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FABIOLA

Or The Church of the Catacombs.
By His Eminence Cardinal Wiseman.

(Published by Special Request.)

Part Second.

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER XVII

THE FIRST FLOWER.

"But you can walk about the streets freely, and without fear, as well as if you saw."

"How do you know that?"

"I have seen you. Do you remember very early one morning in the autumn leading a poor lame man along the Vicus Patricius?"

She blushed and remained silent. Could he have seen her put into the poor old man's purse her own share of the alms?

"You have owned yourself a Christian? he asked negligently."

"Oh yes! how could I deny it?"

"Then that meeting was a Christian meeting?"

"Certainly; what else could it be?"

He wanted no more; his suspicions were verified. Agnes, about whom Torquatus had been able or willing to tell him nothing, was certainly a Christian. His game was made. She must yield, or he would be avenged.

After a pause, looking at her steadfastly, he said, "Do you know whither you are going?"

"Before the judge of earth, I suppose, who will send me to my Spouse in heaven."

"And so calmly?" he asked in surprise; for he could see no token from the soul to the countenance, but a smile.

"So joyfully rather," was her brief reply.

Having got all that he desired, he consigned his prisoner to Corvinus at the gates of the Aemilian basilica, and left her to her fate. It had been a cold and drizzling day, like the preceding evening. The weather, and the incident of the night, had kept down all enthusiasm; and while the Prefect had been compelled to sit indoors, where no great crowd could collect, as hours had passed away without any arrest, trial, or tidings, most of the curious had left, and only a few remained, past the hour of afternoon recreation in the public gardens. But just before the captive arrived, a fresh knot of spectators came in, and stood near one of the side doors, from which they could see all.

As Corvinus had prepared his father for what he was to expect, Tertullus, moved with some compassion, and imagining there could be little difficulty in overcoming the obstinacy of a poor, ignorant, blind beggar, requested the spectators to remain perfectly still, that he might try his persuasion on her, alone, as she would imagine, with him; and he threatened heavy penalties on any one who should presume to break the silence.

"It was as he had calculated. Caecilia knew not that any one else was there, as the Prefect thus kindly addressed her—

"What is thy name, child?"

"Caecilia."

"It is a noble name; hast thou it from thy family?"

"No; I am not noble; except because my parents, though poor, died for Christ. As I am blind, those who took care of me called me Caeca, and then, out of kindness, softened it into Caecilia."

"But now, give up all this folly of the Christians, who have kept thee only poor and blind. Honour the decrees of the divine emperors, and offer sacrifice to the gods, and thou shalt have riches, and fine clothes, and the best physicians shall try to restore thee thy sight."

"You must have better motives to propose to me than these; for the very things for which I most thank God and His Divine Son, are those which you would have me put away."

"How dost thou mean?"

"I thank God that I am poor and meanly clad, and fare not daintily; because by all these things I am the more like Jesus Christ, my only Spouse."

"Foolish girl!" interrupted the judge, losing patience a little; "hast thou learnt all these silly delusions already? at least thou canst not thank thy God that He has made thee sightless."

"For that, more than all the rest, I thank Him daily and hourly with all my heart."

"How so? dost thou think it a blessing never to have seen the face of

a human being, or the sun, or the earth? What strange fancies are these?"

"They are not so, most noble sir. For in the midst of what you call darkness, I see a spot of what I must call light, it contrasts so strongly with all around. It is to me what the sun is to you, which I know to be local from the varying direction of its rays. And this object looks upon me as with a countenance of intensest beauty, and smiles upon me ever. And I know it to be that of Him whom I love with undivided affection. I would not for the world have its splendour dimmed by a brighter sun, nor its wondrous loveliness confounded with the diversities of others' features, nor my gaze on it drawn aside by earthly visions. I love Him too much, not to wish to see Him always alone."

"Come, come! let me have no more of this silly prattle. Obey the emperors at once, or I must try what a little pain will do. That will soon tame thee."

"Pain?" she echoed innocently.

"Yes, pain. Hast thou never felt it? has thou never been hurt by any one in thy life?"

"Oh no! Christians never hurt one another."

The rack was standing, as usual, before him; and he made a sign to Catulus to place her upon it. The executioner pushed her back on it by her arms; and as she made no resistance, she was easily laid extended on its wooden couch. The loops of the ever-ready ropes were in a moment passed round her ankles, and arms drawn over the head. The poor sightless girl saw not who did all this; she knew not but it might be the same person who had been conversing with her. If there had been silence hitherto, men now held their very breath; while Caecilia's lips moved in earnest prayer.

