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Medieval "Darkness" Former Miss Whitney Ever Growing Brighter.

Even Natural Science Not Modern Monopoly.

Dominican Father Dietrich and His Rainbow Theory.

In the stock vocabulary of our "modern scholars" there is no phrase used with more ease and assurance than "the darkness of the middle ages". If an orator or an editor or an historian wishes to express the very essence of human ignorance and degradation the bugaboo of the Pre-Reformation era is ushered forth into the speech or printed page. The tradition of the Protestant revolt has done its work well, and the expression is, as a rule, made and received as a matter no longer even requiring confirmation. Progress and invention and valuable discovery is thought to be a peculiar product of the historical period in which we live.

Investigation would, of course, have shown the fallacy of such an indictment against the medieval era, as it has done to not a few men in the past. And today, painfully and slowly, investigation is being made into the real conditions of the middle ages. The chaos and uncertainty within our modern society and the utter failure of Protestantism to meet the social or individual needs of men has turned the attention of many thinkers to that period which preceded our present age. Discovery, as a consequence, is being made that the pursuit of knowledge in many unbelievable forms flourished in that much abused time.

Even to natural science, of which our present generation so proudly and with some justice, claims as its own, the medieval scholars furnished contributions. A very striking example of this fact has been brought to the attention of the learned world of late in the recent translation from the Latin into German, by the distinguished Professor Wuerenschmidt of the University of Erlangen, of the work of the Dominican Father Dietrich on "The Theory of the Rainbow". This volume was compiled between the years 1340 and 1310, in the very heart of the middle ages, and has won, particularly since its translation, the praise and commendation of many learned men.

Professor Hellmann, for example, the renowned meteorologist of Hamburg, Germany, declares that "it is the greatest achievement of its kind in the West during the middle ages." It is also, he says, a valuable contribution to the science with which it deals. And of its author the well-known Max Jacobi says: "Master Dietrich was the first one to discover that the rainbow originates through the double breaking and one reflex of the rays of the sun in the raindrop. We have to thank him for the first correct description of the path of the ray as it enters and leaves the little sphere."

Each particular period of history, it must be remembered, aside from the corrector destructive ethical views which may exist, has a peculiar department of human endeavor in which it excels. This is the secret of true human progress. There can be no doubt that today natural science is a better understood than at any other time. In many other subjects, however, we must admit that we are deficient. And when we find, as in this case, that even upon our favorite study we have not obtained a monopoly, we should be slow to set up our era and ourselves as the acme of learning and enlightenment. The Middle Ages, product of true Christian thought, have many wondrous things to teach us. Profitable for all of us would be the more intense study of the Ages of Faith and an Undivided Christianity.

C. B. of C. V.

The pleasure of dying without pain makes up for the pain of living without pleasure.—Trappist motto.

A Non-Catholic Gives \$5,000 to Long Island Church.

That Mrs. Willard D. Straight had given \$5,000 toward the building fund of St. Brigid's Church, Westbury, L. I., was announced by the Rev. William F. McGinnis, the rector. Mrs. Straight, who is not a Catholic, made a large contribution to the church several years ago when Dr. McGinnis started building the parish hall. Mrs. Straight was Miss Dorothy Whitney, daughter of William C. Whitney.

The corner stone of the new church was laid on Sunday, October 2, by the Rt. Rev. Maurice P. Foley, Bishop of Tuguegarao, Philippine Islands, who is visiting in this country, and who was a classmate of the Rev. Dr. McGinnis, in the North American College in Rome years ago.

Iowa Supreme Court

Says Religious Garb and Emblems Are Legal in Schools.

The Iowa Supreme Court, in an opinion handed down the other day reversing the Carroll County District Court in the case of Sheldon Knowlton against the directors of Maple River school district, appellant, declared that the Iowa laws will permit the following in the public schools:

Teachers may wear the garb of Sister of Charity.

