

Poor. The Sisters of the Good Shepherd, also, maintain three homes dedicated to the restoration of fallen women.

GENERAL

Labor Problem in Chile

The recent earthquake in Valparaiso reminds us they have other troubles in Chile. The Most Rev. Dr. Casanova, Archbishop of Chile, is deeply interested in social movements, and in a recent pastoral letter he suggested that a congress, composed of the Bishops of the province, priests, Catholic laymen and Socialist leaders, should be called for the purpose of discussing the labor problem, with the hope of reaching a Christian solution.

God Still Lives

In the celebrated interview between Pope Pius VII. and the Emperor Napoleon, when the former was a prisoner at Fontainebleau (says the 'Ave Maria'), the Pope sought to check the blasphemies of his captor by saying:—'Emperor, take care! The God of old still lives. When your measure is full He will break it to pieces.'

Twelve years later the captive Eagle sat chained to the rock of his enforced solitude on the island of St Helena.

'Young man,' he said one day to a youth who, as a little page, had been a witness of the famous interview, 'do you remember those words of Pius VII.—his terrible prediction?'

'Yes, sire. "The God of old still lives," he said. "He will crush you to pieces."'

'The Pope was no false prophet. My sceptre has been broken, not by man, but by God.'

There were other circumstances relating to Pius VII. over which Napoleon must often have wondered during the years of his captivity at St. Helena. Las Cases relates that the fallen emperor, never pronounced the Pontiff's name without emotion, calling him 'a lamb,' on account of the meekness with which he bore the trials of his pontificate. The Pope returned to Rome on the 24th of May, 1814, having been imprisoned at Fontainebleau for five years. For the same length of time his persecutor had to endure the sufferings and humiliations of captivity. The coincidence—but it was more than a mere coincidence—is thus pointed out by Dom Gueranger, recording the conquests of Our Lady of Help. 'It was not the Allied Powers, who had made common cause against his oppressor, that broke the Pontiff's fetters; the very tyrant who kept him from Rome, had given him permission to return at the close of the preceding year; but the Pontiff chose his own time, and did not leave Fontainebleau till the 25th of January.'

The City of Peter had been reduced to a head-town of a French Département, with a Prefect for its administrator; and, with a view to making men forget that it was the City of the Vicars of Christ.

A messenger from the island of St. Helena was one day ushered into the presence of Pius VII. The exiled Napoleon, whom he had consecrated Emperor in the Church of Notre Dame, and whose after conduct had brought him under the ban of excommunication, now besought the Pontiff, the true and only King of Rome, to allow him to be readmitted to those spiritual blessings of which he had been justly deprived.

Pius VII., who had so courageously braved public opinion by giving hospitality, at Rome, to the members of the unfortunate Napoleon family,—readily complied with the request thus made of him; and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was, shortly afterward, offered up in the presence of the illustrious exile of St. Helena.

But, before granting pardon, the justice of God had required a full and public expiation. He, who had been the instrument of salvation to millions of souls, by restoring religion to France, was not to be lost; but he had impiously imprisoned the Sovereign Pontiff in the castle at Fontainebleau, and it was in that very castle that he had afterward to sign the deed of his own abdication. For five years he had held captive the Vicar of Christ, for five years he himself had to endure the sufferings and humiliation of captivity. Heaven accepted the retribution, and left Mary to complete her victory. Reconciled with the Church, and fortified by the Holy Sacraments which prepare the Christian for eternity, Napoleon yielded up his soul into the hands of his Maker, on the 5th day of May,—the month that is sacred to Mary.

Domestic

By 'Maureen'

Giving Medicine to a Baby.

In giving medicine to a baby, place the point of a spoon against the roof of his mouth. Administered in this way, the child cannot choke or eject the medicine.

Take a Walk.

Out-of-door exercise is a great preventive of disease, a great antidote to ills physical and mental. In most cases a walk is the simplest beginning. There is no one form of exercise more beneficial. Never hurry, nor move in a nervous, jerky way, with muscles braced. Copy the long leisurely stride of the infantryman at route-step. The object is not more strain on certain muscles, but open air, a gentle acceleration of the blood, vigorous breathing, and muscular and nervous relaxation. All these come best with a long, firm, regular, unhurried stride.

How the Japanese Cook Rice.

The Japs excel in cooking rice, and their method is exceedingly simple. Put one cup of rice which has been thoroughly washed, over the fire, with five of fast-boiling water. Add salt, and when it has boiled fast for fifteen minutes set the saucepan uncovered in a moderate oven. In fifteen minutes the water will have completely evaporated and every grain be distinct and fluffy. Not a grain will stick to the bottom of the saucepan. Rice cooked this way is a revelation.

Coffee as a Disinfectant.

The use of coffee as a disinfectant is generally known, but it is doubtful if the majority of people are aware of its true value in this direction. It is one of the most powerful and effective agents known,—as has been shown by repeated experiments. The merest pinch of coffee is usually sufficient to cleanse a sick room, even in aggravated cases. The best way to employ it is to freshly pound the coffee in a mortar, if no mill is at hand, and sprinkle it on a red-hot iron surface.

Sulphur as a Cure for Diphtheria.

Sulphur is one of the most efficacious and simple cures for diphtheria. All that is needed is flower of sulphur and a quill, and with these, it is said, one celebrated physician cured every patient without exception. He put a teaspoonful of flower of sulphur into a wine-glass of water, and stirred it with his finger instead of a spoon, the sulphur not readily amalgamating with water. When the sulphur was well mixed, the physician gave it as a gargle, and in ten minutes the patient was out of danger. Sulphur kills every species of fungus in a man, beast, or plant in a few minutes.

Squeaking Boots.

All sorts of devices have been suggested to stop the noise of squeaking boots. The best way is to use French chalk. You can either bore a small hole through the inner sole and filter into it as much chalk as possible, when the powder will work in between the inner and outer soles, which do not fit together properly, owing perhaps to the uppers having been sewn in too tightly or some other defect in the work; an alternative being to get your bootmaker to insert a layer of French chalk between the soles for you. Paraffin oil is also recommended as a cure, but the smell is unpleasant and clings a long time. Another idea is the plentiful application of linsed oil—you must warm the oil and then steep the soles in it.

Regarding Blankets.

Blankets are a difficulty to many people, mostly because they cannot make up their minds as to how often they should be washed, nor how they should be treated. In many houses they are only washed once a year; but somehow this does seem rather too rare a proceeding. On the other hand, it is really not necessary to have them washed more than twice a year; but they must have proper care in the interval in the shape of airing, shaking, etc. A washing-machine is very good for the purpose, especially as they should never be rubbed by the hand. The water should be only lukewarm, and a little soap well lathered in the water is all that will be required. Wring the blankets very dry through a wringer, shake them out, and wash again in the same way, wringing each time, until they are quite clean. Do not rinse them, but pull them into shape and hang them out in the sun, which is a great help to preserving a good color.