

THE DAYS OF HOLY WEEK.

Lenten Ceremonies of Old and Modern Times

Good Friday is the most solemn period rays af mourning near their close. In times gone by, the whole of Passion-week was much more rigidly observed than now. The amentations and humiliations were, outwardly at least, much louder and deeper, an Easter rejoicings much more extravagant. But it may be that what the world has lost in the art of giving expression to its sorrows or its joys, it has gained in earnestness and seriousness of character. There are few days in the year when we lay aside our burden of daily toil and care, and give ourselves up to the impulse of the day and hour, whatever it may be.

Yet, as christianity rules so great a portion of the world, the days set apart for religious observance on the calendar are carefully kept and observed by many. And these, those which witness the culminating scenes of Lent are the most important and attract the widest attention.

In this country, the ceremonies of Lent and of Easter belong to the church alone, but in most other lands these occasions have always borne both a civil and political relation to society.

Lenten solemnities, and we read of mon- been kept as days of sorrow; all the ships archs washing the feet of beggars, in imitat- in the harbor expressed it by having their ant. ation of Christ, who washed the feet of his colors hoisted only half mast high as a token disciples. This ceremony, which was of mourning, and the yards crossed as much regularly practiced by the kings and queens | as possible, to make them resemble a crucifix, | listen to it. Does it not show forth a hateof England in ancient times, occurred upon | while apparent solemnity presided both on | ful thing? From the time the devils came Maundy Thursday. They washed and shore and in the harbor. But immediately kissed the feet of as many poor people as | at a signal, when the minute arrived, all they themselves numbered in years, and being in waiting, the yards were squared, ince and set up a number of devils' halls

nine years old on which occasion the feet as possible; and at the bowsprit, or yard seven days have a Sunday, when they worof thirty-nine poor persons were first arm of the ship, was suspended an effigy ship the head of the devils. . . . They washed by the youngen of the laundry with of Judas, which they began to dip in the have a representation of the devil, the whole warm water and herbs, atterwards by the ! river, acting with the greatest possible en- | body naked, with only a loin cloth, nailed sub-almoner, and lastly, by the queen her- thusiasm and ridiculous madness, beating on a cross. They say this head of the self; the person who washed making a it on the shoulder, dipping it, and then devils was murdered by persons who cross upon the pauper's foot, above the toes, and kissing it. This ceremony was performed by the queen kneeling, being attended by thirty fine ladies and gentlemen. Clothes, victuals and money were then distributed among the poor.

The last of the English monarchs who performed this office in person was James tributed at the banqueting house. Whitehall, to forty-eight poor men and the same number of poor women, boiled beef and shoulders of mutton, and small bowls of ale, for dinner; after that large wooden platters of fish and loaves, the fish being undressed; twelve red herrings and twelve white herrings, and four half quartern loaves. Each person had one platter of these provisions, and after that was distributed among them shoes, stockings, linen and woollen cloth, and leathern bags filled with copper and silver coins, to each about was performed by his Grace, the Lord Archbishop of York, who was also Lord

Cardinal Woolsey, in 1230, made his maundy at Peterborough Abbey, where upon Maundy Thursday, in our Lady's Chapel, he washed and kissed the feet of fifty-nine poor men, "and, after he had wiped them, he gave every one of the said poor men twelve pence in money, three ells of good canvas to make them shirts, a pair of new shoes, a cast of red herrings and three white herrings, and one of these had

This ancient custom is now no longer observed, except in the Royal Chapel at Whitehall, where the poor still receive their gifts from the royal bounty.

Maundy Thursday is always the Thursday before Easter, and the origin of its name is still disputed.

By some Maundy is supposed to come from the wandate of Christ, when he bade his disciples break bread in rememberance of Him; or from his other mandate, after he had washed their feet, when he said "Love one another."

But the word is probably derived from the Saxon maud, which afterwards became maund, and signified a basket, and finally the gift in the basket.

Thus says Shakespeare, that oracle for old time words and phrases, "a thousand tavors from her maund she drew"-and

"Behold for us, the naked graces stay With maunds of roses, for to strew the way." In another place, the latter poet also again refers to the maund thus:

"All's gone, and death hath taken
Away from us
Our Maundie, thus
The widdowes stand forsaken."

