

The Value of Religious Education.

The Great Explorer Stanley Testifies To This.

The Correct Estimate of the Parochial Schools.

A few weeks from now is school-closing time. The parochial schools of the country, along with the other educational institutions, will complete their courses for the present year. The great benefit of these places of religious as well as secular education is not recognized as it should be. Much is said in praise of the public school systems of our commonwealths. Their modern buildings, their social activities, ever widening as they are, their curricula, are lauded to the skies. Government bureaus not alone commend them but use them, without any justification, as the exclusive agencies for their educational work. The importance of religious training for the welfare of the community is unfortunately neglected or ignored. A man who has lived through all the experiences of a thrilling and adventurous life has written something on this subject which it would be well for the champions of our "modern educational ideas" to take to heart. It shows vividly and strongly the beneficial influence of religious training. Sir Henry Morton Stanley, the great explorer of the Dark Continent, who headed the expedition in search of Livingstone, in more than one place in his "Autobiography," testifies to this fact. In the very first chapter in writing of his early life in the work-house of St. Asaph, he tells us of this.

"There are two things," he writes, "for which I feel grateful to this strange institution of St. Asaph. My fellow-man had denied to me the charm of affection, and the bliss of a home, but through his charity I had learned to know God by faith, as the Father of the fatherless, and I had been taught to read." "It would be impossible to reveal myself, according to the general promise involved in the title of this book, if I were to be silent regarding my religious convictions. Were I to remain silent, the true key to the actions of my life would be missing, or, rather, let me try to put the matter more clearly: the secret influence which inspired what good I may have done in life, for the same reason prevented me from doing evil, curbed passion, guided me when the fires of youth, licentious company, irreligious mates, and a multitude of strange circumstances must have driven me into a confirmed state of wickedness."

"I was therefore grateful," he continues, "after all, for the implanting of religious principles in me by the Biblical education given me in the Union. The fear of doing wrong intentionally, the feeling of reverence, the impulse of charity, the possession of a conscience, are all due to this. Without this teaching I should have been little surperior to the African savage. It has been the driving power for good, the restorer of evil. It has given me an acute and perceptive monitor, able by its own delicacy to perceive evil, no matter how deceptive its guise. It has formed a magnet by which to steer more straightly than I could otherwise have done." (The Autobiography of Sir Henry Morton Stanley, G. C. B. Edited by his Wife. Boston and New York, 1909, p. 27.)

"That same inward monitor," he says a little later on, "has restrained me from uttering idle words, from deceiving my fellow-creatures with false promises, and from hastily condemning them without sufficient evidence, from listening to slanders, and from joining with them, from yielding to vindictiveness; it has softened a nature that without its silent and gentle admonitions would, I am sure, be much worse than it is."

In various other places in this interesting volume does he express similar convictions. The Archbishop Ruiz succeeded in escaping the revolutionists by hiding, clad as a ranchman, in a peon's hut.

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The importance of the parochial schools, which in this country give this needed religious foundation for character, of which he speaks, must be ever insisted upon. Catholics must strive to bring their merits to the attention of their fellow citizens. America can profit greatly by learning the lesson of the urgent need for religion in the training of its future men and women.

C. B. of C. V.

IRISH PRESS AND NEWS SERVICE

Dublin, Ireland, May 23, 1916.

This is the 25th day of Martial Law in Ireland. Arrests continue, houses are searched for arms, suspects are seized and, without a hearing, are torn from their families and deported to English prison camps.

The military government has posted the following orders throughout the provinces of Munster, Leinster and in five of the nine Ulster Counties.

"The General officer commands that no person shall leave Ireland except at North Wall, Kingstown, Belfast and Greenore and at these ports only with the consent of the officers in command."

Arrangements are being made to intern in camps in England all Sinn Feiners captured or surrendered who are not dealt with here. A statement has declared that Germany has sent all assistance she is going to send and this is now at the bottom of the sea."

(Signed)

Inspector General, R. I. C. Dublin Castle.

