

## COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S GRADED SCHOOL

At the Church Hall Monday and Tuesday Evenings, June 23 and 24, 1913

Monday, June 23, 1913.

Overture  
Welcome Song ..... Class  
VALLEY FORGE—Dramatic Play.  
Characters:  
George Washington.....J. Kuhn  
Jim ..... C. Meizler  
Allen ..... J. Dix  
Frank ..... L. Hook  
Uly ..... J. Kreiter  
Watchman ..... J. Reisch  
Mike, sick Irish soldier.....W. Langenderfer  
Sambo, faithful negro.....F. Kiegler  
British Spy.....E. Herzog  
Soldiers.  
Angels of Valley Forge.....L. Smith and F. Dix  
Medley of American Patriotic Songs...5th and 6th Grades  
The Wreck of the Hesperus (Recitation)...B. Haberthuer  
A Slight Mistake .....F. Kiegler and E. Rickert  
DIE DUMME BETTY.  
Frau von Loewenstein.....G. Herold  
Betty ..... L. Polt  
Louisa ..... H. Moll  
Selection

A CUP OF COFFEE  
Comedy in One Act.  
Personages:

Mrs. Matilda Ryan.....H. Mohr  
Mrs. Rose O'Brian.....E. Rickert  
Alice, Matilda's Friend.....H. Smith  
Jennie, Matilda's Maid.....O. Quick  
A Saleswoman.....R. Smith  
A Lady Collector.....A. Hausen  
A Cobbler's Wife.....B. Haberthuer  
A Lady .....A. Billard  
Two Children .....E. Murray, B. Witzel

Broom Drill .....3rd and 4th Grades  
Liberty Won Over .....Graduates  
Farewell Song ..... Class  
TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 1913.

Overture  
Welcome Song ..... Class  
Salutatorian ..... E. Rickert  
Program of previous evening repeated.  
Valedictorian .....H. Mohr  
Song Farewell ..... Class  
Address ..... Hon. Charles A. McCarty  
Award of Medals .....Rev. Dr. J. W. Balta  
Music ..... Paul Sonner

Mayor C. A. McCarty's address dwelt principally upon the importance of the event in the lives of the graduates, with many suggestions and sound advice as to the future course to be pursued. He said that the training which they had received thus far would act as a foundation for the edifice which would be laid upon it by the long years of unmitigated toil. The graduates were fortunate in having their early education include lessons of virtue, morality and religion, without which the most complete education would be inadequate and insufficient.

Following Mayor McCarty, Rev. Dr. Balta made a short address. He also presented gold medals to Hildegard Mohr and L. Hook, for having the highest general percentage in school work. In his address Dr. Balta stated that St. Mary Magdalen's graded school had been in existence 40 years and during this period of time it had been supported by the church, thus saving the school district a large sum of money. He stated that it took an average of \$20 per year to educate a child. In their school, Dr. Balta said, they taught that wrong was wrong and could never be twisted to make it right, and that right is right and that it could not be made wrong.

There were eleven graduates. The different parts of the play taken by the pupils were well taken and showed a great amount of training, particularly the broom drill, which was very good. Considerable credit is due the Sisters of the parish and Dr. Balta for the manner in which the play was presented. About \$100 was realized. The affair was well attended and greatly enjoyed by a capacity house.

### THE VALUE OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE TO A LIFE.

(Prize Essay, by Harriet Barnes.)

The following essay, written by Miss Hattie Barnes, daughter of Prothonotary W. J. Barnes, won both the district and county prize in a recent contest conducted by the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In the local contest, held a few weeks ago in the Honesdale High School, Miss Barnes was awarded a prize of \$3 and in the county contest a prize of five dollars was received. The essay will now be sent to the State Superintendent of Scientific Instruction to compete with contestants from the different counties in the state of Pennsylvania. We were unable to reproduce the essay until now owing to its being in the county contest. We are sure that our readers will be interested in it, therefore reproduce it in its entirety. It follows:

Let us, as we consider this subject, first notice the value of total abstinence to the health. Very few persons, if any, can drink alcoholic liquors without causing a tendency to some disease. Dyspepsia, Bright's disease, and heart trouble are common results. Alcohol also hinders digestion, irritates the different membranes of the body, injures the brain, and does great harm to the nerves, the blood, and the respiratory system. A person who drinks liquor is much more likely to contract tuberculosis than one who does not, and in cases of typhoid fever and pneumonia has less chance of recovery. Hon. Richmond P. Hobson says: "Every time a man takes a drink he puts his life in peril." Thus total abstinence promotes health, strength, vigor and life.