This day is also called Shere Thursday, since it was at this time that the clergy of sickness; these rings were hallowed by were accustomed to shere, or shave their the kings of England. There was preheads, and to trim their beards against the

coming of Easter day. anything to do with sheep, it is now impos- had journeyed from Jerusalem, and which that the missionaries do their utmost to sesible to say; but such might be inferred the king had himself given long before to duce and excite the people. The natural since there has been handed down to us an old legend of St. Brandon, which says:

"He sailed away with his monks to the island of Sheep, and on Shere Thursdaye, crating these rings, which were called naturally gladly and joyfully follow the Meisterschaft System. 550th Thousand Pupils taught after souper, he wesshe theyre feet and kyssed them lyke as our lorde dyd to his

feet are washed by the archbishop. In the great cathedral of Seville, in Spain, Maundy Thursday is celebrated by high India Cord Berners, and Buddhas. Put aside thoughts of Chinese imperial interests. You each have a family. Do you Boston, Mass.

THE MEISTER And Buddhas. Put aside thoughts of Chinese imperial interests. You each have a family. Do you Boston, Mass.

mass, which is intended especially to celebrate the last supper, and assumes toward the close the deepest melancholy. After this, one of the public sights of the town on this day is the splendid cold dinner given to the twelve paupers by the arch-bishop. The dinner is to be seen laid out in two large rooms of the palace. The twelve guests are completely clothed at the expense of their host; and having partaken of a more homely dinner in the kitchen, of the Lenten fast, and brings the sombre they are furnished with large baskets to take away the splendid commons allotted to each, which they sell to the gourmands of the town. Each is also allowed to dispose of his napkin, which is put up in some fanciful form-as a bird or animal-and people buy these and place them in their cupboards as specimens of the skill of nuns

in the art of plaiting. About this time the processions, known as confradias or confraternities, begin to move out of the churches and along the streets, which are thronged with people. The object of these processions is to represent various scenes of the Saviour's passion. There are the Jews, with their long. aquiline noses; St. Peter, with his head completely bald; John in his dress of green, and Judas in the abhorred yellow, and with red hair.

All the painters of Europe seem to be agreed upon the color of Judas's Lair-and Judas' hair is a common name in Spain. A similar application of the term seems to have existed in England, for Shakespeare in "As You Like It" makes Rosalind say, "His hair is of the dissembling color," and Celia replies, "Something browner than Judas'.

cular object of execration in the Spanish bestowed a gift, or maundy, upon each.

Queen Elizabeth performed this royal fired from all the ships in the harbor, while gather a congregation of devils, of devils' duty at Greenwich, when she was thirty- the bells on shore were set ringing as fast children and devils' women, and every renewing their former ridiculous conduct."

To Good Friday belongs the hot-cross bun, which seems to be the only relic of the Papal religion which the Reformation has left in England. The buns are usually sweeter than the ordinary bun, are flavored with allspice, and stamped with a figure of planchette books, clearly stating and saythe cross. In many a poor cottage, the II., and it was afterwards performed by Good Friday bun is hung up and perservthe almoner. On the fifth of April, 1731, ed for good luck until the next Good Fri- perverse, and because he committed great it being Maundy Thursday, and the king day comes round—and there are plenty of in his forty-eighth year, there was dissuperstitious ones who aver, that no fire ever happened in a house that had one.

This resembles the vulgar notion that the straight stripe down the shoulder of an ass, once a day to receive corporal punishment. intersected by the long one which extends from the head to the tail, is a cross of honor conferred by Christ, and that the animal possessed it not before Christ rode into Jerusalem upon the back of an ass.

It is a curious fact that in the ruins of year 79, were found loaves of bread precisely similar to the Good Friday buns, and with the cross stamped upon them. four pounds in value. The washing of feet | The bread of the Greeks was stamped in | pigs? the same manner from the earliest times. Sometimes the loaf had only four lines, and it was then called quadra, and the cross was to make it break more easily.

From the early Greeks we seem to have species of sacred bread, which was called boun, in very ancient times was offered to the gods.