Use of Automobiles and Motorcycles

"No permit will be granted to use motors except on urgent business and then for one particular journey only. Medical practitioners only may be granted general permits if they prove their bona-fides."

"Everyone shall remain indoors at night between the hours of 7:30 P. M. and 5:30 A. M."

June: Month of Sacred Heart.

Thursday, June 1, Ascension Day; Monday, 5, St. Boniface; Wednesday, 7, St. Robert; Saturday, June 10, St. Margaret of Scotland (Vigil of Pentecost, fast); Sunday, 11, Pentecost; Wednesday, 14, St. Basil; Sunday, 18, Trinity Sunday; Wednesday, 21, St. Aloysius; Thursday 22, Corpus Christi; Saturday, 24, Nativity of St. John the Baptist; Thursday, 29, SS. Peter and Paul; Friday, 30, Feast of the Sacred Heart.

June 14, 16 and 17, are Ember days.

Weekly Church Calendar

Sunday in Octave of the Ascension.

Gospel, St. John xv., 26-27.

S. 4. St. Francis Caracciolo, C.

M. 5. St. Boniface, B. M.

T. 6. St. Norbert, B. C.

W. 7. St. Robert, Ab.

Th. 8. St. William, A. B.

F. 9. SS. Primus and Felician, MM.

S. 10. St. Margaret, Q. W.

Rome advice says, the S. Congregation of the Holy Office has issued an important declaration appertaining to the procedure to be adopted at the reception of converts.

The faithful Catholic people of Mexico have contributed great sums to ransom their faithful priests from prison and death. The Archbishop Ruiz succeeded in escaping the revolutionists by hiding, clad as a ranchman, in a peon's hut.

Foreign Mission News

The Pope as Peace Mediator.

Is Japan Going to Follow The Example of China?

J. F. Wolff, in a talk on "Modern Japan," declared recently before the Bishop's Club of Duluth, Minn., that the Catholic Church can do more for Japan than any of the Christian sects, that she alone presents what the Japanese will accept, definite dogmatic teaching and profound mysticism. "Japan presents the greatest field for the Catholic Church in the world to-day," said Mr. Wolff.

Fr. Sauret, P. F. M., who labors in Kurume, seems to bear out the truth of these words. He founded a new post at Omuta not long ago, and since the fifteenth of August twenty-six grown persons are being prepared.

Among the neophytes is one of the most influential residents of Omuta. This man's wife had been educated by the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres, and his son is now placed in the Mariata school. He shows an intelligent interest in all matters connected with the mission, and the Christians think their numbers will be greatly increased by his influence. Is Japan going to follow the good example of China?

Poor Pariahs Can Not Read Nor Write a Single Word.

The Pariahs, poor though they are, form the hope of the Church in India. They respond readily to grace, and indeed the missionary is a heavenly dispensation for them, raising them from their low estate and giving them the benefits of religion and education. Here is the story of one settlement of Christian Pariahs, told by their pastor, Fr. A. Sovignet.

Wallacejettai is a village of Pariahs, founded about twenty years ago by one of my predecessors. The foundation came about in this way: A number of poor Pariahs were being treated so cruelly by their wealthy pagan employers that they appealed to the Catholic priest of Tenoor for help and protection.

"After much parleying, it was found that the only way of ridding these poor people of slavery was to settle them on some independent ground, where they could work for their own accounts and become small landowners. Unfortunately, here in India, fertile land that lies free is seldom to be found. However, at last a fairly good-sized piece of free land was found. The Father made an appeal to the district collector, Mr. Wallace, who very kindly granted the petition, and at once the new village was founded with the help of the priest, and as a mark of gratitude towards Mr. Wallace was called after his name—Wallace village, or Wallacejettai.

A small oratory was soon erected with mud walls and bamboo roofing. They have also asked me to establish a school in their midst and give them a teacher, and I am most anxious to do so, if it were only to enable them to read the prayers and catechism and some spiritual instructions. It is pitiful to think that there is not one of them who can read or write a single letter. They might, perhaps, have gone to some pagan or Protestant school, but that they would not do. May our Lord help me to come to their rescue!