Next, let us see the effect of total abstinence upon the laborer. Many large firms to-day are shutting their doors to the drinking man. This is not at all strange, for they have found out that alcohol impairs both the mind and the body, and that its victim is rendered weak and incapable of doing the ordinary amount of work. The excuse often given for drinking alcoholic liquors is that it helps one to do more work. This is not true, for alcohol diminishes the amount done. To prove it, I quote the words of Dr. Woodhead, of Cambridge University: "No amount of alcohol, however given, can increase the amount of work done in that same period without giving rise to very serious disturbances in some part or other of the body." So the total abstainer is able to do more

work than the man who drinks. Alcohol greatly lowers the efficiency of one's brain. If a man drinks three glasses of beer a day for twelve days, at the end of that time, his efficiency in doing mathematical work will be lowered more than 40 per cent, and in memorizing his loss goes up to 70 per cent. Thus the total abstainer has more ability for thinking, and so can do his work better.

The power of self-control is about the last to be acquired, and it is the first to be attacked by alcohol; the character of the victim is destroyed, and he is led backward toward

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savagery. In this way it leads to crime. It is estimated that 95 per cent. of all the crimes and acts of violence committed in civilized countries directly result from alcohol putting men down toward a state of savagery. Alcohol takes away one's sense of honor, self-respect, his moral decency, and makes most of the tramps, wanderers, and paupers. So it may be plainly seen that total abstinence is of great value in each of these points. Alcohol also creates such a craving for itself that a person having begun to use it can hardly break the habit, and every drink he takes lowers his character and lessens his will-power a little more. The character of the total abstainer is not destroyed in this way.

An appetite for alcohol is often inherited and then liquor is a greater temptation than it would be otherwise. Not one-third of all the children of alcoholic parents are normal. One out of every five is insane, and one out of every three, epileptic or hysterical. It is very unfair for the children to be made to suffer because of the wrong their parents have done. As nearly nine-tenths of the children of abstaining parents are absolutely normal, the total abstainer is much less likely to have to care for idiotic, deformed, or otherwise degenerate children. So total abstinence is a benefit, not only to one's own life, but to all one's descendants.

Our nation would be much better off if every person was a total abstainer, for over 1000 persons are arrested every day in the United States for drunkenness. The man who doesn't drink is not subject to this humiliation and expense.

If a man goes on a journey on land or sea, he is much safer if those in charge of the ship or train are total abstainers, as many people in our country have learned to their sorrow in the last few years. If he merely takes a ride in an automobile, he is much less likely to meet with an accident if he has a total abstainer for a chauffeur. In time of danger, as in a flood, fire, or accident, he is more likely to be saved if his mind is clear and free from alcohol.

Now, let us notice how total abstinence affects one's social position. Nobody admires a man who goes staggering up the street as if his knees were made of rubber. The drink habit has a tendency to make a man untidy and, after long use of alcohol, he often goes about dirty and ragged. But, on the other hand, who does not admire an honest, upright, clean man who doesn't drink? He walks straight and acts like a gentleman.

Let us next consider the value of total abstinence from a financial standpoint. The annual report of the Bureau of Labor of Massachusetts shows that, of all the persons in almshouses in that state, two-fifths owe their sad condition to the

use of strong drink. Of course, there are drinking people who never get in that condition and there are many total abstainers who are poor; but if those total abstainers were spending their money for liquor, and tearing down their bodies with it, they would be much more likely to go to the poorhouse. So in this way total abstinence is a great advantage. Here again we see the value of total abstinence. Life insurance companies do not like to insure a drinker, and many of them refuse to do so. A total abstainer has a prospect of living much longer than the man who drinks and so they like to insure him.

Next, let us see the comfort that total abstinence brings to one's life, first to the baby, who is not deformed or degenerated by his parents' indulgence in alcoholic drinks. Then as the child grows to boyhood, he is not nearly so likely to be illiterate as is the child of alcoholic parents. He misses the jeers and ridicule which the children of the drunkard so often hear. If he reaches manhood a total abstainer, he can easily secure life insurance, the best business positions are open to him, he is held in high esteem socially, and he is likely to live many years longer than others who have had no more necessary hardships, but who have indulged in alcoholic liquors. As long as he lives, total abstinence is of great advantage to him, and when he approaches the evening of his life, it is a comfort to him to know that he has set the world a good example, and that his posterity are not degenerated by alcohol.

