Activity of Civilization's Forces Glorify the Festival.

RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DAY

Mighty Truths Diffusing Their Power for Good and Elevating Humanity-Striking Lessons of Eastertide.

(Copyright, 1909, by R. S. MacArthur.) No Easter day in the history of this glorious church festival has been so marked because of the mighty forces of civilization now in exercise as will be the Easter of this year of grace 1900. At all points barbarism is making way for civilization. The Easter eky is becoming radiant with the crimson and gold of a brighter day. This year's Easter bells ring out liberty's te deum with a gladness and glory unknown hitherto in the history of the human race and at the coming will be in the near future.

The word Easter is of heathen origin. is to be regretted that the word which comwith nobler, higher and diviner meanings. The names of the days of the week and the months of the year are also heathen in origin and in their earlier ass clations; but bistory and unmake language.

Easter is the Saxon oster, osten, meaning rising. The German is ostern, the Hebrew-Greek form is pascha, the French paques. the Scotch pasch, the Dutch paschen, the Swedish pask and the Danish paaske.

The Apostle Paul calls Christ "Our Pasch. No doubt the old Teutonic name was connected with the festival of the godders Ostara, in Anglo-Saxon Eastre, and so was connected with our word east. The goddess seems to have been the personification of the morning or of the east, and also of the beginning of spring. It is well known that the Anglo-Saxon name of April was Estormonath; and in Germany this month is still known as Ostermonath. From northern Germany in the early day the worship of Ostara was brought to our ancestors in Great Britain. Many of the popular observances of Easter, even to this day, clearly indicate Its heathen origin. The heathen bonfires impatient, impetuous and sometimes petuwere perpetuated in the paschal tapers with lant. God moves in majestic circles; which the churches were once lighted on takes a step and centuries pass; He speaks Easter eve. The brilliant illuminations of and empires rise and fall, and nations wax the churches and parts of some of the cities strong and then grow weak. God is king in Russia at this season are also reminders. The pierced hand of the risen and omnific of those early heathen festivals.

The "pasch eggs," when stained and knocked together, carry us back to that think of settling their disputes by war any heathen atmosphere out of which so many more than educated men would now think Christmas and Easter customs have come, of settling personal difficulties by personal In Scotland it has long been the custom to search for the eggs of wild fowls on Easter of the hour is in this direction. The spirit morning for breakfast, and their discovery of sitruism is in the air. This term was is supposed to be an omen of good fortune. Heathen Festivals.

We know that the early Christians

festivals which were so deeply seated in popular customs as to make their neglect impossible on the part of the heathen. This was a worldly-wise policy; perhaps, also, it had a deep religious significance. The Christmas festival was the transformation of somewhat kindred heathen festivals such as the Saturnalia, Juvenalia and Brumalia. These were observed in Rome in the month of December. They were held in honor of the unconquered sun and in commemoration of the golden age of freedom and equality. tivals a higher significance; they could not be rooted out, but they might

ness and the light of the world. But there is a deeper truth in these correspondences. In these pagan festivals, notwithstanding their acknowledged sensual abuses there was a profound religious significance and a lofty spiritual possibility; they have been well called "unconscious prophecies" of the true and divine Christmas feast. No doubt the heathen origin of the of the noblest principles of true religion. charges. If it comes on muggy and are growing flowers and offering prizes to mented. Christmas festival accounts for the giving of presents to children and to the poor, for the lighting of wax tapers, and for the general use of Christmas trees. In like manner, heathen customs color our observance of the Easter festival. Joy at the rising of the natural sun, and at the awakening of pature from the sleep and apparent death and diviner joy over the resurrection of things were the significant prophecy of

heavenly things. Religious Significance of Easter. The resurrection of Christ is the crowning miracle of Christianity. To this miracle its first preachers made constant and confident appeal. If this greatest event could be proved all other miracles were at least credible. No greater miracle than this can be imagined; if the greater be established the lesser may be believed. Our Lord foretold his resurrection; that resurrection, therefore, was the fulfillment of a prophecy es well as the performance of a stupendous miracle. To be a witness of the resurrection was a chief function of the apostolic office. In his great discourse on the day of Pentedressed the men of Athene; in that matchbe not risen our faith is vain.

