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The American Negro's First Educator.

Catholic Church Played This Role Says Authority.

The Logic of Georgia's Action

The commonwealth of Georgia has further blackened its hitherto not too immaculate record by a piece of legislation which prohibits the teaching of negroes by people of white color, aimed directly at the work of the Catholic priests and sisters among the black men of the South. In this action, Georgia is in complete accord with her past, which has been one continued struggle against the education of the blacks and against the efforts of Catholics in particular in that direction. As early as 1740 the teaching of negroes had been forbidden by that state, and this has been supplemented at other times by further legislation. (See "Digest of the Laws of the State of Georgia" by Marbury and Crawford, p. 438).

This hatred of the negroes and the Catholics has in it a fatal logic, for it is influenced by the memory of the past, which shows the Catholics to have been the first in this country to have endeavored to raise the black people from their state of degradation to some stage of enlightenment. In the recently published interesting book by Dr. C. G. Woodson, "The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861" (G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915), we have the record of this fact, and also the testimony that the Catholic Church ever consistently continued in this course, even in the face of violent race persecution.

"The Spanish and French missionaries," we read in the Introduction, "set an example which influenced the education of the Negroes throughout America. . . . Being anxious to see the Negroes enlightened and brought into the Church, they courageously directed their attention to the teaching of their slaves, provided for the instruction of the numerous mixed-blood offspring, and granted freedom to the educational privileges of the highest classes. Put to shame by this noble example of the Catholics, the English colonists had to find a way to overcome the objections of those who, granting the enlightenment of the slaves might not lead to servile insurrection, nevertheless feared their conversion might work manumission." (p. 3) "It was not until the French provided that masters should take their slaves to church and have them indoctrinated in the Catholic faith, that the proposition was seriously considered by many of the Puritans. They, like the Anglicans, felt sufficient compunction of conscience to take steps to Christianize the slaves, lest the Catholics, whom they had derided as undesirable churchmen, be in a position to put the Protestants to shame." (p. 23, 42) The early burg, Md., will sail for France, and demand will go to Pau to live permanently. The Archbishop has just placed in the hands of his printer the manuscript for his memoirs, which will appear early in December in book form.

The Rev. Edward J. Walsh, fifty-one years old, for thirteen years assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Norfolk, Va., died suddenly on September 5, at St. Vincent's Hospital. Father Walsh was one of the best-known priests in Virginia, and was the founder of the Young Men's Association in Norfolk.

The Rev. John B. Furay, S. J., has been appointed president of Loyola University, Chicago, by the general of the Jesuit Order. The Very Rev. Vladimir Ledechow, O. S. B., was born in Omaha, March, 1873, and is a nephew of Count John Creighton, who so munificently endowed Creighton University, Omaha.

Blessing of the Graves will take place Sunday the 26th. Order cloths as the law prescribed, or your flowers and bouquets of H. E. Wilson, Florist, 88 Main street, treated, they might apply to the East. —Adv.

Procureur, who was obliged by his office to protect them." (note, p. 23.)

It was not only the French and Spanish Catholics that manifested this interest in the Negroes. The English Catholics of Maryland set a like example. (See pp. 107, 108). All through pre-Revolutionary history, and even after that, it was the Catholics and the Quakers who ever stood as the negro's friends. The first seminary for the education of negro girls, established in the District of Columbia, was conducted through the encouragement of Father Vaulomen, by Maria Beccraft, a Catholic negress, who afterwards became a member of the Sisters of Providence (p. 133). When the "Snow Riot" closed so many of the negro schools in the District, it was the Catholics and the Quakers who boldly continued to teach; when sentiment compelled the Protestant churches to confine the negroes to the galleries, the Catholics, of course, continued to admit them to the body of the church on an equal footing with the other worshippers. (p. 135.)

This little historical review, which could be supplemented by many other quotations from Dr. Woodson's work, gives a clear insight into Georgia's action. It also reminds Catholics of the necessity for them to continue the work of their predecessors in the support today of the Indian and Negro missions. In the conversion of the American negro to the Catholic Church lies the basic hope of his social as well as religious salvation, and it is the first step toward the solution of the Negro Problem.

