

# The Catholic Journal.

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## FARMER CARSON'S SONS.

BY MARY ROWENA COTTER.  
Author of the "Two Cousins" and  
"A Heroine of Charity."

(Continued from last week.)

### CHAPTER III.

Monday morning William Gleason was buried, and it was to attend his funeral that Mrs. Carson first crossed the threshold of the Catholic church, accompanied by the whole family excepting Grace, who had remained at home with Clara's children. Charlie acted as one of the bearers and his mother, who sat near him, soon noticed that he was no stranger in the Catholic church, for he stood or knelt when the others did, with an ease that showed that he knew what he was doing. "Can it be that he, too, is a Catholic?" she thought. Her attention was fixed on her other son at the altar, and watching him and listening to the sweet, sad strains of music wafted from the choir, she forgot Charlie.

When on her return home her husband asked her how she liked the service, she only answered, "It is a very strange religion," while Clara's answer was that she thought Eddie was a very fine preacher, but oh, what a pity that he should be a Catholic priest when he might be such a good minister.

That night Charlie informed his parents of his intention to become a Catholic. His father told him that as for him he was at liberty to do as he pleased, but to his mother, as might be expected, the disclosure was anything but pleasant. She told him how it grieved her to see him giving up his own religion just to please a girl, and begged of him now before he had taken the final step which would bind him to the Catholic church to be man enough to turn back from the path of error which he was about to enter. "Your brother was brought up to it," she said, "and cannot be blamed so much, but you whom I have brought up myself and taught what was right should know better."

"My brother," is not as ignorant as you may imagine. He knows that the faith he teaches is truth itself, as do I, and knowing that faith as I do now, I could not with a free conscience remain outside the church even if I had never known Theresa McKinney or any other Catholic girl."

"Do you mean to tell me," said Mrs. Carson, "that she has not influenced you to take such a step?"

"I do," said her son, "that is—well, of course, in the beginning when I first commenced to study her religion, I did it to please her and to prove to myself that she was right in her belief. If I had failed in the latter, I would have given her up sooner than become a member of the church, but I am fully convinced that she is right, and I shall delay no longer."

"My son, how can you talk that way?" asked Mrs. Carson in a pained tone.

Charlie felt that he had been rather bold in saying this before his mother, who had brought him up so differently, but he only spoke the truth from his heart and he would not relent.

At last his mother said, "Since you are of an age old enough to know your own mind I suppose there is no use of offering any further objections, although it grieves me very much to see you do this; besides, if you insist upon marrying her it will be better for you both to be of one religion."

When Charlie came home he had intended remaining only a week, but as he would have but little to do if he returned to the city he decided not to go back until after the Christmas holidays, when he intended to be married. Two weeks from the Sunday after he came home he was baptized by his own brother, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson being the godfather and godmother.

Theresa Kinney was an orphan, now, alone in the world with no one in the world excepting a little brother left out of a large family. Her mother had been dead about a year and a half, and she had promised her on her death bed that she would never marry Charlie Carson until he became a Catholic. She would keep this promise, even though she had to spend many lonely hours in the little home, which, for her brother's sake, she would not give up. And lonely hours, indeed, they often were, especially as the Christmas holidays drew near, those days which had always been such happy ones for them while their parents were living. Two years ago they had enjoyed such a pleasant Christmas with their

mother, and a year ago they had spent it in the home of an uncle in the country, but mother was gone now and their uncle had moved away to the far west, so they must remain at home alone.

Theresa thought of this a great deal, as the great holiday drew near, and wished that she had some kind friends with whom to spend it, not that she cared for herself, for she would be contented to remain alone, but her little brother, he would be so lonely, as she could not make the day as happy for him as when their dear mother was living. She felt this more keenly when, one day about a week before Christmas, he came home from school and told her the plans the boys had been making that day about how and where they were to spend the holidays.

One boy was to visit his grandparents, another his uncle, a third was to have a big Christmas tree at home with his brothers and sisters, while another expected several of his cousins from the country. "And, dear sister," said the boy, "I couldn't help feeling bad when they asked me how I was going to spend Christmas, for I could not tell them I was going anywhere."