was and is; that fact no amount or degree heart of all lovers of their race. These of infidelity can deny. But if we deny the great lessons Easter teaches, ennobles and resurrection of the founder of the church glorifles. Thus Easter teaches that inwe cannot account for the existence of the tolerance, liliteracy, bigotry and tyranny church. The resurrection of the Christ is must be destroyed, and that altruism, liberty the keystone in the arch of the Christian and humanity must triumph. system. Changing the figures we may say that the corneratone of the church is laid for these great principles. Today no throne

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MILITANT VIEW OF EASTER in the empty grave of the risen Carlo has been said, with equal spiritual significance and rhetorical beauty that "the rescance and rhetorical beauty that "the rescance and rhetorical beauty that "the rescance and the hallelujah of humanity" over the completed salvation prepared and effered by Jesus Christ.

> ness, between heaven and hades, was fought in Joseph's tomb. The resurrection is the pivotal fact in human history; it was the divine triumph in the drama of eternity; it was the triumphal moment in the history of Christianity. There have been other religions with their founders, such as Confucius, Zoroaster, Brahma and Moham med, but there is no evidence that any of them rose from the dead. The resurrection of Christ is the unique fact in Christianity it is the fact which widely and eternally differentiates it from all other religions. Writers on the life of Christ have often resurrection implies the incarbation.

same time these bells are uttering a birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus moving the season's donations of spring needs is contrived so as to conserve every Christ. As well might a man deny the blossoms, birth, life and death of Julius Caesar or Napoleon Bonaparte as deny the birth, life, memorates the most bleased fact in Christian resurrection has changed the art, the music. 4,659 establishments for the growing and unobserved there are no business florists faith should come from pagan sources; but the poetry and the religion of the civilized sale of flowers, a conservative estimate now working on the plan of the American. we must take it as it is found, and fill it world; it has changed all cur thoughts alike puts the number at 10,000. There are more of time and eternity.

This Present Easter.

entering upon one of the greatest eras in \$70,000,000. human history. Problems of the profoundest meaning are waiting for their true soluglo-Saxon race are now engaged in deadly warface. Is the time when all international difficulties are to be settled by international arbitration indefinitely postponed? Does this Easter find the Prince of Peace among the nations than He was a decade. or a millenium, ago? Let us not be too hasty to answer these questions with an affirmative. God's time is often a long time; to God a year is as a thousand years, and they sometimes are as a day. There are no clocks in eternity. Hourglasses do not stand on the throne of God. We are hasty. Christ is on the helm of the universe.

The time is coming when nations will not encounters. The trend of the best thought first employed by the Positivists or followers of the French philosopher, Comte. It is a good word. It signifies devotion to others adopted and strove to transform heathen and thus stands sharply opposed to selfishness. It is, if one may so say, "otherism. We are following apostolic teaching and example and so are learning, not to look simply on our own things, but also on the things of others. This is a difficult accomplishment; it is an attainment tovolving many of the noblest elements of character.

for My sake shall find it." He formulated one try having settled there. of the golden age of freedom and equality. of the greatest laws ever promulgated among they were days of great joy for slaves and men. This statement is not true simply be-Christians should strive to give these popu- because it is eternally true. It is a law management obtain. For instance, a cer- their profession. as God. All noble lives find their true in- most of them 150 feet long and as wide as is spreading. be transformed. In many parts of the coun- spiration in their obedience to this law. a street, operates them all with far less growth in their business to the number of fathers for training boys to be competent try today we are acting a similar part to- The law of self sacrifice dominates all help than a florist of former days was wont foreign tradesfolk and laborers who have gardeners. ward the holidays of the Chinese. It was worthy life. Our Lord's words here strike to employ about a very limited establish- done well in America and demand flower natural that the heathen birth festival of the at all forms of selfishness. The man who ment. The heating and ventilation for the eseds to plant the first thing after settling United States will soon rival all other nasun, which after the winter solstice begins loses his outward, secular, selfish life finds to run a new career, should suggest the birth festival of Christ, the sun of righteous.

The man of sensances. The man of sensances at all forms of sensances. The man of the finds of their own. The cut flower linto homes of their own into homes of their own. The cut flower linto homes of their own into homes of their o prophet, priest and king, because once He property throughout the entire system. At burg, Boston, Chicago, New York, all have a few florists in New York and Boston, died as the world's sacrifice. Here is the night a watchman, who might be called these Greek and Italian peddlers selling growing a very limited supply of roses and

divine altruism.

