

Notre Dame Speaks From Her Heart.

To Mrs. Richard Brinsley Sheridan:

When God gave you a son you thanked Him, and you prayed that He would give him the grace to be a MAN. God heard your prayer. He gave him a fine mind and a good heart: He gave him courage and skill, alertness and determination, affability and justice; He blessed him far above the ordinary run of men - and in his gifts He blessed you above many mothers.

"Being made perfect in a short space, he fulfilled a long time: for his soul pleased God: therefore He hastened to bring him out of the midst of iniquities: but the people see this and understand not, nor lay up such things in their hearts."-- Wisdom, iv, 13,14.

You loved him with all the love your heart could hold - but God loved him more, because the heart of God is infinite. You loved him from the first moment of his being - but God loved him from all eternity. God gave him to you for a while, and then took him away again - but as there is a God in heaven there is a resurrection, wherein earthly loves that are pure become eternal. That is written in the heart of man, and is sealed with God's unfulfilling promise.

The heart of Notre Dame goes out to you in your grief, but it is a heart full of hope - prayerful hope that God will give you the strength to be resigned to His Holy Will, and that His mercy will grant eternal rest to the soul of your beloved son. That was the prayer of sixteen hundred Notre Dame men this morning as they knelt at the altar rail to receive their God in Holy Communion; that is the prayer that goes from the motherly heart of Our Lady's school to a mother who has known affliction.

To Major Phil Flening, U.S.A.:

Your father was one of Notre Dame's noblemen, Phil, so you know how Notre Dame feels today. His friends here tell us that Dick Sheridan had all the virtues that we want Notre Dame men to have, so the boys here have adopted him as one of their own. There was a tense feeling on the campus yesterday as the boys awaited word from Dick's bedside, or stepped into the chapel to say a prayer for him. And if you had seen the crowds at Mass and Holy Communion this morning, you might have thought that one of our own varsity men had been called - instead of one of yours.

It's all right, Phil. You're a soldier, and you know what to expect. Dick died a soldier's death - on a peaceful battlefield that makes soldiers for God and for country. We had something like that happen to us once, and we know just how you feel. You will find comfort in knowing that you did what you could to prepare Dick to die as a soldier; and you will thank God that He gave you such good material to work on. God gives us teachers a fine bit of encouragement now and then - this is one of those times.

Prayers.

Fr. James Ryan, rector of Walsh Hall, underwent a serious operation this morning. The Prefect of Religion asks prayers for his mother, who is suffering from acute, and possibly dangerous illness; also for a friend who died recently. John Litcher's mother has suffered a severe stroke. A relative of S. Bontempo died yesterday. Walter Kilgallon asks prayers for a friend killed in an auto accident. The 6:25 Mass in the church tomorrow will be an anniversary Mass for Tom Magee's mother; Philadelphia Club please note. Four special intentions. Henry Schaffer's father is very ill. A daughter of one of the maids in Morrissey Hall was killed by a train Sunday. Geo. Bource, '29, was seriously injured in an accident. A deceased relative of Fr. Felix Peppin, O.S.B., of St. Anselm's College.