

The Catholic Journal

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One Conviction!

Although it was not accorded
undue prominence in the press
despatches—many a paper had
not one word about it—the first
conviction on a charge of criminal
libel of a bigot who circulated
that "bogus K. of C. oath" was
secured a few weeks since—on
July 29th to be exact—by an in-
dividual Knight of Columbus in
Waterville, Minnesota.

The publishers and editors of
the Mankato, Minn., Morning
Journal, charged specifically that
E. M. Lawless, editor of the Wa-
terville "Sentinel" with having
taken and subscribed to the bo-
gus Knight of Columbus oath.
Lawless immediately swore out
a warrant charging the Morrisons
with criminal libel. Previous suits
and trials had failed of effect be-
cause no specific individual had
been slandered. The Morrisons
were given an opportunity to
apologize or retract but they did
not avail themselves thereof un-
til the trial went against them
when it was too late.

The foreman of the jury which
tried the Morrisons was Rev.
Thomas Billing, resident Metho-
dist pastor of Waterville, Dr. E.
W. Buckley, of St. Paul, who tes-
tified that when Mr. Lawless re-
ceived the fourth degree in the
K. of C. he was master of the
of Portsmouth, Va., which letter
province and present at the cere-
monial. Supreme Secretary Mc-
Ginley, of the K. of C., took the
stand and not only denied abso-
lutely the authenticity of the al-
leged K. of C. oath but he had
read into the records the genuine
obligation taken by fourth de-
gree Knights of Columbus which
we herewith reproduce for the
sake of accuracy, history and the
benefit of our readers:

"I swear to support the Con-
stitution of the United States.
"I pledge myself, as a Catho-
lic citizen and a Knight of Colum-
bus, to enlighten myself fully up-
on my duties as a citizen and to
conscientiously perform such du-
ties entirely in the interest of
my country and regardless of all
personal consequences, I pledge
myself to do all in my power to
preserve the integrity and purity
of the ballot and to promote ob-
edience and respect for law and
order. I promise to practice my
religion openly and consistently,
but without ostentation, and to
so conduct myself in public af-
fairs and in the exercise of pub-
lic virtue as to reflect nothing but
credit upon our Holy Church, to
the end that she may flourish and
our country prosper to the great-
er honor and glory of God."

After Mr. McGinley's testi-
mony the jury rendered a ver-
dict of guilty. Then it was that
the Morrisons threw themselves
upon the mercy of the court. The
judge, however, imposed a jail
sentence of thirty days without
the option of a fine.

Let us hope that this will be a
lesson to the Menace bigots and
an encouragement to the Knights
of Columbus to fight the bigots
wherever such action will tend
toward spreading Truth and dis-
pelling error.

Shocking

If the stories in the secular
news despatches be correct and
the historic city of Louvain has
been destroyed, together with its
ancient Cathedrals and the fa-
mous University and its priceless
library, then indeed a shocking
indignity has been offered to all
the civilized world and German
soldiers have something to an-
swer and explain.

We all recall what General
Sherman said of war and we
know that in war times certain
things are demanded and per-
mitted that would not be tolerat-
ed in times of peace. But we can-
not imagine any valid excuse for
wanton destruction of public
buildings and historic edifices
when such is not accomplished
during the bombardment and
siege. This does not appear to
have been the case at Louvain.

For a neutral nation and one
wishing to keep out of the Euro-
pean conflict, Belgium seems to
be suffering more than the real
combatants. And it is difficult to
see up to date, where England
and France have been of mater-
ial aid to Belgium but for whose
efforts Germany would now be
invading both countries.

A Patriot!

In their crazy animosity toward
Catholics and the Catholic
Church, the Menace bigots have
run foul of Uncle Sam and the
Federal postal authorities and
one of their poor dupes, a clerk
in the Charlotte, N. C. postoffice
named Charles F. Alexander to
answer a charge of having open-
ed a letter addressed to Dr. John
S. Clifford, a prominent Catholic
and a North Carolina district
deputy of the Knights of Colum-
bus.

In the summer of 1913 Dr. Clif-
ford's two sisters were dismissed
as public school teachers in Alex-
ander on account of being Catho-
lic's. Great public indignation
was aroused and a mass meeting
was held at which non-Catholic's
as well as Catholic's protested
against such arrant bigotry. This
was followed by an anti-Catholic
meeting at which was read a let-
ter of sympathy addressed to Dr.
Clifford by William B. Doughtery,
of Portsmouth, Va., which letter
never had been received by Dr.
Clifford. Investigation by Feder-
al Post office inspectors resulted
in Alexander's arrest. He is
prominent in the Junior Order of
American mechanics, the organ-
ization largely instrumental in
stirring up anti-Catholic senti-
ment in North Carolina.
Here's hoping all bigots get
their just deserts!