Teachers may read Catholic or any other version of the Bible.

The Lord's Prayer may be recited.

Walls or rooms may be adorned with biblical pictures.

In the Knowlton case, the fight developed in a rural district over the use of public school funds to hire a teacher and to use a room in a Catholic school, for public school sessions. The old school house was in bad repair. The school directors thought it cheaper to take a room in the parochial school building than to build a new school.

For a time the scholars were required to repeat the catechism in school. This was reported to the county superintendent and the practice was discontinued. The evidence shows.

Protestants in the district brought action against the directors and secured an injunction prohibiting the use of public funds to support the school held in the parochial school building. The high court dissolves the injunction.

Protestants Honor Saint.

The feast of St. Francis Assisi, Oct. 4, was observed at the New York Protestant Episcopal cathedral by a special service in his honor at 12:10 o'clock. The address was made by the Rev. Charles Morris Addison of Stamford, Conn. In his weekly message the Dean says: "Let all lovers of dear St. Francis take notice. He is the most beloved of all the saints. It will give new vitality to our Christianity to remember him."

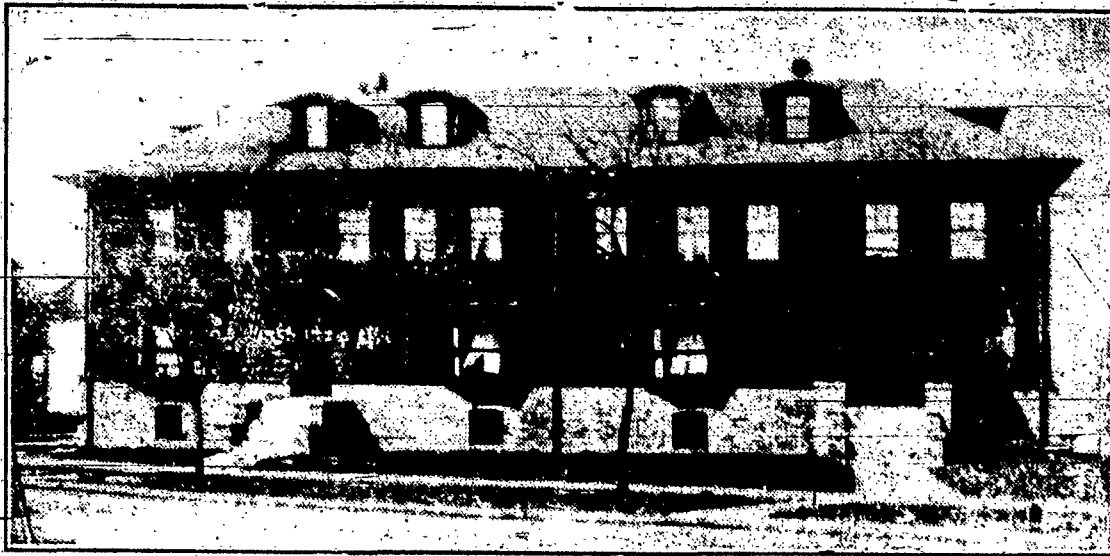
Special letter calling attention to this service and asking to have it made widely known, had been sent to all the clergy.

PALLIUM FOR ARCHBISHOP.

Dr. Hanna Now Invested With All Powers Of His Office.

San Francisco, Oct. 18.—Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, of the Catholic Diocese of San Francisco, has been invested with all the powers of the high office to which he recently was elevated. At services at St. Mary's Cathedral on last Sunday, the pallium was conferred on him, marking the final step of his installation.

Contrary to custom, the pallium was not delivered by an apostolic delegation selected in Rome. Because of the war the Pope commanded a priest returning to America to bear the vestment to Archbishop Hanna.



St. Elizabeth's Guild House.