Humaniam. Closely allied to altruism is humanism. Once humanism meant simply polite learning, and a humanist was a man versed in the humanities, in classical learning and polite literature generally. We have now broadened our definition; a humanist now is a man versed in the study of human of winter, was an illustration of the higher nature, a man possessing a disposition belonging to man as such, a man who labors Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, from to humanize and to divinize his fellow men. death and the grave. Here again natural The changed meanings of words of this class indicate the progress of the race toward a nobler manhood. For all this progress Easter today stands. Long ago, when these words of Terrence, "I am a man, and I deem nothing common to man foreign to me," were spoken in a Roman theater, they evoked thunders of applause. They evoke heartier enthusiasm today. Easter has given them a deeper meaning. All men are now our brothers. We touch not only elbows, but hearts around the globe. Railways, ships, telegraphs and telephones have made the world a whispering gallery, and we are filling it with noble thought, and diviner inspiration than ever before. If there be too much evil still remaining to allow us to indulge in unlimited optimism, there is Paul made chief reference. Not otherwise mit us to sigh in hopeless pessimism. We was it with Apostle Paul when he ad- can at least cherish a cheerful meliorism, believing in the constant betterment of the tess discourse this peerless apostle declared world in all that relates to the best interests that "God hath appointed a day in which of the human race. The diapason, that is He will judge the world by that man whom the pervasive, dominant, unitive, concordant He hath ordained; whereof He hath raised note, today in the oratorio of humanity is him from the dead." In writing to the brotherhood. This is the peculiar thought of Corinthians he clearly affirms that if Christ the hour. Sometimes it breaks out in unrestrained forms of socialistic theories, but for the existence of the church. The church challenges the attention and rejoices the

Today America stands, in some measure of czar, kaiser or queen is higher than the presidential chair in Washington. Today no voice issuing from any palace in Europe or Asia is more potent in the councils of the nations than the voice which issues from the White House. Today America sits crowned as queen in the congress of nations. Today Liberty's To Deum is chanted on the Cuban shore with the music of the Caribbean son as its sublime accompaniment; one day its dispason will be heard over the Philippines and eventually over Spain herself its "Hallelujah Cherus" will roll to the music of celestial choirs. God is on the throne. Right, justice, truth, love shall one day triumph. The white horse of peace will follow the red horse of war; modernism will replace mediaevallam, civilization bar barism and a blessed peace rule cruel war. Easter sings again the song of the angels which echeed over the plains of Bethlehem the night Christ was born: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." This is the sweetest note in

the heavenly music of the Easter bells of

Calvary Study, Eastertide, 1900.

ROBERT STUART MACARTHUR.

The real battle between light and darkin the United States.

LEADS THE WORLD IN FLOWER FARMING

Growth in degistered Greenhouses and in Bulb Culture-What is Due to American Sunshine and American Lavishness.

For the last six weeks or more in the thousands of commercial greenhouses now called attention to the fact that the resur- registered in this country, plants of in-He rose from the dead He must have died; forward are set back somewhat that formif He died He must have lived; if He lived ing bude may be delayed; those backward tomb proves the occupied cradle; thus the all the gardener's art. And all last week at the hundreds of express offices and rail-

death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. His the government census of 1891, there were In those parts of Europe that have the sun

A fact that the flower chiefs pride theming immediate answers. Was the recent in winter, and is frequently called upon to purposes of social congratulation. fect is the method of packing and the foretheir foreign destination as fresh and less gloriously dominant in that character fragrant as if only a day or two on the

> best equipped and most perfectly systraditionally. Within a short time a proyears of successful experience in the busi- and comely in the boat's ice boxes. ness has begun to ship palms and house plants of rare foliage to Europe, thus beating the old world florists on their own ground, for it is only since 1892 that this class of plants was cultivated to any marked extent in America, a branch of trade that has grown enormouely.

Today tube roses are being shipped by the thousands from North Carolina, Florida and Texas to foreign markets and giadiolus from Ohio and the New Jersey and eastern greenhouses are also exported in

quantities. and plants produced by the growers of any other section. Of late years, however, Illi-

Trade Economics.