Ignorance

Not one of us but has run
across amusing examples of non-
Catholic ignorance concerning
things Catholic. A Denver priest
recently received from a sup-
posedly well educated young Pro-
testant a letter descriptive of
scenes in Rome in which this
passage occurred:

"We saw many Jesuits. They
were very picturesque in their
robes."
"It reminds me," he said, "of
an incident that happened in Il-
chester, Md. The Redemptorist
monastery there is close to the
railroad. An A. P. A. and a Catho-
lic were passing it on the train.
"That is another hotbed of
Jesuitism," said the A. P. A.
"Why, I thought that was a
Redemptorist monastery," an-
swered the Catholic.
"Sh-h! They're the worst
kind of Jesuits!" said the A. P. A."

"A man who knew how to
omit," says Stevenson" would
make an liad out of a daily pa-
per."

In a brief statement published
in the Seminary Bulletin of Lon-
don, Ont., Bishop Fallon says
that in the four years he has
been Bishop of London he has
confirmed 8,969 souls, of whom
662 were adult converts.

An ounce of "now" is worth a pound
of "by and by."

War is the most inexorable thing
civilization does.

Better be the head of a mouse than
the tail of a lion.

Anyway, no one can blame this war
on the United States.

An honest man is honest whether
anybody is looking or not.

The easiest resolution to shatter is
that one not to talk so much.

However, the Eskimos and the Pata-
goonians still remain neutral.

The best way to make sure of your
job is to stop feeling sure of it.

Belgium is the battlefield of Europe
as Switzerland is its playground.

After all, the balance of power sim-
ply means the balance of powder.

Nearly every successful man has had
a failure somewhere along the line.

There is no sign of "a good loser"
visible yet in the European situation.

Most men would rather get the short
end of an argument than keep quiet.

Entries to the race for the Nobel
peace prize will be restricted this year.

This is the best country on earth, after
all. Ask any of the returned tour-
ists.

We appreciate most things more if
they are homemade, especially happi-
ness.

Some article of some kind or another
is reasonably sure to be named after
Ligeia.

American embassies abroad are fast
becoming clearing houses of universal
representation.

King Xerxes' fabulous million men
would now look like an under-recruited
militia regiment.

The most that foreign powers can
reasonably ask of Uncle Sam is to re-
main neutral and raise crops.

One man with an ingrowing dispo-
sition can put the souls of a street
car full of people out of tune.

The question of how to collect a tax
so that no one will notice it is one of
the oldest known to civilized man.

The difference between a luxury and
a necessity is much the same as that
between a character and a reputation.

After a few years of married life a
man learns not to tell his wife twice
that the same woman is good looking.

The airship has added to the pos-
sibilities of war, but the plain fighting
men continue to bear the brunt of
battle.

Maintaining great navies and stand-
ing armies to insure peace doesn't
seem to have proved a brilliant success
in the old world.

Despite the havoc that powder and
ball are producing, the girls still go to
balls and powder their faces without
fear of explosion.

And still the hope is entertained that
when it is all over there will be enough
of the earth left for the meek peace-
makers to inherit.

Having tried and failed to keep the
peace with armament, perhaps the
world will soon be ready to experiment
with disarmament.

Europeans in large numbers are
stranded in the United States—an es-
pecially fine place for them to be stranded
just at this time.

After one or two big naval battles in
Europe the American navy, without
the addition of a single ship, will be
the strongest in the world.

Changes in military uniforms
throughout the world show a growing
inclination to protect the soldier in-
stead of making him a target.

There are people in this country who
will postpone the payment of their
debts for a month, or even more, with-
out any proclamation of a moratorium.

Delegates to the postponed peace
conference at Bern returned from Eu-
rope minus their baggage. That is
one of the "most unkindest cuts" of
the whole war.

A New York paper chronicles the
fact that an intoxicated man was re-
scued from the East river while a sober
man drowned. "Still even this is no ar-
gument for inebriety."

The Belgian farmer has been plowing
up cannon balls for several genera-
tions. The indications are that his
descendants can continue the perfor-
mance for generations to come.

Cherokee Indians have asked that
they be permitted to live their own
lives in their own way, which shows
how naively optimistic are the Indians
as compared with the rest of us.

Every married Canadian desiring to
enlist for the war is required to pro-
duce the written consent of his wife.
It would be a good plan to limit some
kings and emperors in a similar way.

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order of Hon. Selden S. Brown, Surrogate of
County of Monroe, notice is hereby given, ac-
cording to law to all persons having claims or
demands against Winifred Ryan, late of the
city of Rochester, county of Monroe, state of
New York, deceased, to present the same with
the vouchers therefor, to the undersigned Ed-
ward Ryan and Edward J. Ryan, Administrators,
at their place for the transaction of busi-
ness as such administrators at 216-28 Elswan-
ger & Barry Building, Rochester, N. Y. on or
before the 10th day of November, 1914.
Dated: April 20, 1914.
EDWARD RYAN,
EDWARD J. RYAN,
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