

HOW A PROTESTANT EDITOR HANDLES A FOOLISH BIGOT.

We have never met, and do not know, the editor of the *Salt Lake Tribune*—but we do know he is a menace to the bigots who are foolish enough to come within reach of his burning pen (says the *Catholic Bulletin*). Under the caption, "Sherman's Tirade," the brilliant Protestant writer said:—

"No American, no matter what his creed or convictions may be, can read the speech of Senator Sherman against the League of Nations, in which he attacks the Catholic Church in her head and members and gives a false statement of her teaching and spirit, without mingled feelings of anger, shame, and pity. The question naturally arises, Is the man a fool, a fakir, or a fanatic, or a dangerous demagogue, with the meanest qualities of all three? Is he simply ignorant and to be pitied, or malicious and to be punished?"

"Whatever may be the explanation, is there place to-day in the United States Senate for such a man? At a time when all the constructive forces of the country should be marshalled for unity and co-operation, such an appeal to blind bigotry is not simply a misfortune, but a crime. He admits that he took counsel and deliberated before committing the folly, and, consequently, is not entitled to the consideration given to one who speaks in anger or under strong provocation. If this is his mature judgment, what is his character? Is he trying to dig up and explode the dynamite of bigotry, which the war and the work of the Catholic Church have buried?"

"The Senator's statements and inferences are not only false, but offensive and dangerous. In the face of facts known to all the world, as well as of the glorious record of Catholics, from Foch down to the private in the ranks—where the Catholic Church gave more than her share of brawn and blood—for a United States Senator to rise in his place in the Senate and maliciously falsify the Church's teachings, impugn the motives of the Holy Father, question the loyalty and patriotism of Catholics, is an insult which every American must resent. The press of the country should denounce the outrage; the State of Illinois should relegate this man to the limbo of dead politicians; his fellow-Senators must resent the disgrace, for Senator Sherman has shown himself to be lacking in the essential qualities of a Senator, of an American and of a gentleman."

Coming from a secular journal, such a defence of the Catholic Church is remarkable; as indicative of the feelings of the great secular press leaders throughout the country it is still more important, pertinent, and commendable. In the face of all this we may well ask with the *Tribune*: "Is there place to-day in the United States Senate for such a bigot as Sherman of Illinois? Should not that State relegate him to the limbo of dead politicians?"

COLONEL ROOSEVELT AND THE JESUITS.

The newspaper *Estrella de Panama* recently published the following reminiscence of the late Colonel Roosevelt:—Catholic Church is remarkable; as indicative of the feelings to Goethals, who was leaving Washington to take charge as engineer-in-chief of the works of the Panama Canal, were the following:—"Colonel, there, at the junction of two continents, there is a hydra (water serpent) with seven heads which is awaiting a new Hercules, and you have to perform greater works than that god of mythology; but precisely at the capital, Panama, there are a great university and a convent which belong to the Jesuits, "those most perfect organisers next to God," as Napoleon said. Now, when you happen to be most disheartened on account of the disorganisation and the rivalries among your subordinates, go and call on one of those two institutions and imitate their system."

Happy, indeed, are they whose intercourse with the world has not changed the tone of their holier feelings or broken those musical chords of the heart the vibrations of which are so melodious, so tender, and so touching in the evening of their lives.

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CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Christmas Day celebrations were ushered in this year as usual with Midnight Masses at all the Catholic churches in Manila (says the *Manila Times* of December 26). At the Malate Church the Midnight Mass was largely attended. The beautiful crib above the high altar, with almost life-size figures, procured a few years ago by Father Brown, was again a feature of the Christmas celebrations. Father O'Donnell, C.S.S.R., sang the Mass at eight o'clock. Father P. M. Lynch, C.S.S.R., sang the Midnight Mass, and after a few short remarks in Spanish preached an English sermon. He said among other things:—

"A Happy Christmas! Throughout the world, on this festal day, every home resounds with the joyous greeting, 'Happy Christmas!' Everywhere the absent are fondly remembered and seem to be present in affectionate thought. Angels are busy in two hemispheres bearing to and fro the heart messages from friends across the seas. Naturally, on this Christmas morn, our thoughts run back along the centuries until they rest in Bethlehem, on the first happy Christmas day. It was a happy Christmas for the bright angels, who left the throne of God to sing the "Gloria in Excelsis," on the Judean hills, and give the message of God's Peace to all men of sincere good will. It was a happy Christmas for the shepherd-watchers of Beth-Saur who received the glad tidings of man's redemption and adored the Divine Infant on the very night of His Nativity. It was a happy Christmas for the little maid, who, as tradition tells us, came with Mary from Nazareth, and ministered to the Virgin Mother in the rock-cave of Bethlehem. It was a happy Christmas for foster-father Joseph, who took the Holy Babe into his arms and gave the Child-Saviour a resting place near his heart. It was a happy Christmas for Mary when, on adoring knees, she gave her God the kiss of welcome into the world, and with mother's love tendered the first earthly homage to the World's Redeemer. It was a happy Christmas for the Infant-King, full of desire to suffer and to die for man, to see His great desire accomplished in His crib and on a bed of straw He began His work of love and mercy and reconciliation. From His manger-throne He blessed the first worshipper of Bethlehem. He blessed with far-reaching blessing the first worshipper in every land, on each succeeding Christmas, he blessed with Divine Blessing, the first worshippers here in Manila and in these favored isles of the Orient. Treasure in your heart this blessing of the Infant Saviour. The blessing of the Infant Jesus be upon you! The blessing of the Infant Jesus be with you in your homes this day. The blessing of the Infant Saviour rest upon your dear ones in the homeland. The choicest blessings of the Infant Jesus, blessings of the Sacred Heart abide with you and keep you ever in His Grace and Love. It will be a happy Christmas if, in the desire to be Christ-like, we resolve to make truth and justice and charity dominant features of our thoughts and activities.

It was God's love for man that saw what it signified accomplished. Love given demands love in return; and no one that knows its meaning can utter that name without the quickening of the heart-pulses, without the straining of the soul to God.

An intolerable heartache that would otherwise wreck reason is softened into Christian resignation by the reflection that God surely gave His most precious gift to her whom He called Mother, and that gift was a diadem of thorns.

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