

Star and Catholic Messenger. THE VALUE OF GOLD.

BY JOHN BUTLER O'BRIEN. may be standard weight for precious metal, deeper meaning it must ever hold; God, there are some things no law can settle, one of these—the real worth of gold.

king or crown has common power the traffic value is control; the scarce note this worth—the lower; comes from some of the soul.

find not in mere warehouse learning—charities with the hands that hold; depends upon the mode of earning; man's copper equals that man's gold.

heart, and forehead lined with scheming, and sorrow have been that man's gain; man's heart, with fine emotions teeming, the gold for which he coils his brain.

will that gold from spright labor—gold that should have standard price—earning of our humble neighbor, every coin is red with sacrifice.

money is not wealth, but rather poverty and need of bread. themselves is the bright gold they gather; by the way, or it may be dead.

with love and life and vigor, wear, and to cheer the way; like in its weight and rigor, bearer to his native clay.

comfort but in outward showing servile homage paid to dress; heart and soul the silent knowing store has not been gained by loss.

Success of the Universal Jubilee. Messenger of the Sacred Heart.)

erises of this holy year have throughout the Catholic world, the voice of the Church is ringing upon the captives to come in their liberty, upon those de-sanctifying grace to hasten and gain that sacred garb. The singu-lar of this universal solemnity special jubilee of the Heart of light to cause the zeal and fervor servants of that Divine Heart, and all Christians with confidence and

ed, in view of this circumstance, more confident than ever, that the promulgation of the successor of St. the real expression of the senti-which animate the Heart of Jesus. never distrust him without suspect-er the one who said: "He who you, heareth me." For us the Pope been the interpreter of the word Jesus Christ has bequeathed to us plenitude, than to His other the treasures of grace concealed the Heart. He alone retains the that treasury, and the other mem-bered sacred hierarchy must be in him, if they would secure those which, in virtue of their ministry, people. Dogmatic instructions, prepts, sacramental graces and in- a word, all that the Church use to the faithful, must pass, directly or indirectly, through the the Pope, because they are favors to us by Jesus Christ, whose he is. The Sovereign Pontiff, representative of the Sacred of all its organs and interpreters, and authoritative. When, he announces to the entire great grace of a universal Jubi- reason to suppose that it is Jesus which vouchsafes to us

season holy Church, in her revokes many of her ordinary grants unusual power to her and seemingly places no limit of abolition. Let the peni-approach the Sacrament with the positions, and should be he all the crimes of the world, he the foulness of sin, and fit only avenging flames of hell, is made white as snow, and rendered to sit at that banquet on angels themselves love to feast. the blessings which a Jubilee age in its train. But the one in participating at present, offers more abundant harvest of riches.

has spoken to us not only in His Vicar, but we hear, so to own voice mingled with that of the interpreter, ontriving the which the Holy Father, in His conferred upon sinners. The is not content with the super-er of graces which shall ever bosom of the Church for the happiness of her children, Heart of Jesus would come intercourse with men, in them actual participants in wealth. Our Saviour thus said Margaret Mary: "My within itself the ardent charity, but must impart them through the agency of those who offer their assistance." And the devotion to the Sacred Heart throughout the world, it must find the co-operation it solicits, we have a right to anti-

richer and more abundant have been accorded to man tion of the devotion. is a most powerful motive ends of the Sacred Heart and confidence and zeal? Each came to say: It depends to catch that divine foun- and shower its bounties in abundance upon the world. itself is overflowing with an capable of inundating the means away the filth which the City of God, but it stands in able to conduct its vivifying I am one of these channels. Now this heavenly stream a free place, no obstacle to the work- ing, if, by the fervor of my tive to disclose to a world that to be purified and regener-able abyss of the Sacred if, in fine, by my influence, I guide souls to this fountain, how shall they bloom again, freshness and vigor from the waters of this ocean of love!

Heart of Jesus find among Its servants, whether priests or docility to the inspirations of a prudent yet heroic zeal, this

willingness to labor for its glory, even at the price of humiliation and rebuke, in a word, this devotedness and sacrifice which make the true apostle, then, truly, will the Jubilee be productive of the most abundant fruits, then shall we see verified what the prophet foretold: the deserts shall bloom again, and the pure streams of fructifying waters shall cause the parched and arid fields once more to smile.