1 TRADE IN EASTER BLOSSOMS damp, he must temper his machinery. If it suddenly turns colder he is on hand to guard. The even climate of spring must be kept within his glass houses. Too much moisture, a tendency to parch and dry out too chilling or too forcing an atmosphere, High Water Mark in the Florints' Business can be avoided at will by the manipulation of those magic knobs and screens. Moreover, the manager can keep tab on his caretaker's movements with marvelous accuracy A series of tell tale buttons registers the man's visits to his different wards. And according as these indictors stand in the morning is it known at headquarters whether the nurse fell asleep and failed to attend on his patients or kept faith to the letter. The employe's time is kept track of in a similar way and in all departments is exact machinery substituted for human re-

sponsibility. To this perfect system is due American ascendency in the growing of delicate rection involved the whole earthly life of numerable variety have been timed and flowers in the key season. European flower the Lord. This is a fair implication, for if tended for Easter bicoming. Those too growers and buyers come here and see and own that the American system takes the palm. Then to the bright American sun, He must have been born. Thus the empty pushed nearer the warmth and fostered with chining in dependable fervor all the year except from mid-November to January 12 the florist attributes much of his success. It would be difficult to name any facts of road stores, florists sheps and out flower The greenhouse built by an architect whose history more easy of certification than the missions vans and attenuants have been busy entire energies are devoted to greenhouse bit possible of the sun's warmth and pres The flower industry in this country shows ence, an atmosphere that is as near like a marvelous expansion. Where, according to summer outdoor garden as art can contrive.

The products from the big greenhouses than 75,000,000 square feet of greenhouse find ready, even lavish purchasers in the acreage under cultivation now, as against American public. There is a large percen-Many of the lessons of Easter belong to 38,000,000 nine years ago. And the value tage of comfortably welloff people and there all countries and centuries, but each era of cut flowers, which represented in 1891 are thirty millionaires now to every one we must accept them, as we cannot unwrite and year may learn lessons peculiar to itself. something over \$14,000,000, is now judged there was twenty years ago, the majority Nothing is more certain than that we are to have reached five times that sum, or of them delighting to do things on a liberal scale. The matter of farewell bouquets and panniers of flowers alone brings large reselves on at present is that America leads turns to the florists. Every song queen or tion; questions of widest reach are demand- the world in growing roses and rare plants stage favorite who crosses and recrosses the ocean carries a wealth of flowers as inpeace conference at the Hague entirely in send flower pieces and hampers to Paris, stances of goodwill. And the trade kings vain? The two great branches of the An- Berlin and London for wedding gifts and and prosperous brokers and business men seldom omit sending flowers to women friends about to take a voyage, regarding the stalling of accident or ill usage in the formula as quite established and quite apart transit that these hothouse flowers reach from any romantic association with the recipient.

On the theory that there can never be tee much of a good thing the florist is often This country is acknowledged to have the commissioned to duplicate the bouquet, although in different flowers, each morning tematized greenhouses in existence. And that the lady is at sea, a perpetual relately projects have been started by Ameri- minder of good-bye wishes that will encan growers that promise to materially after duce until her destination is reached. The the flower trade, both geographically and purser and steward of the ship shares in the largess from this custom, for the florist gressive flower grower and nurseryman with depends on them to keep his wares fresh

## Work of Specialists.

In the flower industry at large specialists

in all departments of flower-growing vie

with each other in producing novel specimens of their favorite. In commercial ciralso specialization obtains. The sweet pea as represented in the unique and charming varieties grown in California is an instance, that state having robbed England of her prestige in sweet pea culture. A western woman has lately brought the ordinary petunia to the highest pitch of The flower growers classed in the North size and coloring. One man becomes an Atlantic division of territory, which em- authority on the dahlia and learns all there braces the New England states, New York, is to know and tries infinite painstaking New Jersey and Pennsylvania, have hitherto experiments with that brilliant flower. Anmonopolized the center of the flower trade, other cultivates altogether carnations, anthe output from their greenhouses being other roses, another pansies. A number of largely in excess of the amount of flowers societies and clubs for the development of the several flowers they favor have been lately founded on an enduring basis and the To many persons their "own things" are nois and Indiana have devoted a large area prizes put up for the best specimens at the wirtually the whole world of things. Of space and a great deal of capital and en- annual exhibits are donated by a varied. When our Lord said, "He that findeth his ergy to flower growing, some of the most membership. Some prizes are offered by of space and a great deal of capital and en- annual exhibits are donated by a varied life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life prominent commercial growers in the coun-wealthy women who are not flower growers. but are anxious to stimulate interest. Rich husiness men volunteer prize money and In the latest constructed flower factories, prosperous florists at ease as to their own their tenants for the best products from children. It was natural that the early cause Christ uttered it, but He utmost business system and economy of circumstances and having a genuine love for their door yards. The state horticultural

