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The Reason

Perhaps, through ignorance, non-Catholics find fault that Latin is employed in the Mass and other services. They affect to wonder why English or the language of the county should not be used.

The answer is obvious or should be.

The Sacrifice of the mass is unchanged and unchangeable. Hence the language used should be unchanged as nearly as is possible. Moreover it should be the same the world over so that every worshipper may be able to assist no matter where he may find himself.

These conditions could not prevail were the language of the country used where the mass is said for 2 reasons: First, because languages change every so often. The English of Chaucer is unintelligible to the American of today. Indeed there is a very great difference between the English of today and that of a half century ago. And the English of 1912 will present many curiosities to the natives in 2012. Second—How could an American assist at mass in India, or Japan were the language of the country used? With the mass said in Latin, even if he unlettered, the American with his Latin and English prayer book, is as much at home in the Church in Japan as he would be in New York, or Chicago or Rochester.

Why Latin? one may ask. Briefly, it was used first and has changed but little since the mass was first celebrated. Moreover, it is practically "a dead language."

Need For Care

While we may be jeered at mildly as old-fashioned, we must plead guilty to a feeling of annoyance at the lack of respect manifested nowadays by the young people for their elders. Possibly, youngsters were "held down" a trifle too much years ago; perhaps, parents were a trifle tyrannical; may be boys and girls too, had to work too hard. But were they seriously damaged? Were they not as sturdy, as self-reliant as the young men and women of today?

Possibly, in the olden days, Mary may have felt badly that she was not permitted to go to parties until after she had left school, but it is certain she did not regret the restraint when grown to years of reason and it is equally certain she was as physically perfect and as mentally alert as the girl of today. Perhaps, Mary of 1860 was not as precocious as the Mary of 1912 but she was equally lovable and as tenderly loved. Mayhap, there were more housewives in the days gone by, and fewer clubwomen. But it is equally undeniable that there were fewer divorcees and equally as happy homes.

It may be that 'progressivism' has its penalties as well as its profits.

Evidently, we are to have some humor in the campaign of 1912.

Rebuke

His Grace, the Archbishop of New Orleans, who is a convert from Lutheranism, a few weeks ago administered a severe, if indirect, rebuke to those non-Catholic who persist in calling the Church "Roman Catholic."

"Speaking of the high hopes he centered in St. Margaret's Daughters, 'when looking out from the watch-tower, so to speak of this great province of New Orleans, with its nine bishops and seven hundred thousand Catholic souls' his Grace continued thus: 'I do not say, Roman Catholics, for that would suppose there was another Catholic church than ours. Only we have the right to the name of Catholic; and only we, who are in union with the Mother Church in Rome whence the successor of Peter rules the entire kingdom of Christ on earth, can claim this title. Only we are members of the Catholic Church. There is no other Catholic Church than ours.'"

Queer Is It Not

Would one expect that anybody of education or one who was supposed to be lettered at all penned the following lines: "No power, perhaps, so tends to modify our American institutions and adversely affects the world's progress as the Roman Catholic church. . . . The Roman Catholic church is the most un-American, because most controlled by foreign influence. The policy of the Church regarding education is to train a few. Free education is not the policy of parochial schools. Only in self-defense does it require attendance at parochial schools. Where the Church's interest does not intervene, Catholicism is exceptionally patriotic."

Possibly, the writer really is an ignorant chap but he is Austin Bierbower, of Chicago, formerly professor of Latin and Greek in Iowa, Wesleyan Seminary and now European correspondent of the Chicago Tribune and other papers.

Is it to be wondered that ludicrous mistakes and worse concerning Catholic matters, appear in the cable despatches if there are many "European correspondents" of the caliber of Bierbower?

Good Reading

In order to be a perfect man, one should have a love for reading and for true culture. Mere brute strength, mere capacity to make money, mere capacity to drive men, mere pride of intellect, does not make a man perfect or near thereto. Neither does mere possession of a college degree make a man learned or cultured. Education helps but it is only the veneer of the solid wood of character underneath.

But reading of the right sort tends to broaden, to dignify, to refine a man's character, just as association with gentlemanly softens the imperious one and smooths off the rough edges. He who reads good books cannot fail to receive therefrom a good influence no less than he who reads trashy and evil books cannot avoid a lowering influence.

History, poetry, essays, the classics of fiction and art and romance, all are good reading. Most of the magazines of today, most of the daily papers, many of the novels of today do not repay perusal. Where they do not work positive mental harm they work no good. The Catholic reader cannot be too careful what he reads in this day of insidious attacks upon Faith and Morals.