Let us, then, devote ourselves to the work of prayer and action. Let us do ourselves whatever is in our power, and by our prayers induce the Heart of Jesus to accomplish the rest, whether by the interior workings of grace or by the external influence of more effective agencies.

Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer to Thee through the Immaculate heart of Mary all my prayers, actions and sufferings of this day for the same intentions for which Thou dost daily offer thyself a Victim on our altars.

I offer them, in particular, in behalf of all those who have not yet, during this year, responded to the call of Thy mercy. Vouchsafe to them, O Divine Saviour, an efficacious grace, and pursue them with Thy unremitting love, until they shall have surrendered to Thee the possession of their hearts. Amen.

Nature and Limit of Taxation.

(N. O. Prices Current.)

"Taxes," says Cooley's Constitutional Limitations "are burdens or charges imposed by the Legislature upon persons or property to raise money for public purposes." To what extent those burdens or charges may be imposed is an unsettled question, and one that is becoming very serious to the people of "the best govern-ment the world ever saw," and more espe-cially to the unfortunate citizens of the re-stricted States. The constitutional prohibition against excessive taxation is in-define and unsatisfactory, the standard of excess, varying generally with the char-acter of the Legislature. If the body of men who makes the laws and impose the taxes are interested in the property taxed, and not concerned in schemes for appropriating to their own use the money col-lected from the people, the idea of excessive taxation would necessarily represent a much lower rate than when, as has been the case under the carpet-bag governments, most of the law givers are not identified with the taxed population, and derive their income from the public funds. In the one case the question would be, how much can the people spare to the government, and what is the least sum necessary to administer it; in the other, what proportion of their annu-als shall the government allow to remain in the pockets of the tax payers, and what are the ways and means whereby the govern-mental expenditure can be increased?

Under our republican institutions the ex-ercise of the power to create public debt and impose taxation has become of late years a most conspicuous feature. Federal, State and municipal debts and taxes created and imposed by volumes and codes of com-plex and vexatious laws, press, every year, more and more heavily upon the people. The limit of this power to impose these burdens seems still indefinite. The limit of ability to carry them appears now to have been reached by the people of the city of New Orleans. It is a somewhat hu-milating and startling result of our boasted free institutions, that the exercise of the right to govern ourselves should manifest itself most prominently in taxing our-selves into bankruptcy. The individual American Citizen is being robbed and plundered by the aggregate American Citizen. He is picking his own pocket—steal-ing his own earnings. He is the victim of his own oppression.

Washington's theory, announced in his farewell message, that "the success of a Republic is dependant upon the intelli-gence and honesty of its people," is de-monstrated by the anomalous and distress-ing situation above referred to. Dishonesty on the part of those who have made and executed the laws, has resulted from want of honesty or intelligence in those having the power of election, and the luxury of self-government proves to be not only troublesome but extremely expensive. Were it not for our traditional and in-herited prejudice against heads that "wear a crown," we are almost prepared to ad-mit that it would be cheaper to hire a king.

It is perhaps impracticable to limit the extent of taxation. It is proper that the government should have the power to bring out all the resources of the nation or the community, when circumstances de-mand it, and therefore the responsibility of determining to what extent the public necessities require the exercise of this power, must be left with those who are entrusted by the people with the duty of government. But the nature of these public uses—for what purposes this power may or may not be exercised, is a question upon which there has been and still is much difference of opinion. It is gratifying to note that the Federal judiciary has lately taken a decided position in this regard, which will go far to determine the question and correct many existing evils.