"Never mind, dearest brother," said Theresa, trying to choke back her sorrow at seeing her brother so lonely. "We will have a Christmas ourselves, and you may invite any boys you wish." "May I, Theresa?" he said eagerly. "How kind you are," and he went on telling her who he would invite, until Theresa began to wonder if their little rooms would hold so many boys, but she would not disappoint him by refusing to invite any one he thought of.

The Christmas tree was all that he talked of during the remainder of the day, but in the morning a letter came which changed his thoughts. He was getting ready to go to school when the letter carrier brought it in. Theresa glanced at the post-mark and saw that it was from T——, Charlie Carson's home, but the writing was not his. "I wonder, who it can be from," she thought, as she tore it open. To her surprise, she found that it was an invitation from Mrs. Carson for herself and brother to spend the holidays at her home. She said the family would be very happy to have them come and hoped they would not disappoint them.

"How kind of Mrs. Carson to send us the invitation," she said more to herself than to her brother, who with a happy, eager face had been listening to her read the letter, "but of course I shall decline the invitation."

"Won't you go, Theresa?" he asked, the happy expression fading from his face. "Why not?"

"Because," said his sister, "I do not think it would be proper."

"I don't see why not," said the boy, "since Mrs. Carson has been so good as to invite us, and we would enjoy ourselves so much if we went."

Theresa was silent, for she did not wish to disappoint her brother by refusing to go, neither did she wish to accept this invitation, which had probably been sent at Charlie's request.

"You will go, won't you, Theresa," he pleaded, and he was on her knee, now, looking earnestly into her face. "I want to see Charlie's little brother, Willie, so much, and his pleasant home, which I have so often heard him tell about."

"Wouldn't you rather remain at home and have your Christmas tree?" she asked.

"No," he said, "I want to go to the country, for it will be so nice there, and I know you will enjoy it more than staying here and—having a house full of boys to bother you."

"I will not mind that," said his sister, "if you only enjoy yourself with them."

"But I would enjoy myself more in the country," he said. "Now won't you go? Please write this morning, and tell Mrs. Carson you will come." "I will think about it," said his sister, "but it is time for you to go to school." Butting his coat around his neck and putting on his cap, he kissed him good-bye and stood watching from the window as he hurried off to tell the boys that he expected to spend the holidays in the country.

To be continued.

### A NUN POSTMISTRESS.

The last certificate of commission to a postmistress given by the postmaster general was that of M. Polycarpa Staigale, of the Order of St. Dominic. She is said to be the only nun in the United States to hold such an office, and presides over St. Joseph's in Sullivan county, N. Y., where the order of which she is a member erected last summer a sanitarium.

## AROUND THE GLOBE.

WHAT THE CHURCH IS DOING IN THIS AND OTHER CONTINENTS.

Many Items of General Interest That Will be Appreciated by Our Readers.

An attempt to tax Catholic church property in Montreal has proved abortive, owing to the opposition of Archbishop Bruchesi and the Catholic press.

The jewels left by the late Madame Carnot to be sold for the benefit of charity and valued at \$25,000 francs were bought by an unknown person for 125,000 francs.

Twenty-four missionaries from the monastery of Einsiedeln left Switzerland on Dec. 3, for America. They were under the guidance of Rev. Father Bonaventura Binzegger, of Zug, who eighteen years ago made his first voyage on behalf of the American missions.

The Sacred Congregation of Rites has requested Mgr. Richelmy, Archbishop of Turin, to collect all the documents and unpublished writings of the late Don Giovanni Bosco, founder of the Salesians, with a view to commencing a process for his beatification. It will be remembered that a monument to this St. Vincent de Paul of our own days was recently erected at Castelnuovo d'Asti, the birthplace of Don Bosco.

It is not often that five brothers, all priests, are to be met with, and rarer still is it to find the five officiating together. Yet such a sight was seen recently in the Cincinnati cathedral, when Revs. John, William, George, Edward and Charles Hickey took part in the solemn requiem mass that was sung in that church for the repose of an uncle of theirs who lately died. All those priests, moreover, belong to the same diocese, to wit, that of Cincinnati. They quite overshadowed the four McNally girls who recently entered the convent.

