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"Because." Commenting upon the splendid services rendered to the Church and all Catholic works by the late Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson...

The Legislature. While the Legislature of 1916 may not have been as showy as some others that have convened in Albany, nevertheless it has accomplished much of good and of a harmful nature.

Critical Time. Surely, these are critical days in our country's history. Before this issue of the Catholic Journal reaches our readers, diplomatic relations may have been broken between the United States and Germany...

operate, whenever occasion demanded in equipping our National Guard and placing it at the disposal of the President.

In doing this, we need not cease our prayers that the cruel shades of War may never hover over our own Republic and that we may continue in peace with honor.

An Object Lesson

In the course of the next few weeks, the "Guardians" will be created to a fine object lesson. There is in Rochester an official who, while he protests at the Four Corners his innocence of connection with the sub-cellar bigots, nevertheless in his home precinct has always consorted with these rare birds and never has failed to secure their endorsement whenever he ran for election.

Not so long ago, the powers that be, having come to full realization of his political duplicity, decided to cut his wings. He was transferred to another appointive job in the state service. His admirers made much of "the promotion" as they termed it and the official in question was the recipient of many congratulations.

When the appropriation bill of 1916 is scanned carefully, it is quite likely it will be discovered that the state position to which this gentleman was appointed is one of those listed as "useless sinecures" by Governor Whitman's budget makers and hence abolished on and after July 1st, 1916.

May all biters be as badly bitten!

The First.

In several Catholic papers, during the March just passed, was noticed this item: Old St. Patrick's in New York was the first church in America to receive the name of the Irish Saint. Its cornerstone was laid in 1809, on June 8, and the completion of the building was delayed by the war of 1812. The centennial of the laying of the cornerstone was celebrated about seven years ago. The church was dedicated on May 4, 1815.

According to Dr. John Gilmary Shea, recognized as a standard authority on Catholic historical matters in America, this is not correct and the distinction belongs to Baltimore. Dr. Shea relates on page 602, Vol. II. of his "History of the Catholic Church in the United States": On the 10th of July (1807) Bishop Carroll laid the cornerstone of the new church of St. Patrick at Fell's Point... to replace the frail structure already in that district which was found

incapable of being enlarged to meet the wants of the people.

The Rev. John Francis Moranville was the pastor, and when the building was completed, Bishop Carroll, attended by a numerous body of his clergy, entered on the 29th of November, 1807, to dedicate it to the service of Almighty God." (p. 603) The previous history of the parish is interesting as giving further priority over the New York dates cited above.

Let the war stop! Supply of all kinds of paper is running short!

That state police bill did not pass. It ought not to in the shape of a "rural police force" is needed let that fact be stated specifically in the bill. After all, though, why should the state at large be taxed to provide police force for the rural districts? We in Rochester pay for our own police protection, the rural communities do not contribute one dollar.

Now let the so-called "Bible reading bill" rest in peace for all time.

The Catholic Journal extends hearty congratulations to Mother Mary Gertrude Downey, of the Sisters of Mercy, on the completion of fifty years of religious life. This is a remarkable record.

Easter over, the thoughts turn to June brides and commencement exercises.

Whether or not Villa is dead may yet go into history along with "Who struck Billy Patterson?"

Some of our contemporaries complain that Catholics do not patronize lectures. It is possible that the quality of the lectures in the past may explain the lack of attendance.

Easter, 1916, was not the nicest day to those who had new millinery to display but it suited those who had to rely upon their last winter's bonnets.

Catholic dramatic clubs seem to be very much in evidence these days.

Wonder if a new Postmaster General would work a change of sentiment regarding the Menace and kindred publications in the Post Office Department.

Senator Greiner was not able to convince the Legislature that his Bible reading bill was a proper subject for legislation this year. And Greiner may not be Senator next year. They say he wants to be Governor. William Sulzer may nominate him as a headliner for his American party. "Birds of a feather", etc. you know. And yet, perhaps, that would be unusual and cruel punishment because Greiner, although misguided in judgment, appears sincere.

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