In a case decided by the U. S. Supreme Court in February last, this question of the nature and limit of taxation was ably discussed by Judge Miller. We extract the statement of the case from the New York *Financier*. The city of Topeka has issued one hundred \$1000 bonds, as a donation to the King Bridge Company of that city, and to aid and encourage the company to establish its works at that place, of course upon the theory, so incessantly vaunted in support of protective tariffs, that the establishing of a manufacturing enter-prise would be a direct benefit to the city. A general act to incorporate cities of the second class expressly provided that the council of a city should have power "to encourage the establish-ment of manufactories and such other enter-prises as may tend to develop and improve such cities, either by direct appropriation from the general fund or by the issuance of bonds of such amounts as the council may determine. As a matter of fact, the bonds were so issued; the first coupon was paid, out of a fund raised, as alleged and not denied, by taxation; then the city—whether because the enterprise had by that time shown its unprofitable character is not stated—refused to pay further interest, and the Citizens Savings Association of Cleve-land sued on the coupons it held; the Circuit Court pronounced the bonds void, and the bank carried the case up.

The point upon which the decision of the Supreme Court was based was that the act in question authorized the taking of private property by taxation for a private purpose. Upon this Judge Miller decides: "The validity of a contract which can be fulfilled only by a resort to taxation, de-pends upon the power to tax for a particu-

lar purpose. Unless the legislature has power to authorize taxation for private purposes, no such authority exists; consequently no such tax can be levied, and all law and power framed in pursuance of such purpose are void because their fulfill-ment is impossible. Chief Justice Marshall declared that the power to tax is also the power to destroy; but this power can be as easily used to build up some (of course at the expense of others) and if the right to use it without restriction as to purpose were once admitted—as there is practically no limitation of it when applied to some particular purpose—it would be a ready and terrible engine of oppression. To lay the hand of the government on the prop-erty of one person for the purpose of bestowing it upon another; would be not taxation, but spoliation. A tax being a necessary impost taken for a public use, a use in which all citizens are jointly in-terested, the question arises, what purposes fall within the definition of public. It is not always easy to draw the line, but it is easy to see that no sort of manufactur-ers can be constituted a public purpose, al-though there may be a very palpable benefit to the community therefrom. Schools are deemed public, but they contain no private interest at all; and the general test is that whatever is of private owner-ship is not a public purpose."

In reference to rail road bond aids, Judge Miller says, that "although the preponderance of authority is decidedly in favor of allowing the validity of taxation in behalf of railroads, the advocates of this have never claimed it on any other ground than that rail roads are a public purpose, and that jurists who admit them to be such hold taxation in their behalf valid, and those who do not admit them such, hold them to be void."

The *Financier* in an able commentary upon the decision, says: "To investors the significance of this decision is, that it finally establishes a definite rule of invest-ment law, that it voids their bonds distinct-ly and exclusively on account of their character, and that it emphasizes the duty of investors to see that they do not buy bonds which by their nature are void from the beginning."

It is important to the public also in that it restricts somewhat that iniquitous prac-tice known as "legislative jobbery," which has become so common a nuisance, both in the Federal and State Governments in the last ten years. It puts, at least, one im-pediment in the way of the public plun-derers. It will go far, too, to assist and promote proper legislation, by confining it to legitimate objects. It will also aid the people, in a return to a more honest and economical system, upon which they have determined, as the only means to preserve our "experiment in government" from miser-able and shameful failure. The country has learned that there are but two ways of obtaining values—either by creat-ing them ourselves, or by taking them from others; and that the vast sums yearly paraded in the treasury as an evidence of national wealth, in fact represent only the increased poverty of the people.

Our financial history has demonstrated the truth announced by the great French economist fifty years ago, that "something cannot be produced out of nothing by a mere stroke of the wand," and that "the best scheme of finance is to spend as little as possible; and the best tax is always the lightest."

When we walk near powerful machinery, we know that one misstep and those mighty engines will tear us to ribbons with their flying wheels, or grind us to powder in their ponderous jaws. So, when we are thundering across the land in a railroad carriage, and there is nothing but an inch of iron flange to hold us on the lines. So when we are in a ship, and there is nothing but the thickness of a plank between us and eternity. We imagine, then, that we see how close we are to the edge of the precipice.

But we do not see it. Whether on the sea or on the land, the partition that divides us from eternity is something less than the oak plank, or a half-inch iron flange. The machinery of life and death is within us. The tissues that hold the beating powers in their place, are often not thicker than a sheet of paper, and if that thin partition ruptured, it would be the same as if a cannon ball had struck us. Death is insepar-ably bound up with life in the very struc-ture of our bodies. Struggle as he would to widen the space, no man can at any time go further from death than the thickness of a sheet of paper.