New Home for Girls

The public reception and inspection of St. Elizabeth's Guild House was held on Thursday afternoon and evening. The home is the latest evidence of Catholic activity for the social betterment of the girls and women of Rochester. What a year ago was but a hope has now been realized in the pretentious building, with its up-to-date appointments.

Papers of incorporation have been filed in Albany by Thomas P. McCarrick. The institution will be known as St. Elizabeth's Guild House, Inc. In the certificate of incorporation, it is stated that the guild house is being established "to acquire, to equip, to furnish and to provide a temporary home for girls out of employment or any who may desire the accommodations of such a home; and to promote the social, mental and moral improvement of girls and women."

The following are named as incorporators: Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D.D.; Rt. Rev. D. J. Curran, V. G.; Rev. Dietrich Laurens, M. R.; Rev. Jacob F. Staub, Rev. J. Francis O'Hern, Peter A. Vay, John Adam Kragg, John Connors, Michael A. Shea, Joseph A. Weiss, Mrs. Katherine L. Sheldon, Mrs. Mary A. Murray, Miss Cecilia M. Yawman, Mrs. Elizabeth Elbs and Mrs. Margaret Culkin. From these incorporators will be selected a board of directors and various committees. At their first meeting, which is to be held in the near future, they also will adopt a constitution and by-laws.

The reception began at 2 o'clock and extended throughout the afternoon and evening. Donations of cash and furnishings for bedrooms of which there are thirty were received. Light refreshments were served and an exhibit of clothing, held under the auspices of material transfer department of the Charity Guild. Two bedrooms were furnished as models for prospective donors.

"God's Country" To The Rescue.

Unknown to us the alms we send a missionary is often the answer to fervent prayer uttered in some little tumble-down chapel before a pitifully poor altar. The missionary refuses to give way to despair; he prays and prays, and then behold! his faith is rewarded and generous America, "God's country," comes to his rescue.

"This was the experience of Father Chavanol, P. F. M., of Tindivanam, S. Arcot, India.

"All during the month of June," he writes, "I prayed to the Sacred Heart, before the Blessed Sacrament, to have pity on me and my poor neophytes; and in spite of my unworthiness my prayers were heard. At the end of the month an offering came from America. What joy for me! What encouragement! I was able to go on with my work, and now I can report twenty-nine first communions. It is impossible to describe the difference in these children before and after receiving Our Lord. Even their physical health seems improved. I suppose interior grace transfigures them outwardly."

Catholic Young Men's Distress In The Chinese Association Celebrates.

At a banquet of the Catholic Young Men's Association, held Wednesday night in the gymnasium of the clubhouse, in Ormond street, was celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization. About 300 men gathered in the hall, which was decorated with bunting and hanging lights of the fraternal colors, yellow, green and purple, and the insignia of the club in electric lights. To each guest was presented a miniature American flag and a souvenir illustrated booklet containing the history of the association. Lamont's stringed orchestra furnished music. A number of parodies composed for the occasion enlivened the evening.

Joseph L. Ernst is president of the organization. William J. Mayer was toastmaster. Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey was the guest of honor, and the other speakers were: Rev. Francis T. Parr, C.S.S.R.; James M. E. O'Grady and Rev. Joseph A. Schnorr, C.S.S.R., spiritual director. Congratulatory letters from men in many parts of the country were read.

"I hope that I may say that the golden era of this organization has broken, said Father Parr. "I also hope that, whatever its progress, its ideals will always be consonant with strength and stateliness."

Mr. O'Grady gave a retrospect of the twenty-five years that were being commemorated, considering the marvelous progress the world had in that time.

Bishop Hickey in his address said that his thoughts were even further back than the establishment of St. Joseph's parish itself.

"I am looking forward also to the time when you men will participate in the celebration of the centenary of Catholicity in Rochester," he said. "I regard your organization as composed of as many units of power as the number of its members. The Catholic Church yields not one iota in her dogma, but there is no organization in the world which embraces a broader charity. Nevertheless, error is being spread broadcast by the enemies of the church, and I hope that you men will make it a part of your work to be students of truth for the benefit of your church and humanity."