Buy Wedding Gifts Now

In this Oemisch change-of-location sale. Solid silverware at attractive reductions, despite the increased cost due to the rise in silver prices. Diamond, platinum and gold jewelry, watches, clocks, at reductions from 10 per cent to 25 per cent. Come, see the sale values. Henry Oemisch Co., Triangle building.—Adv.

The Pope as Peace Mediator.

The report that Italy's adhesion to the so-called pact of London was conditional on formal promises on the part of the Allies that the Pope should not participate in any peace congress has never been denied.

It does not appear probable that Italy should have solicited assurances from her allies about the exclusion of the Pope from future negotiations for peace since the historical precedent for such exclusion already exists. In fact when in 1899 on the initiative of the Emperor Nicholas II. of Russia a peace conference was assembled and the Pope was invited to send his representative Italy's protest was backed by England and France, who threatened not to participate in the conference if the papal representative were admitted.

Benedict XV. has admitted that his efforts toward peace so far have been fruitless. The Pope's endeavors have been limited to lessening the horrors of war, such as the exchange of permanently disabled prisoners of war, the release of non-combatants and the hospitalization in Switzerland of sick prisoners.

Not only has no indication as to the Pope's intention to attend the peace congress been afforded, but the suspicion that he aims at raising the question of the independence of the Holy See and claiming its settlement when conditions of peace are discussed is to all intents and purposes utterly unfounded.

Unfortunately, however, both Germany and Austria, although unsolicited by the Pope, appear determined on insisting that not only should Benedict XV. be represented at any peace congress, but that the question of the law of guarantees of the Holy See should be satisfactorily settled when peace is concluded.

As a result of the attitude taken by the Central Empires the question as to whether the Pope should be admitted to the Italian polemists. According to Deputy T. Mosca, the law of guarantees, defining the sovereign rights of the Pope, is entirely adequate to insure the spiritual independence of the Holy See. Such guarantees, he asserts, require no strengthening by international agreement, as proved by the fact that despite the present worldwide war the Pope carries on uninterruptedly his intercourse with the whole Catholic world. The Pope, he says, should be excluded from any European congress that may be held as a preliminary to peace.

The Catholic Deputy E. Soderini instead urges that both on religious and political grounds the Pope's inclusion in any peace congress is essential. He scouts as baseless the suggestion that the Pope if represented would raise the question of the law of guarantees, and argues on the contrary that it could be raised much more easily in his absence by some nation inimical to Italy.

The belief that opinion in Italy is divided about the question of the Pope's participation in future negotiations for peace has naturally encouraged the Germans and Austrians, not only Catholics, but Protestants and Jews as well, to persevere in their campaign for the inclusion of the Pope in any peace congress.

This agitation has now been organized in Switzerland by the pro-German paper Neue Zuercher Nachrichten, which publishes an interesting program of what the Catholics should do to have the Pope represented at the peace congress.

Recently King Alfonso, of Spain, opened accounts in the new Spanish Postal Savings Bank for 100 orphans.

St. Patrick's Cathedral in Belfast, Ireland, possesses the reliquary known as "St. Patrick's Hand."

The mission of Wairiki, in the Fiji Archipelago celebrates this year its golden jubilee.

Twenty Five Years

Father Miller, of Webster, to Celebrate Silver Jubilee.

Webster, June 1.—Rev. Joseph A. Miller, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, will celebrate his silver jubilee as a priest, on Wednesday of next week. Eighteen years of the twenty-five have been spent in Webster, during which time he has endeared himself to his parishioners and won the esteem and respect of members of all denominations of the town.



Rev. Joseph A. Miller

As a citizen he has always taken the keenest interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of this community. The present fine edifice was erected, the school, convent and rectory remodeled and the parish largely increased during his eighteen years of active work, which has made it necessary to celebrate two masses on Sunday mornings. He has solemnized 138 marriages and baptized 513 infants and converts.