The *Catholic Union* thus answers the ques-tion "Is this a Protestant country?" We are seriously told by the daily press that this is a Protestant country. We have ever doubted the infallibility of the daily press; but if we had not, such statements as this would shake our confidence in its infallibility. If it mean that non-Catholics are far more numerous here than Catholics, we understand the statement and concede it. But if it mean that non-Catholics have any rights here which Catholics have not, we deny it. Seriously, then, in what sense is this a Protestant country? The first form of Christian worship by which God was adored on these shores was Catholic. The first to proclaim civil and religious liberty here were Catholics. There are here to-day eight millions of professing Catho-lics. By how many millions, thousands, or even hundreds, do the church mem-bers of the Protestant denominations ex-cceed these? Or are we to understand that our contemporaries claim as Protestants all who are not Catholics, and by so doing include the millions of Universalists, Spiritualists, Unitar-ians, Jews, Atheists and Indifferentists that make up such a large portion of the American people? If so, we concede the majority, but no rights which we have not.

Ralph Meeker, who writes "Moss Agates" in the *Danbury News*, describes how a Colo-rado Yankee has tamed buffaloes for do-mestic purposes. "Water," says Mr. Meek-er, "is scarce on the plains and in many places pools are almost dry. Jack Thomp-son, the manager, found that six barrels of cheap forty-rod whiskey, poured in a small pond would make the animals too drunk to walk, and when once in this condition they can be subjugated with laughing gas and tamed in a week so as to be yoked and worked like oxen. When buffalo has once sipped at the intoxicating fount he loses all control of himself and becomes a slave to his appetite."

READ! READ! READ! GREAT DISCOVERY! NEW JERSEY LIQUID ENAMEL PAINT COMPANY, MANUFACTURERS OF "BRADLEY'S PATENT." Made from Pure White Lead, Linseed Oil and Zinc. Mixed ready for use. Can be applied by any one. One gallon covers twenty square yards, two coats.

From D. J. Foley, Esq. of the Arm of D. J. Foley, Bro. & Co., Baltimore, and brother of Bishop Foley, Chicago. BALTIMORE, February 19, 1875. Dear Sir—In reply to your inquiry relative to the merits of your "Liquid Enamel Paint" (Bradley's Patent), I will say, it has been nearly two years since I purchased the paint from you, and so far as I am able to judge, it looks equally well as when first applied, and I cheerfully can recommend it to those who need painting done. Yours truly, D. J. FOLEY.

A REVOLUTION IN HOUSE PAINTING—The advertisement of the New Jersey Enamel Paint Company has been some time in our columns, and it may seem strange that it is only to-day we call special attention to it. One reason for this is that we do not like to recommend a new thing unless we know it is good. We were pleased to find that the agent, Mr. C. P. Knight, was of our way of thinking, and wished, above all, that the paint made in our household, could give his con-scientious opinion of its merits. Having had this test made in our household, we have no hesitancy in saying that the Enamel Paint comes up fully to all that is claimed for it. In the country especially, where it is difficult to procure the necessary ingredients for mix-

ing paint, and skillful workmen to apply it, the Enamel Paint will prove invaluable, as it is already prepared, and can be applied by any one possessing ordinary judgment. For plain work in private dwellings, churches and schoolhouses, it will prove very econom-ical as well as beautiful. One gallon of this paint will cover twenty square yards, giving two coats. Our friends may safely give a trial without fear of disap-pointment.—The Catholic Mirror. (Recognized Organ of the Diocese of Baltimore.) From St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, NEAR BALTIMORE, MD., March 4, 1874. Mr. C. P. Knight: Dear Sir—I take great pleasure in acknowledging that the Paint you sold us was of a superior quality. We used four coats on a whitewashed wall, which pro-duced most admirable effect. We think it is a very cheap article, and cheerfully lend the public of what we spread far and near, to testify to the public of what we know to be to their advantage, when they want to have their walls, and especially the public of what, at a comparatively small cost, it is the cheapest and most beautiful and durable paint, we believe, extant. We think the "Bradley Patent Enamel Paint" all the success it justly deserves, I am, Yours respectfully, BRO. ALEXIUS, Director.

