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GRANDFATHER'S PROPHECY.

BY MARY ROWENA COTTER.
(For The Catholic Journal.)

CHAPTER I. Leaving Home.

It was near the close of a bright May afternoon and in the pleasant country everything in nature looked its loveliest. The place of which I write was situated in a little valley down among the green hills of New England far away from any city or even town of any size and what was here dignified by the name of a town consisted of only a few scattering houses, one store which supplied nearly every want of the inhabitants, even containing a Post Office where the mail was brought twice a week. In the midst of all, forming a landmark for miles around, arose the steeple of a Catholic church; for the people in this section were mostly Irish, true to the Faith St. Patrick had taught their forefathers many centuries ago, and there were many in the parish who traveled twenty or thirty miles each Sunday to hear Mass.

Almost within the shadow of the church stood a neat little white cottage with an ivy covered porch in front. Everything around bespoke poverty but neatness on the part of the occupants. In an old wooden rocker just outside the door sat an aged, white haired grandfather who was telling stories of his own youthful days in old Ireland to the youngest members of the family, a little boy and girl of six and eight who were crouched on the grass at his feet, gazing up with open eyes. Their trust in dear grandpa was perfect and the only thing that could distract them, was the savory odor issuing from the house where their mother was preparing a feast such as they had not tasted in many days.

"Margaret," said the old man addressing his daughter who just then appeared in the door way, "What time is it?"

"Half past six," was the reply.

"Time the girls were home."

"They will be here soon, I know, for they have been gone nearly three hours and they must be very hungry."

"Yes, the dear children, but when they come they will enjoy the feast their mother has prepared for them."

"I hope so, father, for it will be their last supper at home."

At that moment a shrill whistle was heard and the two little ones ran to meet the girls who with Jack Grimes, a neighbor's son, were nearing the house.

The Nortons, for such was the family name, were very poor but honest people. By the strictest economy on the part of both husband and wife they had managed to pay for their little home, a few acres of land, besides feeding and clothing their family of eight small children, but hard work was breaking down the once strong constitution of the father and he must have help. The task fell upon the two oldest daughters, Margaret who was almost twenty and Nellie aged eighteen. Had there been work for them near home they would gladly have remained there all their lives, but most of the people being poor like themselves no one could hire them; so it was finally settled that they were to go to work in a cotton mill in a distant city. A neighbor's daughter who had been there for five years earning what seemed to them enormous wages had secured positions for both and to-morrow morning they were to start.

A great change indeed it was to be to those country bred girls who had never been on a railroad train or gone many miles from their own home. Of the great world beyond they knew nothing whatever excepting a few wonderful sounding stories which had been told them by their friends to whom they were going. How different it had affected them; Margaret had from the first felt a strong desire to pass beyond the narrow horizon which had so far bounded her vision, while Nellie had listened with awe and clung closer to her mountain home, but when the call of duty summoned them to go forth Nellie was by far the braver of the two. It mattered not how lonely she felt she kept it all to herself for she knew that to those left behind the separation would be very hard, and she wished to carry with her only the pleasantest memories of home. Margaret, who, after the novelty of the expected change had begun to wear away began to feel a deeper love than before for her home, made a display of her feelings until reprimanded by her more patient sister who told her that it was wrong to thus make the dear ones share her grief more than was necessary. The

warning had the desired effect, for Margaret would not consciously inflict sorrow upon any one, much less her own, and therefore her cheerfulness added much sunshine to the happy home.

The last afternoon was spent in the woods gathering May flowers for Mary's altar; and Jack Grimes, who was about three years Margaret's senior, had taken a half holiday to accompany them. Jack was a great favorite among both young and old and his company was eagerly sought; but while he treated all kindly he seemed to care only for the Norton girls and a stranger would have found it difficult to tell which he preferred for he might be seen first with one, then with the other, but oftener with both. The girls themselves knew that Margaret was his choice and though Nellie loved him as a dear friend she did not envy her sister.

