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Roman Soldier Tells of the Resurrection

I was a Roman soldier in my prime; Now age is on me and the yoke of time. I saw your Risen Christ, for I am he Who reached the hysop to Him on the tree; And I am one of two who watched beside The speicher of Him we crucified. All that last night I watched with sleepless eyes; Great stars arose and crept across the skies. The world was all too still for mortal rest. For pitiless thoughts were busy in my breast. The night was long, so long, it seemed at last I had grown old and a long life had passed. Far off the hills of Moab, touched with light, Were swimming in the hollow of the night. I saw Jerusalem all wrapped in cloud, Stretched like a dead thing folded in a shroud.

Once in the pauses of our whispered talk I heard a something on the garden walk. Perhaps it was a crisp leaf lightly stirred— Perhaps the dream-note of a waking bird. When suddenly an angel burning white Came down with earthquakes in the breaking light, And rolled the great stone from the sepulcher. And mixed the morning with a scent of myrrh. And lo the Dead had risen with the day; The Man of Mystery had gone His way!

Years have I wandered, carrying my shame; Now let the Teeth of Time eat out my name. For we, who all the Wonder might have told, Kept silence, for our mouths were stopped with gold. —Edwin Markham.

New and Better Life

Is Promise of Easter
The Easter season bids us mark a change in the vegetable creation, approximating to a coming back from death to life. It warns us against being misled by our physical senses about what we call death.

Every springing plant and budding leaf tells of a beginning of a new life, which is actually a continuation of a previous life.

There is a message of hope to mortal men, sometimes sorrowing, in the spring resurrection, a declaration that man is after all finer and better than the grass which is now coming back from an apparent dissolution.

Easter clutches that hope, with the direct announcement of the fact that a Man has come back with a distinctly renewed, better, life from death, and now lives a life which is to be everlasting, and that what man has done men can and will do!

More than that, Easter announces. It tells of a newer, fresher, better life to be lived here, ever so much better than that we lived last year. It calls us to a new beginning, a better determination of what life ought to be to us.

Light of Easter

The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen! The gloom and terror of the sad days that preceded the darkened sun, the quaking earth and the rending of the veil of the Temple were over. After the three days of silence, the watching angel and the empty tomb proclaimed the wondrous truth, "He is risen!"

Thus, at each returning Easter morning His grateful followers rejoice and give thanks and praise that the Lord is risen! The Sun of Righteousness, the Light of the World, whose beams through the ages have lighted the pathway, sought by weary human hearts, seeking on earth, peace, comfort, courage, love and the joy of heaven.—Farrar and Fiske.

Easter Finery

Popular observances, superstitions and customs attend on the observance of Easter day. One of these is the donning of fresh and attractive attire, a custom originated in religious ceremonies and changing in form with the years until it now means merely a donning of holiday garments in honor of the happy day. The traditional Easter bonnet is no longer material for the annual joke since the line of demarcation between leaving off the winter hat and putting on the summer one is not regulated by Easter, as it used to be in grandeur's day, but is now entirely a matter of style and lady's purse.

Early Easter Celebrations

In the primitive days of the ancient church in the West, when forms and festivals meant a great deal, much was made of Easter. People on Easter morning greeted each other with the Easter kiss, and the exclamation "Suraxit" (He is risen). The reply was "Vere suraxit" (He is risen indeed). Alma was dispensed to the poor, slaves were given their freedom and the popular sports of the season of rejoicing went sometimes a little to extremes.

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Communism Is Spreading To Africa; Unrest

Durban, South Africa—(N. C. W. C. Files) — April 10 — Recent long outbreaks of South African negroes bore a distinctly anti-Christian note, according to an interview given by Rev. Dr. L. Sormany of the Cathedral Rectory, Durban. "It is difficult to estimate the influence of so-called Communism on the present day native unrest," said Dr. Sormany. "There is no doubt that certain individuals who evidently are in the pay of a central organization are provoking native unrest in various centers. One of the latest signs is a strike among harbor native employees at East London. The leader has been put in prison under the charge of inciting to violence. The agitation finds its responsive element in the locations of Native residential areas just outside of the town. These natives are demoralized, emulating the outward show of European civilization, and are swayed by the oratorical powers of many of their own countrymen.

"The Catholic Church necessarily has been drawn into the difficulties of native unrest. Some Catholic Natives have joined the Industrial and Commercial Union. This association covers an exceedingly large number of activities, but is evidently engineered in an anti-Christian spirit. Of course, the Catholic authorities have condemned the I. C. U. and no native may join or remain a member of that association and go to the sacraments. In order to counteract in a small way the effects of that organization, the authorities have established the Catholic African Union which held a most successful meeting at Mariann hill in January."

The Grumpets of Easter Morning



English Easter Custom

An ancient custom, connected originally with ceremonial religion, is the kiss of peace given at Easter, Hungerford, in Wiltshire, England, being one of the few places where it still lingers. On Easter Monday two beadies march through the town taking a kiss from every woman. In the case of men, this Easter offering or tax, is commuted for a payment of one penny. When the beadies have been around the parish any man is permitted to embrace any girl he meets.

Easter Greetings

on this occasion are extended by Mechanics Institute, itself an institution that is endeavoring to contribute to the future welfare of the community by offering educational opportunities to young men and women in many fields of art and science.

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