C. B. of C. V.

Through his Secretary of State, Cardinal Gasparri, Pope Benedict has written to the Bishop of Arras, France, expressing deep regret at the ruin of his episcopal city as a result of the awful conflict that is going on, sympathizing with the prelate and his flock and giving his consent to the temporary removal of the Bishop's residence from Arras, says a Catholic Press Association cablegram. Two cities were mentioned by the Bishop as being suitable for his new provisional residence—Boulogne and St. Omer—and His Holiness agrees to the selection of either of them for the purpose.

In the columns of Irish exchanges appear announcements of the deaths of the Rev. John Lavery, C. M., of St. Vincent's, Cork; the Rev. John A. Maher, S. A., also of Cork, and the Rev. Mother St. Constance, of the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Rangoon, India, who was a native of Castletown, Queen's county, Ireland.

At the end of this month or early next month the Most Rev. Robert Seton, D. D., Titular Archbishop of Heliopolis, who has been for several months a guest at Mount St. Mary's, Emmitsburg, Md., will sail for France, and demand will go to Pau to live permanently. The Archbishop has just placed in the hands of his printer the manuscript for his memoirs, which will appear early in December in book form.

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Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by
The Propagation of the Faith Society
318 Lexington Ave., New York City.

The Very Rev. D. T. Lanslot, O. S. B., who for many years did missionary work in the United States and who was appointed three years ago Prefect Apostolic of N. Transvaal, sailed September 7 from New York for his distant post. He has been visiting the United States in the interest of his mission.

Every year the English government issues a report giving the number of lives lost in India by the attacks of wild beasts and serpents. These statistics are horrifying. The poor natives form the principal victims, as they go barefooted and are moreover not allowed to carry firearms. The report states that 2,382 persons have been killed by ferocious beasts—tigers, leopards, bears, elephants, hyenas, jaguars and wild dogs. Venomous snakes claim 22,000 victims, and over 100,000 head of cattle have been destroyed by wild beasts and snake bites.

The Lyons Society for African Missions counts 314 members who have sacrificed their lives for the salvation of Africa's negroes.

Since the year 1894 the territory of Alaska has been a Prefecture Apostolic. It is three times the size of France. Its population is about 70,000, of whom 15,000 are Catholics, and 10,000 Russian schismatics. There are 28 Catholic centers served by 20 Jesuit priests, Brothers of Ploermel and Sisters of Providence of St. Anne and St. Ursula are in charge of the few parish schools, which have an attendance of about 1,000 children.

From the Philippine Islands come numerous letters expressing heartfelt thanks for the aid given by American benefactors. Bishop O'Doherty of Zamboanga, says:

"Your help is more valuable now than at any time before, as the war affects the poor priests of this diocese, though so far away from the scene of operations. I pray God to bless you and those who enable you to assist us, though you have so many calling for help."

Fr. Henry Raymakers, Superior of the Belgian missionaries at Bagvito, writes:

"I received your timely assistance with heartfelt gratitude. The greatest difficulty here, in a financial way, is to pay our teachers and feed the children in the catechumenate schools. Many are going to the Protestant schools, as we are unable to receive any more in our establishment."

The Church in Switzerland has suffered a heavy loss by the death of Mgr. Andre Bovet, Bishop of Lausanne and Geneva, who died on August 3 in the fiftieth year of his age and the fourth year of his episcopate.

The Holy Father has fixed that the anniversary ceremony of his pontifical coronation, instead of being held on September 6, will be celebrated on December 22, date of his episcopal consecration received at the hands of Pius X., the day after the anniversary of his sacerdotal ordination, following herein the example of Pius X., who kept the remembrance of his pontifical coronation on November 16, anniversary of his episcopal consecration.

Henry P. Neun, Florist, at No. 9 North street, will take orders for flowers and bouquets for the ceremony of the blessing of the graves and deliver Saturday or Sunday morning at very reasonable prices. Both phones.—Adv.

September Weddings.
Call and see our styles of wedding invitations. The prices are very reasonable. Catholic Journal Co.

Lourdes Continues To Be A City of Healing.

