

*Mir ist, als ob ich die Hände  
Aufs Haupt dir lehnen sollt',  
Betend, dass Gott dich erhalte  
So rein und schön und hold.*

What could be simpler and more direct, and what more difficult to translate! A child in her innocent grace reminds him of a flower—*Du bist wie eine Blume*: dear, pure and beautiful as a flower—*So hold und schön und rein*. Yet when he looks at her a wave of sadness comes upon him—*Ich schau' dich*, etc. He feels impelled to lay his hands on her brow and to pray that God may ever keep her as pure and as lovely and as dear as she is now in her childish grace and innocence. There it is in prose. Who will put it into verse that can compare with Heine's?

#### French

For an example from the French we turn to an old song of Ronsard's, as matchless and as simple in its flawless beauty as an unset pearl. Don't forget the note "c's" when reading:—

*Mignonne, allons voir si la Rose  
Qui ce matin avoit desclose  
Sa robe de pourpre au soleil  
A point perdu cette respice  
Les plis de sa robe pourpree  
Et son teint au vostre pareil.*

*Las! Voyez, comme en peu d'espace,  
Mignonne, elle a dessus la place,  
Las! Las! ses beautés; laisse choir!  
O raynement marastre nature,  
Puisqu' une telle fleur ne dure  
Que du matin jusques au soir!*

*Donc, si vous me voyez, Mignonne,  
Tandis que vostre air fleuronne  
En sa plus verte nouveauté,  
Cueillez, Cueillez, vostre jeunesse:  
Comme a vostre fleur, la jeunesse  
Fera ternir vostre beauté.*

#### Some Clerical Yarns

From Father Baethin's Bag of Jokes we select a few good stories which our readers can take with as much salt as they desire. We read that once upon a time Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia reproved an old priest for wearing a hat that had seen better days, and many of them. The old *sagart* said:

"Your Grace, I would not give up that old hat for twenty new ones. It belonged to my father, who fell in the Rising of '48."

"That would have been all right," replied his Grace, "if he had only not fallen on the hat."

After the marriage of a Presbyterian minister an anxious reporter was informed that the happy couple would take up their residence "at the old Manse." When he had done with the item it read in the next morning's paper as follows:

"After the honeymoon the happy couple intend to live at the old man's!"

#### On Sinners

Two old friends were walking on a patch of ice when one of them slipped and fell. "Ah," said the erect one, "sinners stand on slippery places." "So, I see," said the prone one, "I could not manage to do it."

An Irish priest found himself among a number of Americans who were boasting of the respective States which they had honored by their births. One asked the Irishman in which State he was born. "In the state of original sin, I think," he replied.

It is told of a certain bishop that once while travelling he was pestered by a lady for his autograph. He good-naturedly wrote his name in the album of torture. But that was not enough. "Please, won't

you sign all your titles?" she said. Whereupon the bishop took the book and added the words "Miserable Sinner," to the lady's great disgust.

#### Scottish Philosophy

Of Scottish stories the number is legion, but as a rule they have a true Attic flavor, and even when *ben trovati* are credible enough. The following is new to us, though it may not be to our readers:

Sandy deemed it his duty to administer sound advice to a youth placed under his care. "Keep your temper always, Donal," he said. "Never quarrel wi' an angry mon, and never quarrel wi' a woman be she angry or no. And mind ye, lad, a saft answer turneth aways wrath. It's always best. It's commanded, ye knae,—and forby it makes them madder than anything else you could think to say to them."

We desire our readers to observe carefully that we have not mentioned bagpipes this time. Of course we are now convinced that it was on the pipes Orpheus played when according to Shakespeare he drew trees and floods and stones after him. Shakespeare does not mention eggs.

#### An Up-to-Date Pastor

Most priests need not be reminded that the contents of the collection boxes need careful watching in this fair Dominion of ours. The poor-box thief is by no means unknown in New Zealand, which tolerates several mean specimens of humanity of which it had as little reason to be proud as the P.P.A. has of its official calumniator of dead women. The following notice is posted over the alms box in the Church of the English Martyrs, Urmston, Lancashire, England: "To the burglar—No money in box. Cleared this morning. Please don't break the padlock. Put a penny in for new church. Kneel down and say an Our Father and Hail Mary. Yours truly, the Rector. P.S.—Don't take this card."

#### EDITORIAL NOTE

The correct figures relating to Dunedin and suburbs' and St. Bathans' contribution to the Irish Fund, referred to in "Current Topics," are—Dunedin and suburbs, £382 13s; St. Bathans, £23 3s. Total for Dunedin diocese, £1610 16s.

#### DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

Rev. Father Moore, of Eltham, spent a few days in Dunedin last week, and later visited Queenstown and the Cold Lakes District.

At St. Joseph's Cathedral on last Thursday, Solemn Requiem Mass was offered for the repose of the soul of Rev. Father John Coffey, of Dublin (brother of Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., Rev. Mother M. Margaret, and Sister M. Austin, O.S.D.), whose death occurred on August 19. Rev. Father O'Reilly (Port Chalmers) was celebrant, Rev. Father Foley (Oamaru) deacon, Rev. Father Delany (South Dunedin) subdeacon, and Rev. Father Ardagh master of ceremonies. The Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., and the following clergy were present in the sanctuary:—Fathers McMullan (Raunfurly), John Lynch (Lawrence), Howard (Milton), D. O'Neill (Roxburgh), Kavanagh (Palmerston), Morkane (Mosgiel), Graham and Rooney (South Dunedin), Moore (Eltham), Rev. Dr. Kelly, and the local priests. The incidental music was most impressively rendered by the Dominican Nuns' choir. The numerous congregation bore evidence to the sympathy felt towards Father Coffey and his sisters in their bereavement.—R.I.P.

Only two of the Christian Brothers' teams (third and fourth grades) were engaged in last Saturday's Association football matches. In the third grade

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