"Once more, before proceeding further, I call on thee to sacrifice to the gods, and escape cruel torments," said the judge, with a sterner voice.

"Neither torments nor death," firmly replied the victim tied to the altar, "shall separate me from the love of Christ. I can offer up no sacrifice but to the one living God; and its ready oblation is myself."

The Prefect made a signal to the executioner, and he gave one rapid whirl to the two wheels of the rack, round the windlasses of which the ropes were wound; and the limbs of the maiden were stretched with a sudden jerk, which, though not enough to wrench them from their sockets, as a further turn would have done, sufficed to inflict an excruciating, or more truly, a racking pain, through all her frame. Far more grievous was this, from the preparation and the cause of it being unseen, and from that additional suffering which darkness inflicts. A quivering of her features, and a sudden paleness, alone gave evidence of her tortures.

"Ha! ha!" the judge exclaimed, "thou feelest that? Come, let it suffice, obey, and thou shalt be freed."

She seemed to take no heed of his words, but gave vent to prayer: "I thank Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that Thou hast made me suffer pain the first time for Thy sake. I have loved Thee in peace; I have loved Thee in comfort; I have loved Thee in joy; and now in pain I love Thee still more. How much sweeter it is to be like Thee, stretched upon Thy Cross even than resting upon the hard couch at the poor man's table!"

"Thou triflest with me," exclaimed the judge, thoroughly vexed, "and makest light of my lenity. We will try something stronger. Here, Catulus, apply a lighted torch to her sides."

A thrill of disgust and horror ran through the assembly, which could not help sympathizing with the poor blind creature. A murmur of suppressed indignation broke out from all sides of the hall.

Caecilia, for the first time, learnt that she was in the midst of a crowd.

A crimson glow of modesty rushed into her brow, her face, and neck, just before white as marble. The angry judge checked the rising gush of feeling; and listened in silence, as she spoke again, with warmer earnestness than before—

"O my dear Lord and Spouse! I have been ever true and faithful to Thee! Let me suffer pain and torture for Thee; but spare me confusion from human eyes. Let me come to Thee at once; not covering my face with my hands in shame, when I stand before Thee."

Another muttering of compassion was heard.

"Catulus!" shouted the baffled judge, in fury; "do your duty, sirrah! what are you about, fumbling all day with that torch?"

The executioner advanced, and

stretched forth his hand to her robe to withdraw it for the torture; but he drew back, and, turning to the Prefect, exclaimed in softened accents, "It is too late. She is dead!"

[To be continued.]

WASHINGTON LETTER

EARLY PRINTING AND JOURNALISM.

Catholics in Mexico and Peru Lead the American Colonists By 100 Years.

[Special to The Journal.]

The introduction and extension of book printing and journalism from an interesting chapter in the history of the early colonial life in America. To go into details would be tiresome, except to a few; I shall therefore content myself with giving an outline of the development of this art.

The earliest record on the continent of America of the establishment of printing is found in the year 1532, when the Spanish viceroy, D. Antonio de Mendoza, carried printing to Mexico. Juan Pablos was the first printer, and the first book published was written by John Climacus and was entitled "Spiritual Ladder to Ascend to Heaven."

Rapid progress was made after this first effort, and ninety-three books were printed in Mexico prior to and including the year 1600, and seven books in Peru before 1600. The first newspaper published in the New World was the *Gazeta de Mexico*. It is known that it existed as early as 1650, but the year of its establishment is not indicated.

While printing seemed to enjoy comparative prosperity in Spanish America it had up-hill work in the English colonies. Although there was considerable culture and learning among the early settlers of Virginia, the feasibility of doing their own printing does not appear to have occurred to anyone in the colony until 1681, seventy-four years after the first settlement was made. Some explanation of the delay clearly lies in the celebrated declaration of Sir William Berkeley, governor of the colony in his answer to the inquiries of the Committee for the colonies in 1671:

"I thank God we have not free schools nor printing, and I hope we shall not have these hundred years, for learning has brought disobedience and heresy and sects into the world and printing has devoured them, and libels against the government. God keep us from both."

When the first printing press was introduced into Virginia in 1681, fifty years after the founding of Harvard University and the establishment of the first printing press in the younger colony of Massachusetts, its proprietor, one John Buckner, was promptly called before the governor and council, and ordered to enter into bond "not to print anything until his majesty's pleasure shall be known." This amounted to a suppression of the press.

