

NOTES ON INGERSOLL

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Notes on Ingersoll by L. A. Lambert & Patric Cronin

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L. A. LAMBERT & PATRIC CRONIN

**NOTES ON
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NOTES ON INGERSOLL.

BY

REV. L. A. LAMBERT,

OF WATERLOO, N. Y.

PREFACE BY

REV. PATRICK CRONIN.

Fourth Edition, Revised and Enlarged.

BUFFALO, N. Y.:

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1883.

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ST. STEPHEN'S HALL, }
BUFFALO, N. Y., *August 1, 1883.* }

TO THIS fourth edition of "Notes" we take great pleasure in adding a very faithful portrait and a brief, though rather imperfect, sketch of the author's life. We have obtained both in a somewhat surreptitious manner, and make the addition without consulting Father Lambert; but the great demand for the work, coupled with requests from readers and dealers in all parts of the country, for a biographical sketch and portrait of the Rev. author, have justified us in disregarding his wishes in the matter:

Father Lambert has been the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Waterloo for nearly fourteen years, having been appointed to that parish October 18th, 1869. He still holds the position, and is enshrined in the affections of his people. His genial, gentlemanly and courteous ways win the friendship of those with whom he associates, while his scholarly attainments, good judgment in matters both public and private, and his genuine Christian character command the respect and admiration of all. His "Notes on Ingersoll," in which he meets the bold blasphemer, on his own grounds, and shows up the absurdity and hollow falsity of his reasoning, have pricked the bubble of infidelity until there is nothing more to

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argue. This work of Father Lambert has broken down the barriers of sectarianism, until those who were brought up in a different religious faith, take him cordially by the hand as a vigorous and successful defender of Christianity. They strike the key note of popular interest and find a response in the cordial welcome they receive.

Rev. Father Lambert was born in Cookstown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 11th, 1835. His father came to America in 1811 from Inniscorthy, Wexford County, Ireland, in company with his uncle the Right Reverend Dr. Lambert, second Bishop of St. John's, New Foundland. His mother, Lydia Jones, was of English descent, her ancestors coming to this country with the Colony of William Penn. She was a member of the Society of Friends, until her conversion to the Catholic Faith.

In 1854 Louis A. Lambert, then 19 years of age, began his classical studies at St. Vincent's College, Westmoreland County, Pa., and finished his ecclesiastical studies in the Archdiocesan Seminary of St. Louis, at Carondelet, Missouri. In 1859 he was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Alton, Illinois. Immediately thereafter he was appointed assistant pastor of Cairo, Ill., from which place he attended the wants of the Catholics scattered through the southern tier of counties bordering on the Ohio River, and extending from the Mississippi to the Wabash. Shortly after, Father Lambert was appointed pastor of the Cathedral of Alton. From there he was sent to the mission of Shawneetown, in Southeastern Illinois, which included the counties of Gallatin, White, Hamilton, Saline, Pope and Johnson.

While in the faithful discharge of his duties the war of the rebellion broke out, and a commission was issued

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to Father Lambert from the authorities at headquarters in Springfield, Ill., signed by Richard Yates, Governor of the State; A. C. Fuller, Adjutant General, and O. M. Hatch, Secretary of State. This official document was issued to him as Chaplain of the Eighteenth Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers, to rank as Captain of Cavalry from July 1st, 1861. He remained with the regiment through their campaigns in Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi, sharing the perils and hardships of soldier life with other members of the regiment. He was in the terrible battle of Shiloh or Pittsburgh Landing, and other engagements, ministering to the spiritual and temporal wants of the soldiers, and encouraging and sustaining them in the duties that try men's souls. After about two years' service in the army he was appointed pastor of Cairo, Ill., where he remained until 1868. On leaving Cairo, he taught Moral Theology and Philosophy at the Paulist Novitiate, in Fifty-Ninth street, New York City. From there he went to Seneca Falls, where he remained but a short time, when he was appointed pastor of St. Mary's Church, Waterloo.

In 1877 he founded the *Catholic Times* at Waterloo, N. Y., a journal devoted to Catholic interests. The paper at once took rank as a leader amongst Catholic journals, was edited with marked ability, and in a very short time secured a large circulation in Central, Southern and Western New York. Early in 1880, finding the work growing on him, the Catholic Times Publishing Company of Rochester was organized, and the paper removed to that city, Father Lambert relinquishing the editorial chair to Mr. Francis O'Connor. In the fall of '81 the *Times* was consolidated with the *Union of Buffalo*, and is now known as *The Catholic Union and Times*, Father

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Lambert always retaining a friendly interest in his journalistic offspring.

Among his literary works is a very valuable book entitled "Thesaurus Biblicus; or Hand-book of Scripture Reference," which is a mountain of scholarly research and patient toil. The nature of the work does not make it in such popular demand as his "Notes on Ingersoll," but it is none the less profound, and is most highly prized by all scholars and students of Scripture. Another work is a translation from the German entitled "The Christian Father." In these and in the many articles for the press, from Father Lambert's pen, there shines forth the intellectual brightness of the author, while their tone and sentiment impress the reader with his goodness of heart. It is no flattery to say that he ranks high in the priesthood and in the community, that he is widely and most favorably known as one who lives in the serene enjoyment of a well balanced mind, a sound body, a healthful, well cultivated intellect, and a calm, dignified consciousness of living an exemplary life in the faithful discharge of his duties to his fellow men and to his God. It is the wish of the people amongst whom he resides that he may long be retained as pastor of St. Mary's Church, and that his health, strength and usefulness may not be impaired for many years to come.

We are largely indebted for the above to the *Seneca County News*.

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D. T. O'RIELLY, *Manager*.