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MISS BESSIE FARRELL.

MISS BESSIE FARRELL, 1011 Third Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., is President of the Young People's Christian Temperance Association. She writes: "Peruna is certainly a valuable nerve and blood remedy..."

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Legends of St. Patrick

A good deal of scholarly research has recently been given to St. Patrick by both British and German authorities, and it is now admitted that the chief documents concerning him are genuine, and that he really lived and carried on in Ireland a work such as has been attributed to him by tradition.

Three men of Patrick's own time bore the same name and have survived in records. This has confused scholars who paid no attention to the myths. One was an earlier bishop of Ireland named Patraic, and also called "Old Patrick," is now treated as a myth by investigators.

That Patrick really lived is now beyond dispute. The important facts about him, indeed, are in his own writing, or at least exist as later manuscript copies of documents he penned himself.



written when he was an old man, and the other his "Letter to Coroticus," written against a British chieftain who had carried off some Irish converts as slaves.

The legends that have grown up around him are much more beautiful than ascertained fact surviving in the old manuscripts. Under a heathen religion, Ireland's priests were the powerful Druids, priests and magicians who had supernatural lore and innocent secular learning together with skill in poetry and knowledge of the laws and history of the island.

This is the fact of the matter. But the legends tell a more interesting story, and myths though they are, their beauty is compelling. Two maidens, daughters of the high king, lived at Crochan to be educated by the Druids.

In these poetic old stories, woven around the saint by an imaginative people, and polished by centuries of telling, there are grains of historical fact, such as names of persons and places, records of ancient customs and other hints, that throw light on Patrick's real work. He lived 31 years in Ireland and founded many churches, made the nation Christian as a whole and brought Ireland into connection with the Roman empire, making it a part of Christendom and civilization.

The Explanation



The old man will not march to-day—He meant to be in line; You mind last year he stepped along so jaunty and so fine.

His hat at tilt so boyish, his shoulders straight and square, And him near eighty but as young as any marching there? 'Twas yesterday his shamrock came.

'Twas like a man that had a spell, the way he'd sit and look And sigh about the way it grows along the little brook That runs into the Shannon—'Twas the song it sang," said he, "That led me to the Shannon and from there across the sea.

And long into the night he sat adream of other days, He whispered of the boyhood paths, as one whose fancy strays Back over long forgotten fields—and then with eyes aflame He looked and looked into the past and whispered mother's name!

WORTHY OF HIGHEST HONOR. All the Christian World Is Indebted to St. Patrick.

St. Patrick's day brings out in bold relief the fact that one of the most warlike nations the world has ever known cherishes as its patron saint a missionary of the Prince of Peace.

St. Patrick gained undying renown as the personification of Irish ideals and Irish national spirit because he won Ireland for Christianity. If the banishing of the snakes from Erin is a fable it is a fact that Patrick expelled gross superstitions and gave Ireland a new bond of unity and national feeling.

It appears to have been a comparatively easy task for the ardent and gifted missionary of the church. Ireland responded to his appeals with one of those great waves of swift enthusiasm which have always been possible to the warm-hearted and quick-thinking Celts.

Where is there not great need of high enthusiasm? Where is there not much to do for humanity that will never be done unless by the help of such fervor and such devotion to ideals as the Irish have always been quick to show when roused to their full capacity for work which counts in the progress of the world?

Ireland may well celebrate St. Patrick, for the Irish race, guided and inspired by such ideals and such deeds as his, must always be a great power for good—the wide and eternal good of mankind.

Ballyhooley "Lemonade." A joke was played on Arthur Balfour on the first St. Patrick's day of his tenure of the Irish chief secretaryship. A cigar box, delivered to him at the house of commons, contained a bunch of shamrocks, "From a sincere Irish admirer." But, to the terror of his secretaries, the box was also found to contain a wicked-looking steel spring, covered with a queer white compound. A chemical expert was called and he examined the "infernal machine"—everybody momentarily expecting an explosion.

"Apostle of Joy." The shamrock, the small white clover of Ireland, is associated with St. Patrick from the day on which he used the trefoil to illustrate the doctrine of the Trinity. It is interesting to know that the Arabic name for the trefoil is "shamrakh," and that it is held sacred in Iran as emblematical of the Persian triads. Pliny comments on the fact that serpents are never found near the trefoil leaf.

The course of St. Patrick through Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales may be traced by the existence of places named after him. Legends abound without number, each adding to the love and veneration investing this saint, who was in truth an apostle of good works and joy.

RESOLVED TO SNUB EVE.

Mrs. Intheswim Intended to Draw Social Line in Heaven.

The minister had dropped in to tea, and the conversation had drifted through various channels to the question of whether or not we should know each other in heaven. Presuming that our physical beings would be perpetuated, and that recognition would be assured, the minister had asked various ones at the table among whom the Biblical characters they would be most interested in recognizing.

Some mentioned one prophet and some another, but one lady, noted for her social exclusiveness, had not spoken. Turning to her the minister said: "And who would you like to meet in heaven, Mrs. Intheswim?"

Mrs. Intheswim pursed her lips. "I really don't know," she said, "but there is one thing I do know, and that is that I shouldn't care to meet Eve. In fact, I don't know that I would speak to her if I did!"

CURED HER CHILDREN.

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The Wicked Husband. "Why does a man lie to his wife?" asks a woman writer. Dear me; does he?—Duluth Herald.

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