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Friday Nov. 21, 1913.

Thanksgiving

It is a good and wholesome custom we have in this country of setting apart one day in the year on which to give thanks to Almighty God for His blessings and His mercies during the twelve month just passed. This custom is an announcement to the unbelievers that we are a Christian nation and intend to continue so.

Following this custom, Governor Martin H. Glynn has designated Thursday, November 27th, as Thanksgiving day for 1913. His proclamation is an index to the manner of man he is. It is couched in reverent language, with a full recognition of the debt owed by humanity to God and breathes in every line the earnest appeal of a Christian gentleman to his fellow citizens to give thanks to an all-wise and beneficent Creator for their lives, liberty and happiness. There is nothing perfunctory in Governor Glynn's proclamation as is often noticed in similar public documents.

Wherever possible, it were well that Catholics assist at Mass on Thanksgiving Day. No matter what our circumstances, we should profoundly thank Almighty God for having permitted us the blessed privilege of Faith and affiliation with His Church.

Abbot Gasquet

Rochester is to be honored by a visit from Rt. Rev. Dom Aidan Gasquet, the famous Benedictine abbot who has been entrusted by Pope Pius X with the chairmanship of the Commission created to carry to completion the stupendous task of revising the Latin Vulgate, as the Catholic Bible is styled.

Abbot Gasquet has long been known as one of the most learned men of modern times, Catholic or non-Catholic. His research into ancient archives has forced the revision and recantation of English history so far as slanders upon the old-time monks and monasteries were concerned. The abbot's research has produced similar results in other countries.

The task of revising the Vulgate necessitates large expenses. It is to raise funds to prosecute the work that Abbot Gasquet is visiting America under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus who will bear all the expense. This is a laudable undertaking and will shed still brighter luster upon the order's record.

Abbot Gasquet will be heard in Cathedral Hall on the evening of November 25th and will be introduced by Rt. Rev. Bishop Hickey. He should be greeted by a large and representative audience.

In common with many other papers of the state the Catholic Journal was premature in its congratulations to Judge Warner. It appears he was defeated by a narrow plurality after a remarkable run in a three-handed contest.

Hunt Them Down!

If there has been extortion and blackmail practised upon contractors; if the latter have purchased the right to swindle taxpayers by inefficient service because of payment of graft to officials sworn to uphold the laws; let such be indicted, prosecuted, convicted and punished without fear or favor.

It will not suffice to "make a goat" of some small fry and permit the "men higher up," the real brains of the system of fraud and corruption, if it be proven that such a system is in existence and operation.

Governor Glynn and attorney-General Carmody are to be commended for their announced determination to get at the facts in the veritable flood of denunciation and wholesale accusation we have read in the public prints and heard from the platform and pulpit. If these assertions are merely slander intended for effect upon political campaigns then that should be clearly set forth and the accused persons freed from the imputation of guilt which now rests upon them. On the other hand if the accused persons are guilty then they should be punished severely as public officials must be taught that public office is a public trust and should be held in high esteem.

The Difference

There are many non-Catholics who are honest in their defense of their position as the one true one in religious warfare. There are others who know they are traveling the wrong road but they refuse to admit so. There are others who study into the question earnestly seek God's guidance and find their way into the true Church of God.

There is an Episcopalian element which is very strenuous in its desire to be known as "the American Catholic Church" and is prone to slander us as "Roman Catholic" attached to the Italian "Mission." An Episcopalian clergyman of this "American Catholic wing" has been saying some harsh things about those Protestants who have "gone over" to Catholicism. He alleges that these Catholics "degenerate morally and intellectually" after attaining to the Truth.

"Writing in the 'Marian', a former parishioner of this Episcopalian clergyman who has become a Catholic, takes him to task sharply for this slander and asks if Cardinal Newman, Dr. Benson, Dr. Brownson, Father Faber, Cardinal Manning and scores of other eminent converts "degenerated morally and intellectually" and then compares these with the Crowleys, the Maria Monks, the Chiniquys and inquires pertinently whether the comparison should rather not be right about face?

History contradicts the reverend Episcopalian clergyman's assertion. Converts to Catholicism are numbered among the world's intellectual giants.

Knights of Columbus could not perform greater public service to themselves and the State than by acting as censors to the moving picture shows. We hear that there are plays now on exhibition which slander Catholics shamefully.

"Now let us all get down to business. The elections are over," remarks the Syracuse Herald. A good point well taken. May we be permitted to remind the business men that the Catholic Journal is a splendid advertising medium?

"Governor Glynn of New York and Governor Walsh of Massachusetts" make a good sound when the roll is called.

Delaware's public whipping post is a barbarous institution and should be relegated to oblivion.



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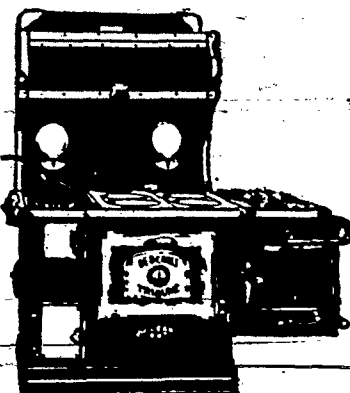
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