from the depressing effects of foreign competition; to assist Americans in obtaining employment; to encourage Americans in business; to maintain the public school system of the United States of America and to prevent sectarian interference therewith, and uphold the reading of the Holy Bible therein.

This brand of "non-sectarianism" means "non-Catholic," no Catholics in office, no Catholic teachers, no Catholic business men!

Two Sides.

"Many a man prides himself on his breadth and tolerance, when his breadth only means arships or because of the choice that he has put all ideals practically on a level; and his tolerance is not true tolerance at all, but only an indifference undisturbed by conviction."

The editor of the Sunday school Times, non-Catholic, quotes the foregoing declaration and comments thereon very sensibly as follows:—

"The one who is proud of his religious breadth needs to be very sure that, at the same time, he has depth of earnest conviction that holds him to essentials with an unceasing grasp. Otherwise his life will become not broad merely, but thin and weak. Let us cultivate depth of conviction, and not that ability, which is based on no conviction, of agreeing with everybody."

And now they talk Thomas B. Dunn, of Rochester, again as a possible Governor. Too good to be true. Mr. Dunn is a plain business man, not a demagogue, an agitator or a politician.

Officeholders may decide the presidential nominations. Well, the jobs are a mighty important factor in practical politics.

Looks like interesting times both in Chicago and in Baltimore.

Bishop Gabriels, of Ogdensburg, has gone on a visit to his native town in Belgium. During his absence, the newly consecrated coadjutor bishop, Rt. Rev. Joseph H. Conroy, will be in charge of diocesan affairs.

High sounding resolutions are all right in their place, but unaccompanied by performance, they are rather meaningless.

If the faddists in education wish to hold on to their jobs, they must devise some remedy of preventative for race suicide. Else there will be no children upon whom to experiment.

Bigots bluster because the Bible is not read in all the schools. We wonder how many of these bigots could repeat the Ten Commandments? Or sing through our National Anthem?

We acknowledge receipt of an invitation, from the President and faculty of the University of Notre Dame to attend the sixty-eighth annual commencement. The Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D. D., bishop of Rochester will make an address.

Killed by Fall in Auburn
James C. Byrne of Auburn, a brother of Rev. A. V. Byrne, a professor at St. Bernard's Seminary and of Mrs. Wm. Ward of this city, died, Monday night as the result of a fall received a few hours previous. He was overseeing some work on the Cayuga County Savings Bank Building, and fell from a scaffold to the ground below, a distance of thirty feet. He struck on an iron railing. Mr. Byrne leaves a wife and five children.

Knights of Columbus.
Knights of Columbus to the number of 100, accompanied by their wives left Rochester at 7 o'clock Thursday evening for the Lehigh Valley Railroad for Washington D. C., where they will attend the unveiling of Columbus monument Saturday. Buffalo knights, who were in attendance at the flag raising ceremony and game at Baseball Park also left for Washington on the same train.

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Petroleum Has Been Long Known.
The petroleum industry, which has made such great advances during the last fifty years, deals with a product which has been known in other lands from earliest days. In China it was used long before history was first written. The famous petroleum springs near Baku, on the western shore of the Caspian sea, have been known from the earliest times. Antiquarians say that Pliny and Herodotus each knew or had heard of petroleum.—New York Sun.

Gives Him Away.
Bilkins was sneaking into the house to his stocking feet at 2 o'clock a. m. The stairs creaked as he ascended to his room.
"Is that you, William?" Mrs. Bilkins called.
"No, dear," Bilkins replied, "it's the stairs."—Seattle Times.

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