The members of St. Joseph's parish, Leicester, Mass., were very pleasantly surprised recently when their pastor, Rev. John F. Redican, announced that a generous Protestant, Mrs. Caroline N. Russell, wife of the Hon. John E. Russell, had given a check for \$1,700 as a gift for the purchase of land for cemetery purposes. The Catholics of Leicester have never had a local burying place, and all funeral processions have been obliged to make the long journey to Worcester, necessitating great expense.

His Holiness has just addressed a letter to the minister general of the Friars Minor (Franciscans) which will be regarded as a trumpet call by all the members of the order. The Holy Father dwells on the importance of certain duties and activities through which he expects the Friars Minor to do great things for the church. First, he calls upon them to be diligent in pursuing higher studies, taking St. Thomas as the ground work. Next he urges that they should be well equipped Biblical students, guarding against certain new opinions, not because they are new, but because they are false and deceptive. Then he touches on a topic which should interest all priests—the art of preaching—and no words could be happier or more to the point than those he uses in this connection. Lastly, His Holiness calls upon the friars to "go to the people."

An English weekly in the interest of Catholicity will begin publication in Paris early next year. It will be called the New Era, and will be in the hands of the Very Rev. Osmund Cook, C. P., superior of the Passionists in Paris, who has opened an office and secured efficient contributors and correspondents, ecclesiastic and lay, in all the great Catholic centres including Dublin. Father Cook will be assisted by Father Columban Tyne. The idea of this paper was set forth at the last Catholic Scientific congress in Fribourg, of the English section of which Father Osmund Cook is secretary. The New Era, the outcome of the Fribourg discussion on journalism, is to be primarily devoted to science, literature and news, especially Catholic news; will devote itself to the work of the reunion of Christendom and to the refutation of slander against the church.

"A Heroine of Charity," "The Two Cousins," and other stories that have been printed in THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL have been put in book form for the holidays and can be obtained at this office. Price, 75c each, handsomely cloth bound.

## A NORMAL SCHOOL.

OPENED BY THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH.

St. Rev. E. J. McQuaid and Mary Fiebert Assist in the Dedication Ceremony.

Tuesday morning the imposing ceremony of blessing the chapel and entire building just completed by the Sisters of St. Joseph took place.

This beautiful edifice, semi-colonial style, is situated at the corner of Dewey avenue and Augustine street. It is destined to be a Normal School for the training of teachers in the community of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Here, in future, will be held their annual meetings and teachers institutes.

As regards the health and comfort of the inmates, the building is well adapted to this purpose. It is spacious, and well planned. The light, heat and ventilation are provided for according to the most modern systems.

At 9 o'clock a. m., his lordship, Rt. Rev. B. J. McQuaid and the reverend clergy entered the sanctuary in procession. Then commenced the ceremony of dedication. The altar was first blessed, then the chapel and immediately after the various other apartments to each of which the clergy and religious accompanied in procession his lordship the Bishop.

The ceremony of dedication was followed by Pontifical high mass. Rt. Rev. Bishop McQuaid acting as celebrant; Very Rev. J. P. Kieran, V. G., assistant priest; Rev. T. C. Murphy and Rev. J. J. Lary, deacons of honor; Rev. J. VanNess, deacon; and Rev. A. O'Neill, sub-deacon; Rt. Rev. H. DeHaage, master of ceremonies, assisted by Rev. A. Hughes. The following reverend clergy were also present: Rev. T. F. Hickey, rector of the cathedral; Rev. Thos. Hendrick, Rev. J. Netzel and Rev. J. E. Gaffell.

The music was furnished by the Nazareth convent choir and orchestra. The following programme was well rendered: Kyrie, LaHache; Gloria, LaHache; Credo, Cimarosa; Offertory, Lactentur Celi, Hamma; Sanctus, LaHache; Agnus Dei, LaHache.

