

The Family Circle

ROSES.

I went to gather roses and twine them a ring,
For I would make a posy, a posy for the King.
I got a hundred roses, the loveliest there be,
From the white rose vine and the pink rose bush and
from the red rose tree.

But when I took my posy and laid it at His feet
I found He had His roses a million times more sweet;
There was a scarlet blossom upon each foot and hand,
And a great pink rose bloomed from His side for the
healing of the land.

Now of this fair and awful King there is this marvel
told,
That he wears a crown of linked thorns instead of one
of gold.
Where there are thorns are roses, and I saw a line of
red,
A little wreath of roses around His radiant head.

A red rose is His Sacred Heart, a white rose is His face,
And His breath has turned the barren world to a rich
and flowery place.

He is the Rose of Sharon, His gardener am I,
And I shall drink His fragrance in Heaven when I die.
—JOYCE KILMER.

GRACE AT MEALS.

Always remember to make the Sign of the Cross
and say before eating:

"Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which
we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through
Christ our Lord. Amen."

And before leaving the table say:

"We give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits, O Al-
mighty God, Who livest and reignest for ever. May
the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy
of God, rest in peace. Amen."

FRETTING.

There is one sin which is everywhere and by every-
body underestimated, and quite too much overlooked
in valuation of character. It is the sin of fretting.
It is common as air, as speech—so common that unless
it rises above its usual monotone we do not even observe
it.

Watch any ordinary coming together of people,
and see how many minutes it will be before somebody
frets—that is, makes more or less complaining state-
ments of something or other, which probably every one
in the room or in the car or on the street corner, it
may be, knew before, and probably no one can help.
Why say anything about it? It is cold, it is hot, it
is wet, it is dry, somebody has broken an appointment,
ill-cooked a meal, stupidity or bad faith somewhere has
resulted in discomfort.

There are plenty of things to fret about. It is
simply astonishing how much annoyance may be found
in the course of every day's living even of the simplest,
if one keeps a sharp eye on that side of things. Even
Holy Writ says we are prone to "trouble" as sparks
flying upward." But even to the sparks flying upward
in the blackest of smoke, there is a blue sky above; and
the less time they waste on the road the sooner they
will reach it. Fretting is all time wasted on the road.

TREASURE OF THE ROSARY.

The Rosary is at once the most comprehensive and
comforting of all private or family devotions. It
unites the most holy prayers to the meditation of the
principal mysteries in the lives of Our Lord and the
Blessed Virgin. St. Dominic, to whom it was revealed,
gained a great many conversions to the Church by its
means, and it has remained the most popular prayer
ever since. The Rosary, said with devotion, is the
surest and simplest way of praising Our Lord and

honoring His Mother. Therefore, we should try, espe-
cially in this month, set apart by our Holy Father for
its particular practice, to acquire a deeper love for it.
The name Rosary was chosen to indicate its character.
As the rose is composed of leaves, thorns, and flowers,
so the Rosary supplies subject for meditation on the
joyful, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries of the Incar-
nation, redemption, and union of the soul with God.
Those who say the Rosary frequently with devotion
find meditation easy, because they acquire the habit of
it unconsciously to themselves.

In saying the Rosary we give our memories to
God that He may dwell in our thoughts and enlighten
us by His Holy Spirit. Those who have lost the habit
of considering the mysteries and petitioning for the
first fruit might be stimulated to practice again what
must be dear to them from home associations by hav-
ing their memories refreshed. Joyful mysteries:—(1)
Annunciation—humility; (2) Visitation—charity; (3)
Nativity—poverty; (4) Presentation in the temple—
obedience; (5) Finding in the temple—seeking Jesus.
Sorrowful mysteries:—(1) Agony in the Garden—con-
trition; (2) Scourging—penance; (3) Crowning with
thorns—mortification; (4) Jesus carrying His cross—
patience under trial; (5) Crucifixion—abnegation. Five
Glorious mysteries:—(1) Resurrection—conversion; (2)
Ascension—zeal; (3) Descent of the Holy Spirit; (4)
Assumption—grace of a happy death; (5) Coronation
of Mary—confidence in Mary.

Thus the Rosary brings forth acts of faith, hope,
charity, expressions of gratitude for blessings received,
repentance for sin, and resolutions of amendment.
With Mary we seek Our Lord, and live in spirit with
them the years of the hidden life.

ALL'S WELL.

When amid the roar of wind and sea,
We hear the watchman's cry,
We still our rising fears,
And sweetly sleep in peace.

In life's savage storms,
When anguish wrings our hearts,
We cry to God for help
And never cry in vain.

When launched on death's dark voyage,
Assailed by doubts and fears,
May we hear above the storm
Our Heavenly Watchman cry
All's well! All's well!

—ALLAN MACSHERRY.

HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

A motorist was showing off his car to an old sea
captain, whose knowledge of recent developments on
terra firma is somewhat hazy.

"How fast can she travel?" asked the captain.

"Fifty miles an hour."

The old sea-dog grunted dubiously. His eye
caught the steering-wheel.

"Is that your wheel?" he inquired.

"Yes."

"Then where's your compass?"

"Don't use one."

"Oh, she don't work like a boat, then?"

"Quite different."

Again the captain grunted as his eye wandered
over the snorting contraption, until he caught sight
of an extra tyre fastened on behind, when he demanded
triumphantly:

"Now, if she ain't like a boat, why in the name
of Davy Jones do yer carry that there life-belt?"

WOULD STAND A BETTER CHANCE.

Followed by seven sturdy and eager-eyed children,
the woman with the firm lips entered the restaurant
and looked around for a suitable table.

An obsequious waiter showed her to a comfortable
corner and offered her the menu, anticipating a large
order and a substantial tip.

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