Surgeons Treat War-Wounded In Twenty-two Hospitals.

For the first time in the half-century that Lourdes has been the miracle-working capital of the world no pilgrimages have come to her this year from any quarter of the globe, says a Paris press correspondent. The innumerable processions have given place to the individual pilgrim, who has come to pray for the one miracle that occupies France's mind—that his or her dear ones shall pass through the dangers of war unscathed.

Lourdes however, has not ceased to be a city of healing. Its marvelous organization is devoted to caring for those it has christened the "pilgrims from the front." Lourdes is used to receiving trainloads of sick, so wounded soldiers arriving find perfectly trained bearers and expert service, instead of the untrained, ungrudging attention they meet at other towns. With what may appear to the scoffers a want of confidence in the healing powers of their grotto's water, every modern scientific medical and surgical resource is provided by the authorities of the city.

Those who have visited Lourdes will not be surprised to hear that twenty-two hospitals were fitted up in a very short time in the city and its immediate vicinity, which can accommodate 2,700 wounded.

St. Bernard's Seminary Opens With Record Class

With the largest registration in the history of the institution, St. Bernard's Theological Seminary in Lake Avenue Boulevard was opened Monday afternoon, 243 students registered.

A retreat to be given by the faculty professors began Tuesday evening and continued until Saturday morning, when the order of deacon will be conferred on twenty candidates in the coming graduating class, who were made subdeacons last June. Bishop Thomas F. Hickey will officiate at the ordination.

Rev. George Kettell of the Class of 1914 has been appointed a member of the seminary faculty by Bishop Hickey. No other changes were made in the faculty. Father Kettell will teach in production to sacred scripture.

Nearly 33 dioceses in the United States are represented in the student body this year. Three seminarians are from the newly established diocese of Winona, Minn.

Announcement was made that the annual blessing of graves in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery will take place on Sunday afternoon September 26. Bishop Hickey will officiate. He will be assisted by priests of the diocese and seminarians from St. Bernard's.

Priest Gets Purse.

The children of St. Mary's School gave an affectionate farewell on Wednesday to Rev. Geo. W. McCall, who has been transferred from St. Mary's Church. On behalf of the school, the priest was presented a purse of gold by Miss Alice Amering. The presentation was included in an entertainment in honor of the departing priest.

Weekly Church Calendar

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost.
Gospel, St. Matt. xxii., 35-46.
S. 19. St. Januarius and Comp. MM.
M. 20. St. Eustace and Officers, MM.
T. 21. St. Matthew, Ap., Evangelist.
W. 22. St. Thomas, of Villanova, B. C.
Th. 23. St. Linus, P. M.
F. 24. Our Lady of Ransom.
S. 25. St. Finbarr, B. C.

A Shipwreck Brings Misfortune To An Arctic Mission.

Living in the solitudes of the North, where a steamer comes only once a year with supplies, it can be imagined how great a blow the loss of that vessel would be.

This crushing disaster has happened to Bishop Breynat, O. M., Vicar Apostolic of the Mackenzie district, Northwest Territory. He had journeyed to Fort Smith to receive provisions intended for several of his missions. Arriving there he learned that the Hudson Bay steamer carrying the goods had been wrecked while shooting the rapids of Peace River. The report added that all the cargo, which was valued at several thousand dollars, had been lost, without hope of rescue.

It is not necessary to expatiate on this disaster, coming, as it does, in the midst of the general hard times. The very life of some of the posts is involved, and the distress of the people dependent upon the missionaries will be correspondingly great.

Explaining China's Growth in Catholicity.

The extraordinary growth of the Faith in China has often been commented on of late. Fr. Sylvester Epelago, O. F. M., writing in The Ecclesiastical Review, explains it as follows:

"From 700,000 in 1900, the number of Catholics in China has grown to 1,600,000 in 1914.

"There are four reasons or causes," he says, "which might suggest to explain this great development; first, the blood of martyrs; second, increased fervor throughout the Catholic Church brought about by the decrees of Pope Pius X. on frequent Communion and the early Communion of children; third, an increase in the number and activity of priests and nuns in China; fourth, an increase of the movement to help foreign missions, a zeal noticeable in the world at large and especially in the United States."