Father Miller was born in Rochester, July 11, 1867, attended St. Peter and Paul's parochial school, the Brothers of Mary of Dayton, Ohio, were his teachers, also the Cathedral school for two years, from which he was graduated in 1882. He then entered St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary, where he spent four years in classics, graduating in 1886. He was ordained at Trent, Austria, June 7, 1891.

To Move C. R. and B. A. Offices

Announcement has been made by Michael G. Langan, of Scranton, supreme president of the Catholic Relief and Beneficiary Association, that the main offices of that body will be moved on August 15th from Auburn to Syracuse and will be established in the Merchants National Bank building. The C. R. and B. A. was founded in Auburn twenty-five years ago and its headquarters have been in that city ever since.

"King Lear" At Nazareth

The grammar school pupils of Nazareth Hall have entered into the nation wide observance of the tercentenary of the Bard of Avon, William Shakespeare. Friday evening they presented "King Lear," written by the poet in 1606.

Wedding Gifts Reserved.

You can come here to the Oemisch change-of-location sale, make your selection of gifts for the coming weddings, and have them laid aside for you. Many attractive articles at substantial reductions from the regular prices. Discounts range from 10 per cent to 25 per cent—on some discontinued articles as great as 50 per cent. Diamond, platinum and gold jewelry, silverware, watches, clocks are included in this sale. Henry Oemisch Co., Triangle building.—Adv.

He who gets a name for early rising may sleep all day.

News From Ireland

The death from pneumonia has occurred at Barrow-in-Furness of "Bob" Windrim, late of Belmore street, Belfast. He was well-known in amateur Christy minstrel circles.

Writing of conditions in Carlow and surrounding counties, Rev. Thomas H. Burrage, C. C., says:

As the cost of foods has been nearly doubled, we are safe in holding that food sufficient to maintain in health a family of five cannot be had now at less than 16s. a week; and taking into consideration the cost rent, firing, clothing, etc., it is clear that any family whose total income is less than 16s. a week must be living in a state of semi-starvation.

The death of John Dowd, Drumeague, has been announced. Deceased, who was most popular, took an active part in politics, being in the "old days" a firm supporter of the Land League.

The death has occurred of T. Casey, harness maker, Great George's street, Cork.

Father Watters, president of the Catholic University school, Dublin, Ireland, died from gunshot wounds. He was shot while standing in the doorway of the school during the disturbances.

Mr. Stephen Murtagh, head of the firm of Messrs. Murtagh & Sons, 119 Mid. Abbey street, has died.

Died—At her residence, 17 Parrell place, Mara, wife of William Dowling.

The Lisnaskea Guardians have consented to the amalgamation of the unions in their district.

Alexander Morrow has been appointed postmaster of Killyleagh, County Down. Newry Guardians have appointed Dr. McLoughlin, Kilcoo, M. O., for Mountmorris dispensary, at £120 yearly.

White gloves were presented to Judge Johnston at Enniskillen Quarter Sessions.

Died—Alice, third daughter of the late Lawrence Lardner, Athenry, and sister of Michael J. Lardner, merchant, Athenry.

H. McCowan has been made a director on the Tralee and Fenit railway in room of the late St. John H. Donovan.

Two nuns of the Order of St. John of God, Kilkenny, have arrived at Urlingford to take up the duties of nursing Sisters in the workhouse, to which position they were appointed a couple of months ago. A committee of the Board of Guardians met them on their arrival and extended them a cordial welcome.

The Medical officer reported at Carrick Board of Guardians, that there were two fresh cases of typhoid fever admitted to the hospital during the week.

Died—At Mohr, Roskealy-on-Shannon, Mrs. Brigit Clyne.

The late Mrs. J. Curtin, Ballyhehy, Abbeyfeale, who was interred recently, had six daughters who are nuns.

Cardinal Logue has made a gift of £100, to be used for the purpose of repairs to the Castle town Female schools, Dundalk, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy.

J. J. Connolly, County surveyor's office, Monaghan, has qualified for an appointment as assistant county surveyor. At Hagerstown, Maryland, the ninety-year-old St. Mary's church is to give place to a new one costing approximately \$100,000.