"Margaret is nearer his own age," she would reason, "while I am too young to think of having a lover, and besides how could he care for my plain, homely face when he can have such a beauty as she."

Margaret Norton was indeed most beautiful, for perfect health and pure country air had given her a fair beautiful complexion which added charms to the bright blue eyes, wavy auburn hair and features of a most perfect mould; while to one who can see no beauty of soul on a plain face Nellie might appear only passably good looking.

As the girls entered the house, followed by their companion who had been invited to stay to supper, Margaret paused in front of a small mirror to see the effect of a spray of delicate pink flowers Jack had fastened in her hair, and the old grandfather sighed within himself as he noticed the movement which to him was an indication of the vanity he feared might bring his darling to grief.

After the meal which was partaken with a true relish by all, the young people went to decorate the shrine accompanied by two of the other girls. It was a most pleasant task and when it was finished the Rosary and Litany were offered for the welfare of the two who were going away, then Nellie started for home with her little sisters, but the other two lingered behind half an hour passed then the grandfather who had just aroused from a nap in his chair asked:

"Where is Margaret?"

"She and Jack are coming," said Nellie.

The old man nodded and smiled.

"I was young myself once, but I hope the children will not stay out late for the dew is falling."

After another half hour they returned, both looking very happy and Jack sat down with the family until the younger children had retired then he addressed Mr. and Mrs. Norton, telling them that Margaret had promised with their consent to become his wife.

"Not soon," he said for he knew that they needed her assistance and as for himself he was poor and did not wish to marry until he had a home to give her; but he was young and strong and would work hard to earn it for her and it would be a great happiness to know that she was to be his after a few years of labor and waiting.

Mr. Norton was silent for a few minutes while Jack and Margaret eagerly awaited his reply. To him his girls were children still and he wished to keep them so as long as possible, but they were going away from the shelter of the paternal roof to-morrow to face the world as women. Even so, as much as he loved Jack had he asked for Nellie he would have refused to have had her thus early bound by an engagement, but with Margaret it was different. Not because she was several months older, but because her disposition was so much different. He felt that Nellie could be trusted wherever she went but the evil influence of the large city caused him to fear for his eldest daughter; and perhaps, after all the fact that she was engaged and had something to look forward to might be a great protection to her. At last he said:

"Margaret, like yourself, is still young to marry, though her mother became my wife at her age, but when she is a little older I see no reason why you two could not be happy together. Yes, you have my consent and God bless you both. What have you to say, wife?"

"I agree with my husband and shall be proud to call Jack our son for I know he is worthy."

"God grant I may prove so," said the ardent lover who never stopped to consider that his Margaret might ever

be otherwise, "and now I thank you both with all my heart. But grandpa, I have not asked your consent."

To be continued.

A YEAR'S MISSIONS BY REDEMPTORISTS.

Unusually Busy Period in the Apostolic Work of Preaching to Congregations and Religious Communities.

The Redemptorist Fathers of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., report an unusually busy year in the apostolic work of preaching missions and retreats throughout the United States and Canada.

St. Clement's College of Redemptorist missionaries is within easy reach of Saratoga Springs, being situated on the western outskirts of that fashionable village. Assigned to mission work and under the direction of Rev. Francis E. Klauer, rector, are the following fathers: F. X. Miller, H. J. Zilles, William Crosby, J. Feeney, F. T. Parr, J. Hamel, S. L. Connolly, J. J. Heenan, F. X. Bader, E. Mulhern, J. B. Guillo and Joseph Schonhart.

During the past year these fathers have conducted one hundred and twenty-nine missions and retreats. The missions were distributed over the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Massachusetts, Michigan, Vermont, Maine, Connecticut and New Hampshire, the District of Columbia and Canada. The religious orders for which retreats were given include the Sisters of St. Francis, of St. Joseph, of the Good Shepherd, of the Blessed Sacrament, of the Perpetual Adoration and the Little Sisters of the Poor. Retreats were also conducted for the priests of Altoona, Rochester and Syracuse Dioceses. Non Catholic missions were conducted at St. John Baptist's, Syracuse, N. Y.; St. Paul's, Greenville, N. Y.; St. Mary's, Palmar Falls, N. Y.; Blessed Sacrament, Philadelphia; Nativity, New York city; St. Louis, Oswego, N. Y., and St. John's, Camden, N. Y.