So we find that total abstinence is of the greatest value to a life in every way, and not only to one's life but to all one's descendants.

### LAKE COMO.

Lake Como, June 26.—Hon. N. F. Underwood and family, of Bloomfield, N. J., have come to spend the summer at their cottage here.

Mrs. George Brain spent the past week with friends at Wilkes-Barre. Mrs. Schenck entertained her mother and father of Pleasant Mt. over Sunday.

John Randall visited friends in Binghamton last week.

The ball game played last Friday here between Lake Como and Equinunk, ended in favor of Equinunk. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Williams of Hancock, are spending some time at their cottage here.

Mr. O'Malley and family of Scranton have come to spend the summer at their cottage here.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Fay and Mrs. Elizabeth Fay of Starlight called on friends here Sunday.

### BETHANY.

Bethany, June 26.—The Missionary Circle held a very pleasant meeting at the home of Mrs. Harry Many last Tuesday. The Circle have finished the book of "Mormonism, the Islam of America" and for the time between before the next text book is ready have planned to take up "China's New Day." The next meeting, July 1st, will be at the home of Mrs. John Strongman on Tuesday at 3 p. m.

The grass on the Square was sold Saturday night at auction to John Henderson for \$5.50.

The fancy work committee met at the home of Mrs. A. O. Blake last Friday afternoon to cut out aprons for their booth on the Fourth. They will meet with Mrs. Jennings on Wednesday afternoon.

There has been quite a little sickness the past week. Mrs. W. O. Avery has a very serious attack of stomach and bowel trouble. Mrs. James Johns has been suffering from hemorrhage of the nose. The infant daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Faatz and Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Pritchard have been under the doctor's care.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Strongman are entertaining guests from New Jersey.

The Fourth of July will soon be here and as the Presbyterians have the celebration here this year they are getting ready for the occasion. There will be chicken dinner served outdoors if the weather permits. There will be a fancy work booth and home made candy booth, ice cream, etc. A speaker from away has

been engaged for the afternoon. Mrs. Allen and daughter Beryl of Binghamton, are visiting the former's uncle, John Goff.

### STALKER AND BRAMAN.

The Children's Day exercises at Braman church last Sunday evening were exceptionally well rendered to a large and appreciative audience. People were there from all points on the charge. The church was very prettily trimmed with flowers and evergreens. The singing by the choir was good, also the duets by Miss Esther Hurlicofe, Miss Lulu Cox and Miss Alice Lord. The singing and speaking was so well rendered by the very small children it reflects great credit on the committee in charge. The collection was over eight dollars and is used to assist children who need it to get an education.

There will be an ice cream social in the basement of the church Thursday evening at this place.

The Ladies' Aid will meet in the basement of the church July 2nd. All cordially invited.

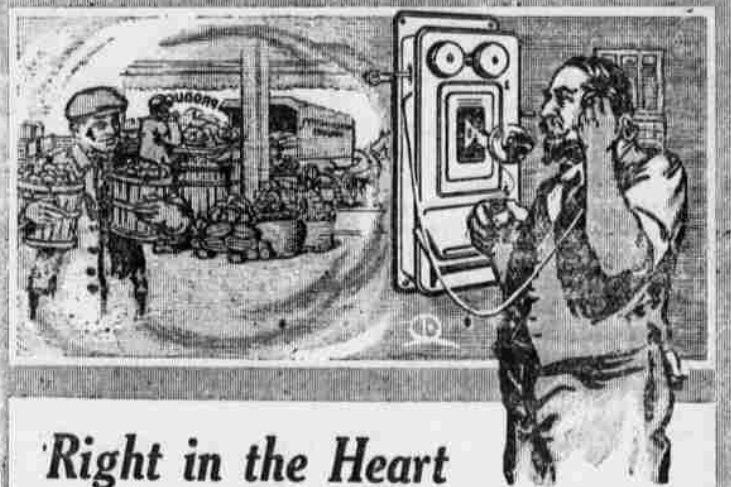
### "CANCER IS CURABLE."

Dr. Mayo Makes Declaration in Physicians' Convention.

Minneapolis, June 25.—The second day of the annual convention of the American Medical Association opened here recently.

That cancer of the stomach is curable was the declaration of Dr. William D. Mayo of Rochester, Minn.

Six thousand needless cases of blindness occur in the United States each year. This statement was made by Henry Copley Greene, agent for the conservation of eyesight of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind. This condition, Greene said, was a challenge to the medical profession and called for the co-operation of oculists, social workers and law makers.



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