

The Family Circle

NEVER TROUBLE TROUBLE TILL TROUBLE TROUBLES YOU.

Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you,
This a saying old in years, but with a message true,
For if you borrow trouble you will surely run in debt,
And if you buy on trust, I'm sure you will have cause to fret.

For trouble is a breeder
Of trouble, through and through,
So never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you,
By this I do not mean that you shall get a selfish view;
If others are in trouble, just lend a helping hand
Of sympathy and friendship, but this is my command—

While trouble is a blessing
From many points of view—
Yet never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

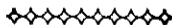
Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you,
But when it comes just meet it with an optimistic view.
Though skies are grey and cloudy just smile a bit and say,
"The sun will shine to-morrow and chase the clouds away."

Be generous, unselfish,
Be loyal, brave, and true,
But never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.
—C. L. SUMNER.



SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: SOURCE OF DOMESTIC HAPPINESS.

The Sacrament of Matrimony was not given only for a day, and its purpose of giving grace to the husband and wife to live happily together and to bring up their children in the fear and love of God, can not be frustrated except by one's own failure to co-operate seriously and joyfully with God in His designs. Be sure that it is God's business more than it is yours, to ward away danger and unhappiness from the sacred spot which is home; and His help can never be wanting, and will never fail, if it is looked for, and allowed to do its best without conscious hindrance. "The work is great, for a house is built for God, not for man." You hold your children in trust for Him, the words of Scripture ring and tingle in the ears of faithful Catholics, with the distinctness with which they fell upon the ears of the baby's mother by the winding Nile in the days of the infancy of Moses. "Take this child and bring it up for me, and afterwards I will pay you your wages." Catholic people, this is your commission, to bring up your children for God. How easily it is done, with God's help "nearer than the door," and the beauty and sanctity of the Holy Home of Nazareth to inspire you at all times, and the blessing of Holy Church coming to you down through the years from the blessed bond of God's Sacrament given you on your happy marriage day.



CANON SHEEHAN: GEMS OF THOUGHT SELECTED FROM HIS WRITINGS.

The problem for youthful activities is, how to conserve and advance the material prosperity of our race, without allowing it to degenerate into mammon-worship, and so that it may be an effectual help in promoting our spiritual and intellectual destiny.

There never yet was a fine, pure soul that might not be ruined by evil habits, nor an evil inheritance that might not be sweetened and ennobled by good ones.

Man is the most interesting little being on this planet; and Catholic writers must really try and come down from the skies and present the little puppet in his most attractive shape.

Everyone must give the world the best that is in him without fear, or hope of reward.

There are hot springs in the human heart that never leap to the surface till they are bored through by sorrow and remorse.

May God forgive our pride, it is the worst inheritance we have got. It is the cause of all the heart-breakings and desolation in the world.

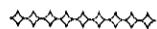
Peace comes not with the fulfilment but with the quenching of desire. Self-denial is the watch-word. A man must be superior to his circumstances. They are fleeting; he is immortal. They are valueless; he is above all price. Peace, divine peace, comes only when he has ceased to wish.

It is easy enough for the hot blood and the quick pulses of youth to despise the future and the consequences of present acts, but, believe me, the most bitter pain of life is to think that we have just missed a golden prize, when, by a single effort, we might have gained it. Of course, there is little use in talking. Experience alone is the world's teacher. But he is a desperate schoolmaster. What he teaches is written in tears and blood.



DO YOU KNOW THAT—

Catholic monks first put floating bells over sunken rocks to warn mariners in fog and darkness; Cardinal Langton first organised the systematic fixing of lights on dangerous headlands; his guild of the Holy Trinity, for that object, is still represented in Trinity House, London, which rules all the English lighthouses; Cardinal Langham first established technical schools for painting, architecture, and the keeping of orchards, gardens, and fishponds; Bishop William of Wykeham first introduced a system of good roads; the Jesuit Clavius, by order of Pope Gregory XIII., introduced our system of daily dates; Eustachius, Fallopius, Vesalius, and Malpighi were the pioneers of modern physiology; Bishop Steno wrote the first systematic treatise on geology?



NUTS TO CRACK.

Why are some hats called wide-awakes?—Because they never had a nap and never need one.

What trees flourish best on the hearth?—Ashes.

What objects in human form are the most patient?—Statues.

Why is a father's nose like a well-trained child?—Because it is always under a parent's eye.

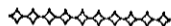
Why is an empty purse expressive of constancy?—Because you find no change in it.

What is the parting salute of a runaway pig?—Excuse haste and a bad pen.

What trees has fire no effect upon.—Ash trees, as when burned they are ashes still.

Why are dealers in glassware unlike all other dealers?—Because it won't do for them to crack up their goods.

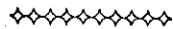
What is the difference between a cat and a comma?—A cat has its claws at the end of its paws, a comma its pause at the end of a clause.



TRUTH AND SINCERITY.

"The highest compliment that can be bestowed on a man is to say of him that he is a man of his word; and the greatest reproach that can be bestowed on a man is to assert that he has no regard for the virtue of veracity. Truth is the golden coin with God's image stamped upon it, that circulates among men of all nations and tribes and peoples and tongues; its standard value never changes nor depreciates.

"Let it be the aim of your life to be always frank and open, candid, sincere, and ingenuous in your relations with your fellow-men. Set your face against all deceit and duplicity, all guile, hypocrisy, and dissimulation. You will be living up to the maxims of the Gospel, you will prove yourself a genuine disciple of the God of Truth, you will commend yourself to all honest men. You will triumph over those that lie in wait to deceive, for the intriguer is usually caught in his own toils."—Cardinal Gibbons.



WHAT MATTERS DEATH IF FREEDOM LIVES?

What matters death if Freedom be not dead?

No flags are fair if Freedom's flag be furled.

Who fights for Freedom goes with joyful tread

To meet the fires of hell against him hurled,

And has for Captain Him whose thorn-wreathed head

Smiles from the Cross upon a conquered world.

—JOYCE KILMER.

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