Church Passementerie. GOLD AND SILVER PLATED EMBROIDERED ALTAR LACES AND VEILS; GOLD AND SILVER, GILT, PLATED, WHITE AND YELLOW LACES, AND FRINGS, STARS AND TASSELS. GOLD AND SILVER, GILT, AND PLATED EMBROIDERY. THREE AND CORDONETTE, VARIOUS SIZES. STAFFS, IN ASH, BEECH, WOOD, LANCEWOOD, AND OTHER. STAFF ORNAMENTS—Cross, Spear, Eagle, Lion, Bull, Horse and Banner Staves, and all other. TRIMMINGS FOR REGALIA, ROSETTES, RIBBONS, FRINGS, & TASSELS, every size, from one to six inches, both Gilt and Plain. HATS, COATS, CROSSES, MALDS OF ERIN, SHAMROCKS, WOODEN TOWERS, in Metal. Spangle Work and Embroidery. GRAPES AND WHEAT, PLATED AND GILT SPANGLES. CROWNS, JEWELS AND STONE SETTINGS. ALL KINDS OF DESIGNS EMBROIDERED TO ORDER. CANOPY STAFFS AND TRIMMING. SILK HOSE AND GLOVES FOR BISHOPS. SHANNON, MILLER & CRANE, Importers and Manufacturers, No. 48 MAIDEN LANE, NEW YORK.

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J. S. AITKENS & SON, 236 TCHOUPITOULAS STREET..... 236

DEALERS IN HARDWARE, Iron, Steel, Copper, Brass, Lead, Galvanized Spikes, Nails, Bolts, etc. Brass and Composition. Ship Hardware, Builders' Hardware and Fire Grates. Locksmiths and Bell Hangers' Materials. Together with the greatest variety of every description of Mechanical Tools and Hardware to be found in the South, at reasonable prices. mb174 ly

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LOANS MADE AND SECURED ON FURNITURE STORED. He will also continue to BUY, SELL, REPAIR, REMOVE, PACK AND SHIP FURNITURE, with guarantee at the lowest rates. mb175 ly Nos. 152 and 154 Camp Street.

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CORNICE, WINDOW SHADES, LACE CURTAINS, CANTON MATTINGS AND OIL-CLOTH, of latest style, at ELKIN & CO.'S, 168 Canal Street..... 168 mb174 ly

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Looking Glass and Picture Frames, Plain and Ornate, made to order. Regulating done in the very best style. Oil Paintings restored, re-lined, cleaned and varnished. Having a business experience of nearly forty years in this city, they desire to give satisfaction to their customers, not only in the superior quality of their work, but likewise in their moderate charges. N. B. The patronage of the trade solicited. Church decoration and other orders promptly executed. mb175 ly

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C. P. KNIGHT, Sole General Agent, 95 West Lombard Street, Baltimore.

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At an election held on Monday, the 4th inst, the following named gentlemen were chosen Directors of this Company to serve for the ensuing year: P. Irwin, John Henderson, Thos. Markey, John G. Egan, Thos. Gilmore, W. J. Castell, John T. Gibbons, J. A. Gardner, William Harris, Edw. Sweeney.

And at a meeting of the Board, held May 11th, JOHN HENDERSON, Esq., President, and P. IRWIN, Esq., Vice President, were unanimously re-elected. The Board declared out of the net profits of the Company for the past twelve months 10 per cent interest, also 5 per cent dividend on the paid up capital, and 25 per cent dividend on premiums paid by stockholders—said interest and dividends, under the amended charter, to be placed to the credit of the stock notes. Interest and dividends on full paid stock to be paid in cash at the office of the Company on and after July 15th next.

THOS. F. BRAGG, Secretary, New Orleans, May 16, 1874. mb175 ly

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All orders for Western or Southern Produce filled promptly at the lowest market rates. Satisfaction always guaranteed, no commission charged for ex-ecuting orders for goods which I may have on hand, full commission charged for selling all consignments. Consignments and Orders are respectfully solicited. mb174 ly

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