piversal as gravitation; it is a law eternal tain grower owning eighty greenhouses. Throughout the land the interest in flowers The seedsmen attribute peace. Jesus Christ is now the world's perature for the various grades of plant love for flowers among the masses. Pitts- previous to that time being represented by the flower nurse, makes the rounds at cer- flowers at nominal rates along the thorough- camelias for an uncertain patronage. This thought is found in many of the great tain intervals, lowers or heightens the tem- fares and bringing directly to the people a

EASTER.

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of Steaming the Poisons Out of the System. Ministers and Those Who Have Used It Declare It to Be the Most Remarkable Invigorant Ever Produced.

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ous Turkish bath, hot vapor or mediited bath, with no possibility of taking di afterwards or in any way weakening given up their practice to sell this Cabinet-such eminent men as Emerson McKay, De troit, who has already sold over 70, and

troit, who has already sold over 700, and John C. Wright, Chicago, who sold 125 last Thousands of remarkable letters have

Rheumatism, La Grippe, Kidney Troubles.

will be interesting to those who suffer from these dread maladies. W. L. Brown, Oxford, O. writes: "My father was down in bed for months with rheumatism; this Cabinet did him more good than 50 worth of drugs." G. M. Lafferty, Covington, Ky., writes; "Was composed to quit business a year ago, being prostrated with rheumatism and kidney troubles, when your Cabinet came. Two weeks use cured me: I have never had a twinge since." Rev. Geo. H. Hudson, Okemos, Mich., sayst: "I gave up my pastorate on account of nervous prostration and lung troubles, my editor so highly recommended your Cabinet. I tried it; from that day I have steadily grown better; am now well; nervousness gone; lungs strong; am a new man." Mrs. Ober, No. 291 Broad St., Columbus, O., writes; "It is grand for curing colds, la grippe, infammation, aches, pains; it cured my uncle of neuralgia and sleepiessness, with which he had long suffers." will be interesting to those who suffer from flammation, aches, pains; it cured my fincle of neuralgia and sleeplessness, with which he had long suffered. A neighbor cured herself of la grippe in one night, her little girl of measles, her son of croup. Another neighbor cured eczema of many years' standing." Hon. A. R. Strickland of shown in cut. When closed it is air-expension.

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and nostrums, would get into a Vapor Bath
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assist nature to act, they would have pure
blood and a skin as clear and smooth as od and a skin as clear and smooth as most fastidious could desire. The Important Feature

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There is good reason to predict that the

societies and public gardens help spread the nfection, and one city at least has a practical farm established by broadminded city

growing a very limited supply of roses and

fraternal organizations of the hour. Even though outside of the church, many of these though outside of workingmen are illustrating some the ventilation and screen his turers with spare land about their factories.

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So, Sorrow fades-and ills forlorn Grow less upon this Easter morn Where nations touch the purple hem t Of one, low bern, in Bethlehem.

GRIEF FOUND ITS SOLACE WHERE HE STOOD. By Joel Benton.

Dear are the slopes of Olivet. And Hermon's hillside, dewy-wet; While human hearts the pathos see Of lonesome, sad Gethsemane.

Along the shore of Kedron's stream, What shadows rise, what sunlights gleam, For, through long ages dim and drear The careworn form that had no peer,

In touching, tender, lordly worth, There lit a God-kissed space of earth; With splendor of unmatched degree— Master, and Man of Galilee.

Grief found its solace where He stood, And righteousness and rectitude Came to supplant the sway of sin. Through deorways man might enter in.

The dreams of ancient prophets rose To fair fulfillment. Human woes That looked through hopeless, wan despair, Found heavenly hope and comfort there

This pattern, so divinely high, Had its rare imprint from the sky And shaped the laws of Love and Peace For all obedient unto these.