Father Schnorr spoke of the influence which the C. Y. M. A. tries to exert upon its members. It is not alone a religious influence he said, but one that would develop young men into good Catholic gentlemen.

Weekly Church Calendar

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost.

Gospel, St. Matt. xxii., 15-21.

S. 24 St. Raphael, Archangel.

M. 25. SS. Chrysanthus & Darius, MM.

T. 26. St. Evaristus, P. M.

W. 27. St. Frumentius, B. C.

Th. 28. SS. Simon and Jude, Ap.

F. 29. St. Narcissus, B.

S. 30. St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, C.

News From Ireland

Armagh.
Miss Eileen Chubb, Ballycraig, Portrush, swam from the Giant's Causeway to Portrush in five minutes less than four hours, finishing quite fresh and being given a great ovation.

Armagh.
George A. Armstrong, inspector for Portadown under the National Insurance Act, has been transferred to Killarney.

Died.—September 14, Mary, widow of the late John McParland, Cavanakill, Whitescross, County Armagh, and mother of Rev. Thomas McParland, Devil's Lake, Dakota, and aunt of Dr. Toner, C. C., Meigh, and Rev. Arthur Toner, C. C., Arboe, Carlow.

Died.—At Ballon, County Carlow, John Swayne, Cavan.

Patrick Smith, Ardlow, won first prize under cottage and garden prize competition of Cavan County Rural District Council.

Charles Johnston has been transferred from the Provincial bank, Carrick-on-Suir, to the Ennis branch. During his time in Carrick-on-Suir Mr. Johnston was very popular.

Died.
Dr. J. Higgins has been unanimously elected house surgeon to the North infirmary, Cork.

William O'Connell, U. C., one of the oldest and most respected residents of Fermoy, has died.

Died.
A serious accident occurred to a young boy named Doherty, of Glasgow Terrace. It appears that Doherty went out to Springtown to gather chestnuts and fell off a tree, sustaining a severe fracture of the skull.

The members of St. Mary's Catholic Needlework Guild, Bann, have passed a resolution expressing regret at the loss they have sustained through the transfer to Dunnyloop of Rev. F. Fox, C. C. It was to his thoughtfulness for the poor that the Guild owed its inception.

Died.
John Doyle, of Ballyduff, took his seat as a member of the Board in the room of the late Peter O'Hare, of Mayobridge, Fermagh.

Rev. Thomas McCusker, who was born at Ballyreagh, County Fermanagh 32 years ago, died at West Wyalong in the diocese of Goulburn. He had been educated for the priesthood at Carlow, and ordained about five years ago at Thurles.

The profession has taken place at the Abbey church, Louisa, of F. Brennan (in religion Brother Peter Thomas), son of James Brennan, Galway; M. Kilduff (Brother Coleman), son of M. Kilduff, Gort; and M. Lanton (Brother Benedict), son of the late J. Lanton, Kinnetty, Birr; and T. Dolan, Athlone, was received at the same time.

Kildare.
James Doyle, Castledermot, sold to Mr. Fitzgerald of Waterford, fourteen unfinished beef cattle at £23 each. This, even at the present exceptional time, seems to be a record for the district.

Died.—At private hospital, Dublin, Catherine, relict of the late Jas. Jones, Waterstown and Clane, Mayo.

Lawrence Kearney, of the Christian schools, Tullamore, was a successful prize winner at the recent intermediate examinations held in Dublin.

Longford.
We regret to record the death of Mrs. Bridget McCormack, wife of John McCormack, Deragh, Abbeyleira. The deceased lady belonged to a highly respected family, being the mother of Rev. Edward McCormack, professor, St. Mel's College, Longford.

Tipperary.
At last meeting of the Clonmel Guardians a letter resigning his membership was received from J. Mulcahy, Lyons.