CHAPEL FOR ST. MARY'S.

Meeting called at Hospital to Discuss the Question.

A general meeting of the friends of St. Mary's hospital will be held in the hospital next Sunday afternoon at three o'clock when the project of a new chapel which has been proposed to add to the building will be discussed. This will be the first meeting of the kind that has been called in regard to the matter and will be of a preliminary nature.

The need of such a building has long been felt by the directors of St. Mary's hospital. One of the large wards of the hospital has been used for chapel purposes. It is unsuited to such use and a chapel is in every way desirable.

In Memoriam.

At a regular meeting held January 12, 1903, Council 25, C. R. & B. A. named a committee which embodied the following resolutions:

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite power and wisdom to take from our midst our beloved sister, Hanora Darcy, an ever faithful member, while we bow in humble submission to His holy will, be it

Resolved, that the assurance of true sympathy be here with conveyed to the bereaved family and while prayerfully cherishing her memory we confide her loved ones to the compassionate heart of Him, who alone can truly comfort and sustain, we

Resolve, to present to the family of our deceased sister, a copy of these resolutions, which are to appear upon the council's records, in the C. R. & B. A. Bulletin and the Rochester Catholic Journal and that our charter be draped in mourning for thirty days.

Mary E. Henry, Caroline Morey, Sadie L. O'Brien, committee.

The love of company and social pleasures is indeed quite natural and is attended with some of the sweetest satisfactions of human life, with this in mind Council 25 C. R. & B. A. is making arrangements for a pedro party to be given on the evening of Jan. 26th, for the members and their friends and a most enjoyable time is promised.

Their First Masses

Rev. John Joseph Cosgrove, of Clifton Springs, and Rev. Christian Dunningan, of Binghamton, who were ordained by Bishop McQuaid on last week Thursday, celebrated their first masses Friday at St. Patrick's asylum on Clifton St. A large number of friends and relatives were present.

Didn't Try the Cure.

Tramp—I jus' dropped in, mum, to offer my new cure for indigestion, dyspepsia and kindred ailments, mum. It may prove a great blessing to your family, mum, and I charge you nothing for the prescription.

Lady—Well, I must say that's reasonable enough. What is the cure?

Tramp—Live on plain food and give your rich and indigestible dishes to the poor. I'm the poor, mum.

NEW CLUB HOUSE.

St. Joseph's Young Men's Association to Formally Open Their Handsome House.

The new home of the Catholic Young Men's Association of St. Joseph's church will be formally opened for public inspection to-morrow. The building will be open to the public from 3 to 6 in the afternoon and from 8 to 10 o'clock in the evening. Music will be furnished and every member of the club will act on a reception committee to insure the comfort and entertainment of all visitors. The members will be distinguished by wearing the club colors. The committee which has had the arrangements for the opening in charge is composed of Messrs. Wm. Hahn, E. Fred Henricus and Louis Meng.



Frank J. Stupp, President.

The building is situated on Chatham St. near Franklin St. It aims in all its arrangements to combine utility with comfort and convenience, and is characterized throughout by its substantial style and simplicity. The plans were drawn and the work carried out by the architect, Mr. J. H. Oberlies, working in conjunction with Rev. Wm. Kessel, whose practical knowledge and experience along this line of work have been of the utmost value. The structure is of pressed brick, is heated by steam and lighted by electricity. Its cost including the furnishings was \$15,000.

Left of the main entrance is the library and reading room, 15 by 20 ft. in size. The walls and decorations are of green, and its furniture of black leather and quartered oak. There are large and comfortable Morris and Turkish chairs about the room inviting one to spend a cozy hour or two among the books. The library contains a fine selection of the best Catholic books and the standard works of literature, which are for free circulation among the members. The reading table is supplied with the daily papers and the weekly and monthly magazines.