It is better to be remembered in the prayers and masses offered by his devoted flock, as has been the case of Rev. William Gleason, than the most costly of mausoleums or monuments of marble, steel or bronze.

TAKING A CAMERA ABROAD.

A Source of Pleasure That May Win Fine and Imprisonment.

If the American tourist carries his camera to Europe with him he must be careful to avoid photographing persons, private property and particularly government buildings, forts, docks and ships without permission. Many tourists have got themselves into much trouble in this way, especially in Russia, where the restrictions are unusually rigid, and in Germany also.

A few years ago Germany passed a special bill through the reichstag dealing with this matter and imposing heavy penalties upon those who infringe the regulations. Damages to the amount of \$1,500, with a fine of \$200 or two months' imprisonment, will be the fate of any one who snapshots a private person, a work of art or the interior of a private building and circulates or publishes the picture without permission.

Persons in the public eye, such as members of the royal family, statesmen, actors and well known divines are excepted, says a writer in Country Life in America. So, too, are public buildings and works of art in public galleries.

In Italy the camera of the tourist is made a means of providing revenue for that somewhat impoverished country. If you carry your camera when on a visit to Pompeii or others of the recently excavated ruins you may take as many photographs as you please, but you are forced to pay a small fee for each plate exposed.

STATE LOTTERIES.

They Were Once Very Common and Very Popular in Europe.

Lotteries were common in ancient Rome, and during the middle ages lotteries were utilized by the Italian merchants for the disposal of their goods. Some of the Italian states then adopted the lottery as a means of raising revenue, and the institution of state lotteries afterward became very common and very popular throughout Europe.

The earliest English state lottery of which there is any record was in 1569, when 40,000 tickets were sold at 10 shillings each, the drawing taking place in the west door of St. Paul's cathedral.

The prizes consisted of articles of plate, and the profits were employed for the repair of certain harbors. Early in the reign of Queen Anne private lotteries were suppressed "as public nuisances," but government lotteries, however, were still maintained, and from 1700 to 1824 considerable sums were annually raised in lotteries authorized by acts of parliament.

The average yearly profit to the government from 1703 to 1824 was over £300,000. On the ground of injury to public morals lotteries of all kinds were abolished in England in 1826.—London Saturday Review.

Astor's Fearlessness.

John Jacob Astor, who went to his death fearlessly on the Titanic, was always noted for his great personal courage. One of his friends told a story some years ago of the cold blooded bravery of the head of the Astor family. An insane man—or a desperate criminal—met him in Fifth avenue one morning and, stepping close to him, thrust the muzzle of a revolver against Astor's ribs. "Promise me that you will give me \$5,000," said he, "or I will fire."

Astor glanced into his eyes. "Is your old gun cocked?" he asked. The other man said that it was. "Then shoot!" he roared. The other fellow backed away. "I'll get you the next time," he said. Astor walked on without bothering to turn his head. He did not even repeat the story to the police.

Ancient Dress Still Worn.

In the little town of Munsiedel, in Bavaria, there exists one of the most curious charitable foundations in the world. One of the burghers, Christopher Wanner died in 1451 and left his fortune for the establishment of a home for aged poor. He attached, however, the condition that every old man who was taken in should wear his beard and the same cut of clothes and, as he himself used to wear, consequently the ancient pensioners are still to be seen wandering about the streets of Munsiedel in the costumes of the fifteenth century.

A Good Excuse.

Ethel has taken a great dislike to rice, and lately her mother has not offered it to her. The other morning she asked what Ethel would like for breakfast. "Oh, give me some rice so as I can fuss about it," was her reply.—New York Times.

The One Perfect Boy.

I never heard of but one perfect boy," said Johnny pensively as he sat in the corner doing penance. "And who was that?" asked mamma. "Papa—when he was little," was the answer. Then silence reigned for the space of five minutes.—Exchange.

Sound Reasons.

"You seem to be able to draw a great deal of interest from that gentleman." "Of course I do. He's my principal."—Baltimore American.

Research.

Bill—Have you done any research work? Jill—Have I? Well, say, I've looked for this same collar button I'm wearing now at least fifty times.—Yonkers Statesman.

Order is man's greatest need and his true well being.—Amiel.

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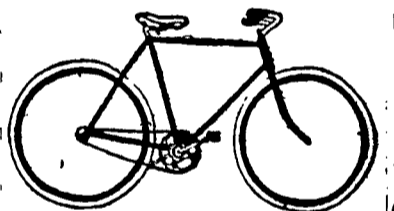
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