One of the most solemn ceremonials of Good Friday in the Roman catholic church | heaven, earth, the sun, moon and stars and is the Tenebra, which signifies darkness, and time were made by Jesus and are his symbolizes the darkness which fell over the crucifixion. This is partly represented by a triangular candlestick with fourteen yellow wax candles and one white one; seven of these yellow candles being on one side, seven on the other, and the white candle at the top. The fourteen yellow candles represents the eleven apostles, the Virgin Mary, and the women that were with her at the crucifixion; the white candle at the are accused of all manner of crimes most top represents Christ. Fourteen psalms are sung, and at the end of each a yellow candle is extinguished until none are left burning except the white one above. After this, and the extinction of the light upon the altar, the white candle is taken down and hid under the altar. The putting out of the yellow candles denotes the flight or grief of the apostles and women; the taking down the white candle, that Christ has descended into the sepulchre.

In St. Peter's, at Rome, a most marvellous effect is produced by putting out the hundred burning lamps upon the tomb of St. Peter, after which a stupendous illuminated cross depends from the dome of the cathedral and hangs as though self-sup-

There were consecrated rings in the olden time which belonged to Good Friday and which were believed to heal the wearer | the devils and be an internal force to coserved for a long time in Westminster princes give the head missionaries large Abbey a ring which was said to have been sums of money and a free hand in doing Whether this practice of shearing had brought to King Edward by pilgrims who the business. It is not to be marveled at a begger who had asked alms of him for disposition of Chinese blackguards and rufthe love he bore to St. John the Evangelist. fians is to be fond of money. They stifle There was a particular service for conse- their consciences, lose their reputations and without leaving your homes by Dr. Rosenthal's

dyscyples."

find Andrew Boorde speaking of the cramp, I here are also those who are stupened with guage. All questions answered and all exercises drugs. They are stupid and ignorant who guage. All questions answered and all exercises drugs. They are stupid and ignorant who guage. Specimen Copies, Part I, still forms part of the church ceremonies great help in this matter in halowing enter the devil's halls. upon Maundy Thursday, where twelve paupers represent the apostles, and their money or petition." And Lord Berners, for a moment thoughts about sages, saints,

"for some crampe ringes," with "trust to bestowe thaym well, with God's grace." In some parts of Ireland, it is still the practice of the lower order of Irish catholics to prevent their children from having any food, even babes at the breast, from twelve at night of Thursday to twelve at night on Good Friday, and the fathers and mothers take only a bit of bread and cold water during that time. Along the roads which lead into the market towns may be seen numbers of women with dishevelled hair and ragged garments and barefooted, bewailing the martyrdom of Christ.

Holy Saturday tollows Good Friday, and then great preparations are made for the near festival of Easter, and thus, amid universal rejoicings, which extend all over the civilized world, Passion week draws to its close, and the solemn period of Lent is

"THE DEVIL DOCTRINES."

The Famous Letter Circulated by the Chinese Last Summer.

Commander Barber, of the U.S. N. has translated with fearless faithfulness the circular which was sent throughout China last summer, but its violence is so great and its vituperation so nasty that little of it is fit for publication. The general tenor of the document may be gathered from extracts which follow. The phrase "Devil Doctrines" is the Chinese way of referring to the Christian religion, and 'devils" means, of course, Christian mis-

"Let every man carefully read this book. Let everyone spread its contents and talk about them. Where devils are numerous it is necessary that they should be utterly exterminated. Take vengeance for every plot. Guard against the devils and protect your families. The Chinese statesman, Chow Tung Ta (disciple of Confucios). wrote this manuscript and had it printed. The devils' doctrines ought to be killed.

"The perfect gentleman must be benevolent, the pertect statesman must be faithful. The father must be affectionate, the son must be dutiful. The husband must be kind, the wife must be submissive. Elder Upon Good Friday Judas is the parti- brothers must be amiable, younger brothers must be respectful. Friends must be elation to society.

and Portuguese navy. Says an eye-witness faithful, and there are many more moral principles which can be deduced from the principles which can be deduced from the above five axioms which are most import-

"Take the book, 'The Devil's Doctrines Should Be Killed: 'talk over all the details to our country they have gone in every large town and market place of every prov-

quarreled with him. So the devils, the devil's children and the devil women all compassionate him and pity him. The truth is the Chinese spirits have in sundry places descended to the earth and written by the planchette on tablets and written ing that Jesus in life was exceedingly infamous, exceedingly wicked, exceedingly crimes was executed by the ancient devil king of the Tao Te (a kingdom). The judge of hades placed his ghost in a dark region of hell and brings the ghost out Two thousand years have since elapsed.

