

Meekness, humility, charity, chastity are the roots of gentleness. They are the fruits of religious training, just as their opposite vices are the fruits of schools that banish God.

Journalese

One evening in the days gone down the dusty street we heard the most brilliant of modern Irish journalists (now, alas! under the daisies in green Glasnevin) reprove a fellow journalist with the words: "That is not journalese!" What he meant was that something had been done that was not in keeping with the noble aims that most Irish journalists still retain in a world of fablegrams and day-lies. But the usual meaning of journalese is the jargon that passes with the mob for English prose in the vast number of daily papers. We know that when one has to write with unfailing regularity, to keep "copy" supplied when demanded by the printer, whether one is well or ill, in good or bad spirits, writing tends to become hack work, and only those who are extremely careful can maintain a standard of good English prose of which they need not be ashamed. We know also that there are many who have never learned that there is any prose but journalese and that they are quite satisfied with their awful productions. In a lecture before his Cambridge students, as a warning against the perils of literary jargon, Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch turned into journalese Hamlet's famous soliloquy on suicide, and gave them this:

"To be or the contrary? Whether the former or the latter be preferable would seem to admit of difference of opinion; the answer in the present case being of an affirmative or a negative character according as to whether one elects on the one hand to mentally suffer the disfavor of fortune, albeit in an extreme degree, or on the other to boldly envisage adverse conditions in the prospect of eventually bringing them to a conclusion. The condition of sleep is similar to, if not indistinguishable from that of death: and with the addition of finality, the former might be considered identical with the latter: so that in this connection, with regard to sleep it might be argued that could the addition be effected, a termination would be put to the endurance of a multitude of inconveniences, not to mention a number of downright evils incidental to our fallen humanity, and thus a consummation achieved of a most gratifying nature."

We suspect that there are not a few who actually would hold that this journalese paraphrase is superior to the original. Readers of a certain morning paper, which has vastly improved in every respect during the past twelve months, ought to have no difficulty in recognising how true to life Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch's clever skit is. The origin of journalese is to be sought in the minds of journalists who use it. People ought to write as they think, but it is well known that our day-lie men are not supposed to think at all: considering what they give us it is charitable to believe that they are unable to think. When you meet "stated" instead of "said," or read that a certain thing "transpired" you are in the land of journalese. Split-infinitives, useless words, padding and tautology are hall-marks of the jargon.

GREY LYNN CONVENT REBUILDING FUND

The Editor <i>N.Z. Tablet</i>	£21	0	0
C. J. O'Leary	1	0	0
Mrs. Emery	10	0	
Rev. Father J. P. O'Connor, Addington	3	3	0
Rev. Father Finnerty, Addington ...	1	1	0

Happy he who has charity for all, and yet looks not for it from others; who does great service to his neighbor, and looks for no return.—Blessed Egidius.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

Prior to his severing connection with the *Tablet* office as travelling representative for Otago, and Southland, Mr. D. Beard was met by the employees and made the recipient of a parting gift, also a present for Mrs. Board. Mr. J. P. Walls (manager) voiced the sentiments of all regarding Mr. Beard, and wished him every success in his future undertakings. Mr. Beard (who suitably replied) has entered upon business on his own account as agent for manufacturers, with his headquarters in Dunedin.

A retreat conducted for the Children of Mary, South Dunedin, by Rev. Father Herring, S.M., was brought to a successful close on Sunday evening in St. Patrick's Basilica. The attendance throughout the week had been most edifying, the convent chapel being well filled at six o'clock each morning, when Holy Mass was celebrated and a practical instruction given. The numbers who attended the evening exercises taxed the accommodation to its full capacity, and all listened with the utmost attention to the zealous missionary, whose meditations were an inspiration to all who had the privilege to hear them. On Sunday morning the sodalists, wearing their regalia, approached the Holy Table in a body. At the evening devotions, Father Herring, in the presence of a crowded congregation, gave a very fine concluding discourse, exhorting all who had made the retreat to persevere in imitating the virtues of their Immaculate Mother. The sermon was followed by the beautiful ceremony of the consecration of 14 Children of Mary, the reception of 29 aspirants, and the admission of over 30 new members to the sodality. The imparting of the Papal Blessing and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament terminated one of the most enthusiastic retreats ever given in South Dunedin.

The Sisters of Mercy desire to thank the ladies of the Kaikorai branch of St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the ladies of the Gore Catholic Sewing Guild, for parcels of clothing kindly forwarded to the orphanage, South Dunedin.

After devotions last Sunday evening, the members of the Sodality of the Children of Mary, South Dunedin, assembled in their meeting-room to make a presentation to one of their number, Miss Maude Nelson, who is about to enter into the holy bonds of Matrimony. The presentation was made by the spiritual director, Rev. Father Delany, who in a happy little speech referred to the recipient's many good qualities and wished her every blessing in her future life. Miss Nelson has always been a most faithful Child of Mary, and the prayers and good wishes of her associates in the sodality go with her to her new home.

ST. DOMINIC'S PRIORY, DUNEDIN.

On Easter Tuesday, March 29, Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, assisted by Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., and Rev. Fathers Howard and Ardagh, officiated at the ceremonies of reception and profession in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at St. Dominic's Priory, Dunedin. Evangeline Ivy Rodgers (in religion Sister Mary Roch) received the holy habit of the Order of St. Dominic, and Sisters Mary Casimir McKone and Mary Jarlath Lee had the happiness of pronouncing the holy vows by which they consecrate their fresh young lives to the love and service of Almighty God. As each succeeding year sees the recurrence of these solemn ceremonies, there is brought home to us the comforting assurance that the Faith of our Fathers—the Faith that has come down to us as a precious heritage from Patrick and Brigid—is vigorous in this new land. Year by year generous and devoted aspirants to the religious life come forward, arrayed in bridal attire, and with voices trembling with holy fear and deep love of God, beg, humbly and sincerely, to be admitted to the ranks of those whose lives are consecrated to the service of the Divine Master. A time of probation is appointed, and this being duly accomplished, they return, clad in the white habit of the Order, and, having been accepted in God's name by His representative, the Bishop, they pronounce their holy vows, receive the insignia of religious profession, and prostrate themselves in recognition of their absolute unworthiness of so high a calling, and of their contempt of the pleasures and allurements of the world. During the solemn prostration, the Bishop beseeches God to shower down abundant blessings and graces on the souls of the newly-professed who are now permitted to take their places amongst those whose privilege it has already been to "taste and see that the Lord is sweet." Then is given Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, during which the Bishop, priests, and choir sing a solemn "Te Deum" in thanksgiving to God for that most wonderful of all His wonderful gifts—religious vocation.

Have patience. Pray fervently, Keep God's law. Success will come in the end.—Cardinal Logue.

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