
The Cynic.

It is easy to be sour, but why rob life of what sweetness it possesses. One can be mad at the world and say bitter things when the adversities of life try his spirit. It is easy enough to question human honesty and sincerity, but what does one get out of it? Hatred and envy rarely hurt anyone but their possessor.

It is easy to be flippant, even with sacred things, but why rob life of the only safeguard against pessimism, which is Christian hope. Mark Twain was flippant, even blasphemous, and his last years were turned over to the bitterest pessimism; God had given him a beautiful sense of humor, but he turned it against God and against hope, and he paid the penalty of his own life.

These considerations are prompted by a sophomore paper on the Michelangelo's "Last Judgment." The writer has attempted to be cynical and flippant. He is silly now, but if he does not listen to the promptings of good sense, he will be a bitter old man. Another member of the same class made this meditation after studying the picture (which hangs outside the Sorin chapel):

"Hell! How many times is this word used daily by many? Countless, perhaps, but do they think of what they are saying? The portrayal of the tortures of Hell in this picture give us a new aspect. "Hell" is an old term, and people seem to be getting used to hearing it. Perhaps they may become accustomed to it in this life, but never in the next. A little meditation on the lower right-hand corner of this picture should make any wayward one change his views."

Still another sophomore made this reflection: "One can hardly blame the condemned for hiding their faces..... The whole picture furnishes enough food for meditation to last one an eternity of Lent, and when one considers that everyone will be there, including oneself, it is surely, to say the least, something to think about. Indeed, with a few artists like Michelangelo in place of some of our modern writers, there would be a little less atheism and paganism in our modern scheme of things."

Prayers.

Francis Branson's mother passed away early yesterday morning. He had the consolation of a few hours at her bedside before she died. George Gordon's grandmother is quite sick. Two other students ask prayers for sick persons, and three for special intentions. Publication of an act of thanksgiving is requested by a student. J.J. McGary's father is sick; so is the mother of Henry and Pat Dillon. Henry "Tex" Dolan is having great trouble with his eyes, according to a letter from his mother, who requests prayers. "Tex" left school in January.

Lost and Found Department.

A pair of gloves was lost in the Sorin chapel yesterday morning. Some student evidently picked them up by mistake.

The Deserted Village.

There will be plenty of room at the confessionals tomorrow morning. Two hundred and thirty of the campus students who have failed to appear during Lent should approach the Sacraments. Two hundred and thirty day-dodgers have been able to make it as a Lenten penance.

On Monday, Washington's Birthday, the Sorin Hall chapel should be well patronized. Don't spoil your Lent just because you have a rec day.