In the ancient Church of SS. John and Paul, Rome, the Rev. P. Meelen, a member of the Passionist Congregation, was recently consecrated Bishop of Nicopolis, Bulgaria. The new Bishop is a Hollander by birth and a missionary of wide experience.

Since the great war the Religious of the Sacred Heart, having to change the mother house from Brussels, have established it for the time being at Villa Lante, Rome. On August 14 seventeen nuns made their final solemn vows before Cardinal Merry del Val, the Protector of their society, and on the 15th, sixteen others performed the same solemn act before Cardinal Biletti. The newly confirmed professed have left Rome for their convents in different parts of the world.

Special Enrollment Days

For the evening school in the L. Williams Rochester Commercial School, which will open next Monday evening, will be Friday, Saturday and of course Monday, September 17, 18 and 20.

As Monday evening will be an exceedingly busy time in the office of the school, it is hoped that as many as can conveniently will register before that date.

The commercial and practical English branches, Osgoodby-Pitman and Gregg shorthand and rapid touch typewriting will be thoroughly taught.—Adv.

Cemetery Bequests

and clusters ready to place on the graves. We give particular attention to the arrangement of the flowers and put in plenty of Ferns without extra charge.
Rochester Floral Co., 255 East Main street.—Adv.

We do Job Printing.

News From Ireland

Died.—August 10, at the Glen Limestone road, Belfast, Mary, daughter of John B. Devoto, Armagh.

A deputation from the Armagh Chamber of Commerce urged the committee to appoint an instructor for the improvement of butter-making.

A discussion took place regarding flax, and several members said they had had good crops from home-grown seed.

Interned in Brealist for ten weeks at the beginning of the war, Miss Mulcahy was only released on the intervention of the American Consul, by whom she was accorded a safe passage.

The death took place recently in Cork of John Gilbert, an artist; he had depicted southern scenery with great success. He was a leading member of the old Cork Orchestral society. He had reached the age of sixty-one.

A County Derry Protestant farmer crippled from sciatica and moving around with the aid of a crutch and a stick, having, with the assistance of a Catholic friend, "made the stations" at the Holy Well of Doon, threw the stick and crutch from him and declared to the pilgrims present that he was perfectly cured.

Urban powers have been granted the Strabane No. 2 Rural Council for the lighting of Lifford.

Francis Whelan, aged 13 years, son of Michael Whelan, building contractor, Ardee, was killed in a Richmond hospital from injuries sustained in a collision with a motor lorry when he was riding a bicycle through Stonybatton.

At Killarney John Casey, cyclist, Henn street, was fined £4 and 5s costs for failing to pay under the Insurance Act a contribution of 5s 1d. in respect of his employer, Michael Sgiltzer.

Died.—August 4 (Feast of St. Dominic), at Black Abbey, Killenny, Very Rev. Michael Thomas Taylor, O. P.

Died.—August 6, at Tullamore, Henry Coffey, aged 76 years, father of Rev. P. J. Coffey, C. S. S., rector of St. Joseph's, Poyney Cross, St. Helen's.

We regret to announce the death of William Manahan of Ballylanders, County Limerick. The deceased gentleman had always been identified with the National movement, coming into prominence in 1879 when Mr. Parnell started his Limerick campaign.

Alarming reports from many quarters in Meath and Louth are already coming in as to the condition of the hay and potato crops.

Died.—August 10, at her residence, Knockfelim, Westport, Anne, dearly beloved wife of John O'Donnell, at an advanced age.

At a late meeting of the Dunshaughlin Union the chairman said he could not understand why there were four nurses in the infirmary and only seven patients. A severe outbreak of diphtheria and scarlet fever has been reported from Ashbourne.

Peter Murphy, Clonsilla, has been appointed a magistrate for County Monaghan.

The recent outbreak at Maryborough was something more than a mere open air concert. It was a demonstration of the existence of a strong and healthy Irish-Ireland spirit in the county.

The 8 o'clock mass at the Cathedral at Waterford on Sunday, August 8, was offered up for the repose of the soul of O'Donnell's Rouse.