To the right of the entrance hall is the card and chess room, 15 by 30 ft. This is finished in drab, and has a mantle with a gas grate at the side of the room. Back of the library is the office, with telephone and desks for the secretaries of the association.

The billiard room on the upper floor is 30 by 42 ft. in size and contains two pool and a billiard table and also a regulation ping pong table. Space has been reserved for an additional billiard table which will be in place very soon. This room also has a mantle and grate, and for the accommodation of spectators is amply provided with specially made chairs.

The floors in all the rooms are of hardwood finish. A harmonious color scheme has been carried out in the decorations, and the metal ceilings in the different rooms are shaded to blend with the colors of the rooms.

The gymnasium, 75 by 42 ft., and 18 ft. high, is located in the rear, on the first floor. It is fully equipped with up-to-date apparatus, and is one of the most complete gymnasiums in the city. A physical instructor will have charge of the athletic work and regular classes will be made up and begin practise very shortly.

The basement contains two standard bowling alleys, the locker rooms holding three hundred lockers, the bicycle room, boiler room and bath rooms. There are four of the latter fitted with shower and needle baths having hot and cold water connections.

The C. Y. M. A. was organized on Oct. 19th, 1890, under the direction of Rev. August Pingel, O. S. B., the first spiritual director of the club; and its first president was Mr. Joseph J. Mandery. On Oct. 16, 1894, it was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. The object of the

association is to promote Catholic interest, true education and moral entertainment for its members. Since its organization the society has had rooms in the old building at the rear of the church; it has grown and prospered, daily fulfilling the object which it has before it. It has now about 250 members.

The new clubhouse was made possible through the efforts of Rev. Father Kessel, the present spiritual director of the club and rector of the church. The corner-stone was laid on Sept. 23rd, 1902, and the building completed and turned over to the association on Jan. 1st, 1903. On this occasion Father Kessel said:

"This new clubhouse for the young men has been one of the things that I have urged for years. I think it will make practical men out of all of the members, and it will not only improve your physical welfare, but also your spiritual welfare."

During three recent years, Mr. Wm. J. Mayer has been president of the club and has filled the office with credit to the association and to himself. Especially in connection with the arrangements for the new quarters has he discharged many and serious duties with sound judgment and pains taking care.

The officers at present are: President Frank J. Stupp; vice pres., John M. E. Wolfert; in. sec., Wm. F. Schleifer; rec. sec., J. Eustace Leinen; membership sec., Frank L. Neid. Board of directors: Wm. Hahn, F. P. Reichert, E. F. Henricus, Louis Meng, L. Glaser and Edward Shubart.

All practical Catholic young men over 16 years of age are eligible for membership in the C. Y. M. A. The dues are six dollars annually, and an initiation fee of two dollars is charged on entrance. The rooms are open every evening in the week, and on Sundays with the exception of the bowling alleys and gymnasium, in the afternoon and after the evening services.

C. M. B. A.

The members of Central Council, held a pedro party and social Wednesday night, at French Hall, on Pleasant St. There was dancing for the benefit of those who did not play cards. These committees were in charge: Arrangement committee, John C. Koestner, Joseph W. Langmeyer, N. Miller, John Flanagan, Louis Hoff and Thomas Enstace; reception committee, James L. Whalen, Ed. J. Ernst, Ches P. Mead, Lawrence McGreal, John R. Galen, P. J. Leichleitter and William McCarthy; Floor committee, Joseph W. Langmeyer, Frank Hargarther, Joseph Weis, Frank Carberry, Henry Weigman, Thomas Walker; refreshment committee, L. Lavery, N. J. Miller, F. Buskey, R. Knittle and James Weber.

