SIR CUPID.

As Cupid rose, as I have heard,
Determined to discover
What kind of a man a maid preferred
Desiring for a lover,
So placing on a soldier's coat,
Or velvet of social grace,
And from the ear he called, they say
He turned to the face.

Then, with a smile urbane and prim,
He turned to state and station,
In short he put pounds into
He gave his complexion.
He tried of this, discovered on that,
Of Power or and Honour,
And from the ear he pass-ed, they say
He turned to the sonnet.

Then, one fond again, he came to try
A manly, retiring lover;
He said, "Oh, no! I love you not"
And turned to leave her;
He tried of star and complete trim,
The phrase of the seven,
And from the ear he sang, they say,
He turned to the—the sonnet.

Then Cupid, puzzled in his mind,
Consulted his counselor;
"That you are preferred none to find
Is more than surprising;
"Tell me! the word with rapture rude,
Chip, pebble, what or simple?"
"I tell you what pick you wise,
So say to you are—Cupid."

—Florence E. Woodside, in Purple Rose.

SHERMAN'S RELIGION.

The question as to whether General Sherman became a Catholic before his death by being baptized into the church, and whether extreme unction was administered to him, has caused a good deal of newspaper and general comment, and there is a strong desire to know just what religious rite or ceremony was performed in the general's sick chamber. In a published interview Rev. Father Rudolph Meyer of St. Louis university, than whom probably no better authority on the Roman Catholic church has it known, speaking on the subject, said as follows: "Some misunderstanding might have occurred which resulted in the administration of extreme unction without the full knowledge of the facts as they existed. This is hardly possible, however, as the laws of the church, as taught to all priests, unmistakably point out the course to be followed under such circumstances."

"Can extreme unction be administered without baptism?" was asked.

"Most positively it cannot. Before extreme unction can be administered the rites of the church must be complied with, and one of the most important of these rites is baptism. No person can become a Catholic until he has received baptism."

"Can an adult be baptized without his consent?"

"Under certain circumstances. A sick person who has expressed willingness to affiliate with the church and in the meantime becomes unconscious, can be baptized while in that state. A verbally expressed desire is sufficient to warrant the administering of the sacrament of baptism."

"If the case is correctly reported, can General Sherman be buried with the rites of the Catholic church?"

"As to that I can only cite the laws of the church. No person can be buried with the rites of the church unless properly baptized. If the baptism occur after the loss of consciousness, and General Sherman's opposition to such rites were known to Father Tapis, I cannot see how the burial can take place according to the recognized rites of the church. But what action the proper ecclesiastical authorities may take is not for me to say or predict.

"As the matter has been reported in the newspapers I cannot consider, under my knowledge of the laws of the church, that General Sherman was a member of the Catholic denomination."

ANECDOTES OF TALLEYRAND.

"The art of putting the right men in the right places," Talleyrand once said, "is first in the science of government, but that of finding places for the distinguished is the most difficult."

It would seem from this that the distinguished French statesman was as much a prey to office-seekers as are the public men of our own time. His manner of disposing of them is amusingly illustrated in the following anecdote:

One day one of these troublesome persons pounced himself on M. de Talleyrand and reminded him that he had been promised a place.

"Very well," said Talleyrand, "but tell something that suits and which can be given. You don't know of anything? Well, find something. You understand that I haven't the time to search for you."

The applicant was disposed of for the time being, but a day or two later he again presented himself, his face radiant with hope, and said:

"Sir, such and such a place is vacant."

"Friend," replied Talleyrand, "Well, what do you wish me to do? You ought to know that when such a place is vacant it has already been promised."

Like many another famous man, but before his time and since, Talleyrand exhibited—at least in early life—great repugnance to settling with his creditors. When he was appointed bishop of Autun by Louis XVI, he mentioned a fine new coach to be necessary to the proper maintenance of the dignity of that office. Accordingly, a coach was ordered and delivered, but not paid for. Some time after, as the newly appointed bishop was about to enter his coach, he noticed a strange man standing near who bowed respectfully until the coach was driven away. This occurred for several days, until at length Talleyrand, addressing the stranger, said:

"Sir, sir, my good man, who are you?"

"I am your coachmaker, my lord," replied the stranger.

"Ah!" said Talleyrand, "you are my coachmaker; and what do you want, my coachmaker?"

"I want to be paid, my lord."

"Ah! you are my coachmaker, and you want to be paid. You shall be paid, my coachmaker."

"But when, my lord?"

"Hush!" said Talleyrand, settling himself comfortably among the cushions of his new coach, and giving his coachmaker severely, "you are very impatient."

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