After pontificating, Rt. Rev. B. J. McQuaid delivered an eloquent address to the audience. The following few remarks we give:

Dear Children in Christ:

I dedicate to-day, to the honor and glory of Almighty God, a house of piety and virtue, of study and learning. This is the special work of members of this community. There is no sight in Christendom more inspiring, more uplifting and gladdening to the soul seen anywhere than the world over than bodies of women consecrated to the service of God in various ways. Some caring for the orphan, some nursing and tending the sick in hospitals, some lifting up the broken down and aged, some going as missionaries to the uttermost quarters of the world, traversing South America, Africa, Australia, China and Japan. They go with but little hope of reward in this life, but with great hope of reward in the next.

There is no form of human suffering to which the spouses of Christ, consecrated to God's service, have not readily given their lives to alleviate.

This community, adapting itself to the requirements of the diocese in which it is found, has entered a field of work in which the care and instruction of the young is the object. This instruction is according to the way of to-day, not according to the principle laid down a hundred years ago.

They give their lives to God, bearing in mind the character of the sacrifice they make unto this God. They bring to His service the best powers of mind and body, which God has given them, to be expended in the work to which He has been pleased to call them.

Here, He calls them to the noble task of instructing the young, and every young soul becoming a member of a religious teaching body has a right to demand the best means to withstand the dangers of the world in which they live and work; the circumstances of the times and the environments in which they are placed.

Not many years ago the opinion prevailed that any ordinary education sufficed for the masses of the people. No energy was expended, no pains taken to go beyond the simple elements of education.

It was soon found that the uneducated ones were too easily swept away from their religion; as well might the shepherd secure the fold by strong walls here and there, leaving some weak places through which the wolves

may enter and devour the flock.

As for the religious teacher devoted to God's work in caring for, directing and influencing the youth in her charge, this defective education might suffice if there were no wolves; but the world is filled with ravenous wolves that are destroying countless numbers of the unguarded ones, whom God requires the religious teachers to protect. If the walls are not high enough, they must be raised; if they are not strong enough, they must be strengthened.

Thirty years ago and more the small community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the diocese of Rochester came before their Bishop expressing their willingness as far as they could to instruct the young. The outlook was far from encouraging. No one in the diocese had the courage needed for the undertaking, except the Bishop himself. He knew that where there was a true vocation to the religious life and to the instruction of the young, true strength with perseverance along the right lines, they would prove themselves worthy of their cause and of the efforts put forth in their behalf.

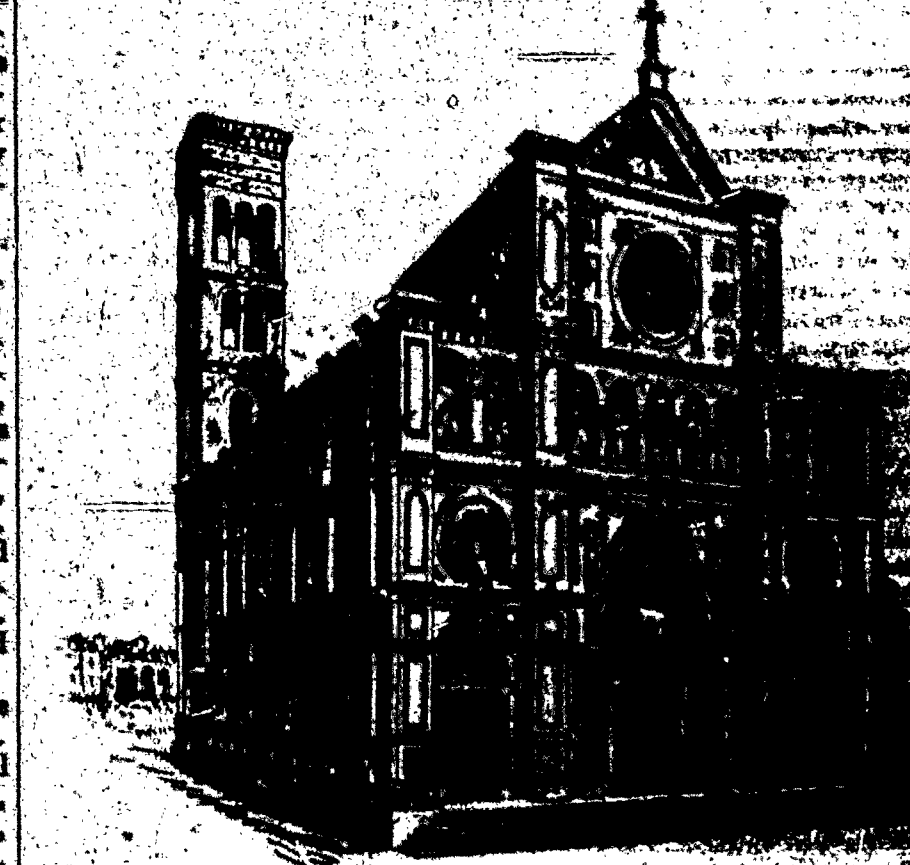
In time, others gained courage and the work went on in poverty and