The following officers of Branch 93 C. M. B. A. were installed recently: Spiritual adviser, Rev. A. M. O'Neil, chancellor, Dr. John N. Hanna; pres., Thos. Reid; 1st vice pres., William Hanna; 2nd vice pres., S. J. McLaughlin; rec. sec., John Culliton; arst. sec., Wm. Nolan; fin. sec., Ralph J. Bendon; treas., Patrick Doran; marshal, Wm. Mary; guard, Martin O'Brien; trustees, James Maher, John J. Quirk, Patrick Ball, S. J. McLaughlin, Wm. H. McCarthy; bus. sec. committee, Jas. O'Neil, John Connor, W. H. McCarty; finance committee, James Maher, Patrick Call, Chas. J. Ford; delegate to grand council, Ralph J. Bendon; alternate, F. J. G. Connor; delegates to central council, Thomas Reid, John Culliton, Ralph Bendon, Wm. H. McCarty, John Quirk.

Branch 93 will hold a pedro party early in February at which elegant prizes will be given and dancing for those who wish. Everybody invited.

Society of Perpetual Help.

The Society of Perpetual Help met at St. Mary's Hospital Wednesday afternoon at 8 o'clock. Mrs. William C. Barry, Mrs. Michael Kolb, Mrs. George G. Carrol and Mrs. Mathias Kondolf received visitors.

December at St. Mary's Hospital.

The December report of St. Mary's hospital gives the number of patients in the hospital on the first of the month as 119; the admittances numbered 97; there were 11 deaths, 85 were discharged and 122 remained on January 1st. 76 calls were responded to by the ambulance during the month. 21 were hurry and 55 ordinary calls.

Wedding Invitations.

We can supply the wants of the young lady or gentlemen who are about to be married at reasonable prices. Call and see our samples.

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BAKER THEATRE.

The story of "Human Hearts," that beautiful poetical play of the simple life of the folks of rural Arkansas deals with the happenings to "honest Tom Logan, the village blacksmith."

The play is a pathetic one with many thrilling scenes, but there is very strong comedy running through it, which gives the necessary contrast. "Human Hearts" will be at the Baker Theatre Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Jan. 26, 27, 28 with special bargain matinees Tuesday and Wednesday.

"The Queen of the Highway," a new melodrama of Western life in four acts and seven scenes will be the attraction Thursday, Friday and Saturday and will undoubtedly prove popular with the patrons of the house.

The story is told in a crisp entertaining style that keeps the audience on edge throughout. It tells of a woman with a past who has turned bandit and makes a specialty of holding up stage coaches. How she meets her deserted child, since grown to womanhood and then her husband who dies at the moment of recognition after the hold up of the stage coach makes a story full of dramatic thrills.

COOK OPERA HOUSE.

What is probably the strongest bill of vaudeville ever given at the Cook Opera House is announced for next week. It will be headed by James J. Corbett, who gives a refined monologue describing his travels and experiences. He has a collection of funnies and gives a thoroughly enjoyable act.

Raymond and Cavalry the favorite German comedians who made such a hit here earlier in the season will undoubtedly be welcomed heartily, as they were greatly liked.

The Three Meers, comedy wire walkers, Hal Davis and Inez Mcconley in "The Unexpected," Permac Bros., Lotta Gladstone, a well known monologist, Ed. Reynard, ventriloquist Kennedy and Rooney, comedians. Geller troupe in artistic poings will complete the bill.



James J. Corbett at Cook Opera House.

The New National Theatre.

Hansons "Superbs" will make its annual visit to this city, coming to the National Theatre for an entire week commencing next Monday and with usual matinees on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. The Hansons always may be relied upon for something novel and new each year, and "Superbs" for 1903 is said to have features not known in the "Superbs" of the past. For instance, a violent dream of the clown is depicted by a railroad wreck. Several locomotives dash together and then another locomotive engine 999, plows its way through the ruins to the footlights, while many steam floats over the heads of the audience.

One hundred members of the Alumnae of Nazareth academy were present at the reception held Tuesday evening to welcome into the Alumnae association the members of the class of '02. The reception was held in the parlors of the academy. Besides the young women of Nazareth who gave the occasion a number of Catholics who were present. Following the reception the Alumnae of Nazareth academy was the annual dinner of the Alumnae.

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