

THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL.

In the encyclical published at Rome on Christmas Eve the Pope says:

"The Pope condemns a school system based on religious neutrality, praises the zeal the bishops have displayed on the question, regrets that the Roman Catholics are not equally united, owing to political passions, and admits that the authorities have done something to diminish the inconveniences of Manitoba school legislation, but his His Holiness declares this to be inadequate, and exhorts Roman Catholics to persist in claiming all their rights though they must not refuse any partial reparations obtainable with the view to reduce the perils of the education of youth.

In conclusion, the Pope in the encyclical, says that in the event of these being unobtainable, Roman Catholics should provide their own schools, and adopt, under the guidance of their bishops, a programme of study, reconciling it with their religion and all literary and scientific progress."

But the Toronto Globe, the government organ, says, "So far as Federal action is concerned the matter is settled and cannot be unsettled by any ecclesiastical decree."

PREPARING FOR AN ORGY.

'Look at me,' said the Clark street 'toucher.' 'I ain't got clothes enough to pad a crutch. I couldn't flag a pie wagon with these rags.'

'Well, you don't need clothes,' said the sympathetic citizen. 'Summer's coming on.'

'Don't try to jolly me,' said the 'toucher.' 'You're like a man I met yesterday. I asked him for a penny and he asked me what I wanted it for. I told him I wanted a roll, and he told me to go up to Lincoln Park and take a roll in the grass.'

'Did you do it?'

'No, but I told him I would if he'd hand me ear fair.'

'Well, suppose I give you a dime, what will you do with it?'

'What difference does that make to you? Suppose I go and have a small bird and a large bottle, you wouldn't care. would you?'

'No, but I'm afraid you'd gamble.'

'No, I only take one chance a day, and I took that when I tried to stand you up for a piece of money. I'll tell you what I'll do, mister. If you give me ten cents I'll go and get a square meal and the rest of the money I'll send home to mother to help pay off the mortgage on the old place.'

'You'll take a drink, that's what you'll do.'

'Well, maybe that would be better. After I get about two bowls of that carpet tack whiskey into me I'll forget all about the mortgage.'

'I haven't got a dime. There's a nickel.'

'All right, mister, but remember if I drink myself to death it's your fault.'—Sel

A HENRY GEORGE STORY.

'Henry George,' says the Westminster Gazette, 'had a quaint humor of his own, and could tell a good story against himself. During his Australian tour one of his friends in Sydney

suggested to the secretary of a local racing club that it would be a graceful thing to send Mr. George a complimentary ticket for the race meeting then at hand. The papers were at the time devoting many columns to reports of George's meetings and discussions on his doctrines, but the sportsman had evidently not read them. 'Who is Mr. George?' he asked. 'I never heard of him before.' 'Why he's a man of world wide celebrity.' Does he own a horse?' queried the secretary. 'Yes; two very fast trotters, "Progress" and "Poverty."' 'Oh, all right,' said the now satisfied secretary; 'here's a ticket for him.'

GETTING EVEN.

Little Johnny Steeter, who had only seen four short summers, was very naughty one afternoon and his mamma whipped him. Johnny was very much offended with her for this mode of procedure, and treated her with the strictest silence for the remainder of the day, eating his supper without deigning to notice her in any way.

When his bedtime came she called him in and undressed him for bed, he still maintaining much dignity. He knelt down, as was his custom, to say his "Now I lay me down to sleep," and, after asking God to bless his papa, grandpa, grandma, aunt and even the servant girl, he turned to his mother and said with emphasis, "You ain't in it."

AN EASY PLACE.

I received a letter from a lad asking me to find him an easy berth. To this I replied:—"You cannot be an editor; do not try the law; do not think of the ministry; let alone all ships, shops and merchandise: abhor politics; don't practice medicine; be not a farmer or mechanic; neither be a soldier nor a sailor; don't work; don't study; don't think. None of these are easy. Oh, my son! You have come into a hard world. I know of only one easy place in it, and that is the grave."—Ex.

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