## ST. PATRICK IN ROME.

The Prospect of Rebuilding the Irish Church in Rome Abandoned.

An announcement that was made with great regret, especially by Irish and Irish-American Catholics, that which recently asserted the project of erecting an Irish church in Rome, to be dedicated to St. Patrick, had been abandoned. The reason of the abandonment of the project is said to have been a lack of funds to go on with the edifice. The site and foundations have been transferred by the Irish Augustinians, who undertook the erection of St. Patrick's in Rome, to a wealthy English Benedictine sisterhood, whose members will build a convent there.

When the project of building a church to St. Patrick in Rome was first undertaken the outlook was promising for the success of the movement. A suitable site was secured by some eminent ecclesiastical statesman, Leo XIII, who warmly approved the project of the erection of such a church, entrusted the task, and the plans were prepared for the movement.



THE PROPOSED CHURCH.

humility, it is true; but with all the disadvantages of those early days, it steadily continued to grow. If so much has been accomplished during these thirty years of privation and difficulties, what may we not expect in the future with more material aids, and a younger man as my successor, with the energy of his fresh soul.

For the better preparation of the young teacher to meet the wants of the day, we are establishing here a Normal religious school; first, for the preparation of the religious teachers; and, in time, to give all our young women the advantages of a normal training in a Catholic school, which they now look for elsewhere.

May God's blessing be upon this house and on all who teach and learn therein, that they may grow in mind and soul, in virtue and piety, in usefulness and efficiency to accomplish perfectly the work of their calling.

The beautiful Gothic altar, gift of Mr. Thomas Fingone, the contractor, has been erected to the memory of his deceased daughter. It was tastefully decorated with flowers and lights for the occasion.

Other gifts, too, have been made by friends of the institution: Rt. Rev. Bishop McQuaid, a gold chalice and beautiful missal; Mr. James Reynolds, one hundred dollars; Mr. J. C. King, a handsome dining room table; Misses Lindley & Carr, iron bedstead with brass trimmings, mattress and dresser; Rev. M. A. Quirk, Ottawa, Ill., fifty dollars.

Tuesday's ceremony was stamped with a sacred seal a work high and noble in its aim, and endless in its object. This event may be compared to the first link of a great chain destined to reach from the present moment into God's eternal years.

## THE TEXTURE CLUB.

Welcomed Annual Dance in Powers Hall.

The annual dance of the Texture Club was held at Powers hall Monday evening and was a most pleasing and successful affair. About seventy couples took part. A collation was served by Teal at a late hour. Dances were given by the club members.

The committee of arrangements was composed of J. F. Galligan, J. E. Connell and A. J. Mallon. The patronesses were: Mrs. J. G. Barnes, Mrs. John Connell, Mrs. O. E. Cunningham, Mrs. T. W. Furcass, Mrs. Frank J. Hone, Mrs. K. G. Macdonald and Mrs. James P. McCool.

passed, situated on the site of the old St. Patrick's church, erected in 1, 1843, the same was abandoned. The project was abandoned because of a lack of funds to go on with the edifice. The site and foundations have been transferred by the Irish Augustinians, who undertook the erection of St. Patrick's in Rome, to a wealthy English Benedictine sisterhood, whose members will build a convent there.

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