Never will Jesus' ghost see the day. "When he was nailed to the cross not an atom of injustice was done. The devils, the devil's children, and the devil's women, when they die, all go to hell, and when Herculaneum, which was destroyed in the dead will reap sorrow. While alive they dream and say Jesus, the perverse devil and all the perverse devil teachers go to heaven. Are they not more stupid than

These devil books are very numerous. There is not one that ought not to be destreyed. I already, by dissimulation, have some of these books; have glanced at one and condemned another. When I had received both the bun and its name, for a read them through I burnt them. You who have not read these books, I will tell you all about them. They say the Chinese are quite wrong about the time of heaven and earth; the sun, moon and stars. That

The above is bad enough, doubtless, but there follows a good deal of matter that is so sacreligious as to be intolerable to any American reader, and yet millions upon millions of copies of this circular have been scattered among the 400,000,000 people of China to prevent the growth of the chrisdetestable. It is averred in this precious pamplet that the missionaries lead immoral lives to the worst degree, and that they induce Chinese girls and wives to the worst sort of crimes. The pamplet also accuses the missionaries of administering drugs to their converts. Imagine the lot of hund-reds of American ministers who are devoting their lives to the solution of this horde.

The circular says: "The christian God, the perverse devil, has left behind him a perverse religion, the leading doctrine of which is, however great crimes or wickedness may have been committed. if the criminal only worships Jesus his crime is redeemed; so the devils, the devil's children and the devil's women have ever been like pigs and dogs. Further, the devil princes send head missionaries everywhere to seduce and excite men to follow operate with the outer force in obtaining possession of China's rivers and hills. The missionaries. The people that live near as if actually in the presence of the teacher. In 1557, in the Breviary of Health, we find Andrew Boorde speaking of the cramp, There are also those who are stupefied with \$5.00 for MASTERED membership \$5.00 for \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Terms for \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Terms for \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Terms for \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Andrew \$\frac{1}{2}\$ and \$\frac

"There is another matter. Put aside 25 cents. Send for Circulars.

wish them to be destroyed or to preserve them? At the present time the head devil missionaries in every province of China are sending a lot of Chinese who follow the devil doctrines to all places secretly to distribute devil's books; most of them have been repressed, but still be on your guard and tell everyone you meet the same. Look out everywhere and seize him whenever you meet a devil or a devil child who says that the devil religion is good and strike him. It you see a devil book burn it. You must bear in mind the principle that if a single person listens to them and is seduced and excited to enter the devil's religion, the whole family is stupefied, and when the family is stupefied it will desire to stupefy the neighbors to the right and neighbors to the left, and numberless places will be stupefied and corrupted.

"Let us take no thought of the trost on other people's roots, but let us each sweep the snow from his own doorstep. Let us all help each other and at once guard ourselves. Let each city guard each city, every town, every market, guard that town and that market. Every village community, every clan, guard its community, guard its clan, and prevent a single person becoming a christian, and thus stupely and injure the place by inviting the devil missionaries to the place to erect devil halls.

"Fathers and elder brothers teach this song. By this act of virtue become happy. Lads and boys learn this song to prevent disaster and avoid disorder. When it is feared the devils are too many, then you must exterminate them.



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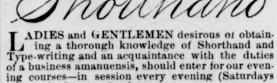
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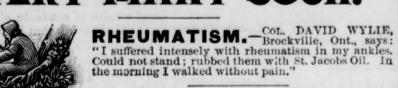
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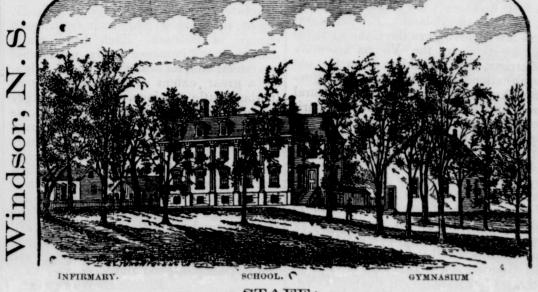
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