The progress in the art of printing was greatly retarded by other difficulties than above. All the printers' material was for years imported from England. The first paper mill was not established until 1690 by William Rittenhouse at Germantown, Pa. Rags, the principal substance, were scarce, and difficult to collect and transport. Still, 80 years after, there were 40 paper mills in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The first type foundry was established in Boston in 1772, and the first attempt at manufacturing printing presses was made in 1750, although the manufacture of presses as a regular business was not undertaken until the eve of the revolutionary war. The first change from wooden to iron presses was made in 1817 by George Clymer of Philadelphia, the inventor of the Columbian press.

The first English newspaper printed in America was issued from a Boston press in 1690. It is a significant commentary upon the subsequent rank growth of periodical literature in the United States that this pioneer paper was immediately suppressed by the authorities of Massachusetts. It was entitled "Publick Occurrences, Both Foreign and Domestic" and, for the reasons named, never reached the dignity of a second number. The first permanent English paper established in North America was the *Boston News Letter*. The first issue appeared on April 4, 1704, or 200 years ago.

While there is some dispute as to the first religious paper in the United States, it is generally, but ignorantly, conceded to the *Boston Recorder*, a Congregationalist paper, which appeared in 1816. The fact is however that the first religious paper published in the United States was the *Propagateur Catholique*, established in New Orleans of 1810. The *Courrier de Boston* established in 1789, although not a strictly religious paper, was edited by a Catholic, and contained such Catholic news items as were then available. Of the Protestant papers there appeared the *Watchman and Reflector*, a Baptist paper, in 1819; The *Zion's Herald*, Methodist, in 1818; and The *Christian Register*, Unitarian, in 1821. The *Tablet*, the first Catholic paper in the English language, followed these some years later, being published in New York. In 1880 there were over 500 religious papers in the United States. They were distributed among the principal denominations as follows:

Denomination. Papers. Circulation.

Methodist 75 375,000

Catholic 70 450,000

Baptist 63 393,000

Presbyterian 42 201,000

Episcopal 33 90,000

Evangelical 27 260,000

Lutheran 22 77,000

Five Minute Sermon

Signs Foretelling the Destruction of the World.

The Church at the beginning of Advent directs our attention to this Gospel to remind us of that general judgment which Christ will pronounce on the last day for three motives referable to that judgment.

The first motive is to remind us how Jesus Christ will one day descend on earth in awful majesty to demand account of the use we have made of His graces and gifts, and to judge us according to our actions.

The second motive is to incite us by a wholesome fear to prepare ourselves to receive Jesus Christ with love at His first coming, and forsake sin and obey His holy law, so that at His second coming we may appear with confidence, well prepared, at His tribunal. And the last motive is to impress deeply on our minds the thought of the last judgment, for to avoid sin and and exhort ourselves to penance it is enough to know that one day all our actions will be judged. It is to make this thought of the last judgment useful and efficacious that the church, with maternal solicitude, recalls it to our minds at the beginning and end of the ecclesiastical year, and frequently during the course of the year.

We should meditate on the coming of Christ, the Judge, in order to prepare ourselves to commemorate the day when He came as the Saviour. We should often pray to the Child Jesus to be reborn and grow in our hearts with His holy grace. We should prepare in our hearts the way for Him by works of penance and piety, and above all by the use of the holy sacraments.

COOK OPERA HOUSE.

Henry Lee is scheduled to head the vaudeville bill to be presented at the Cook Opera House next week. In his specialty he gives impersonations of well known personages. The rest of the bill will be made up as follows: Rice and Prevost, comedy acrobats; Emmet DeVoy and company, in a sketch; Quigley Brothers, comedians, presenting "A Congressman at Large"; Flo Adlor, a singer; the Yamamoto Brothers, described as Japanese gymnasts and jugglers and slack wire performers, and the kinetograph showing pictures of the subway in New York. This bill will be presented all next week, with daily matinees.

Map of New York City Free.

The New York Central has just issued a new Map of New York which will be found interesting and valuable. The map is accurately drawn, is not distorted in any manner and gives the city from the Battery to 138th Street, four miles to the South and five miles to the North of Grand Central Station. It takes in both sides of the Hudson River as well as the East River, and shows the Underground as well as the Surface and Elevated Railways. It also gives a list of 77 hotels, 78 clubs and 40 theatres with their locations.

A copy will be sent to any address on receipt of a two-cent stamp by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

Low round trip homeseekers rates via the Nickel Plate Road to the West and Southwest. First and third Tuesday of each month until April 18th. For full information write R. E. Payne, General Agent, 291 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

FATHER DE REGGE'S ESTATE.

Daily Press Report Extravagant and Incorrect.

Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, V. G., has made the following statement regarding the report that the late Monsignor De Regge left an estate of \$330,000 to a sister in Belgium:

I beg to call your attention to article which appeared this week in the local newspapers reporting a will made by our late chancellor, Mgr. De Regge, and affecting certain property in Belgium. The statement is not only extravagant but absolutely incorrect. Mgr. De Regge's father died some time ago and left certain property to be divided among his sons and daughters. Since his death, by various dispositions made to charity and good works, the estate has been reduced so that it is known on reliable authority from Belgium that the residue will simply provide a comfortable living for the sole surviving sister. As the facts in the case are so different from the report, I trust that you will afford space in your columns for this correction.

REV. THOMAS F. HICKEY.

C. R. B. A.

Council 23, held a very successful pedro party at their hall 402 1/2 State street, on Wednesday evening. About 125 people enjoyed the game until eleven o'clock when refreshments were served and prizes awarded. Dancing was then in order until twelve o'clock when the party came to a close—all tired, but happy.

NATIONAL THEATRE.

"Running For Office" George A. Cohan's clever musical comedy success come to the National Theatre next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, with Tuesday and Wednesday matinees. This is one of the largest and cleverest aggregations on the boards today.

A merry comedy drama on new and original lines is "Tilly Olan" a Swedish dialect play, which will be given at the National Theatre the last three days of next week. The same part will be played by Miss Gertrude Swiggett.

BAKER THEATRE.

Next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, with Monday and Wednesday matinees, "Her Mad Marriage" will be presented at the Baker Theatre. It is said to be one of the few melodramas now on the road that is entirely novel in scene, action and plot.

"New York Day by Day" a melodrama new to Rochester, full of thrilling and sensational climaxes, will be the attraction at the Baker Theatre next Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This will be no doubt one of the most successful offerings of the season.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday November 27—Gospel, St. Luke xii, 25-33—St. James, bishop.

Monday 28—St. Martinus, confessor.

Tuesday 29—St. Saturninus, martyr.

Wednesday 30—St. Andrew, apostle.

Thursday December 1—Bl. Edward Campion & Comp.

Friday 2—St. Babiana, virgin and martyr.

Saturday 3—St. Francis Xavier, confessor.

GENEVA.

St. Frances de Sales library will be open Wednesday evening of this week instead of Tuesday.

Thursday morning at 8 o'clock at St. Francis de Sales church a mass was said for the souls of the deceased members of the O.R. & B. A., and on Friday morning at the same hour a mass was said for the deceased members of the L.C.B.A.

A church party and social for the benefit of St. Stephen's new church, was held at the home of Mr. Edward O'Reilly of Washington St. The attendance was large.

After vespers, Sunday afternoon, the members of the sodality met at St. Stephen's parochial school on Putney street.

Mr. Joseph McKenna of Phelps, has been visiting her parents on Washington street.

Rev. James T. Dougherty of Canandaigua, has been the calling on Geneva friends during the week.

Our Agent

Mr. A. Herman will call on subscribers in Seneca Falls, Waterloo, Geneva and Canandaigua next week.

Kindly have amount ready when he calls as we cannot afford to carry subscribers longer than a year.

A fine Picture of Pope Pius X. 16x20, given free to all subscribers paying one dollar in advance for the Journal.

ST. MARY'S GOLDEN JUBILEE.

GENESEO

The golden anniversary of the dedication of St. Mary's church was celebrated here Thursday. The occasion was one long planned for and the elaborate anniversary services were taken part in by a score of the priests and clergy of Western New York. Right Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, D.D., delivered the sermon of the day, and the services and festivities were participated in by the following priests:

Celebrant of the mass, Rev. A. A. Hughes; deacon, Rev. James H. Hickey; sub-deacon, Rev. James H. Day; masters of ceremonies, Rev. Owen P. Farron and Rev. Stephen V. McFadden; bishop's assistants, Very Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, V. G., and Rev. Simon Fitzmaurice, M. R. The following priests were present in the sanctuary: Revs. William Dunn, Dansville; M. J. Garvey, Livonia; M. J. Clune, Honeyville; P. A. Neville, East Bloomfield; M. J. Nolan, J. Emil Gafell, A. M. O'Neill, M. R., Wm. Gleason, M. R., D. J. Curran, Thos. F. Connor, John H. O'Brien, all of Rochester; Rev. M. Krieschel, Dansville; Rev. Bernard W. Gommenginger, Lyons.

The day was closed by the rendition of the drama, "The Village Priest," at Smith's Opera House, in the evening, by the Rochester Dramatic Club, in which the parts were taken by Rochester residents.

Father Hughes has had a souvenir of the golden jubilee of St. Mary's church, in the form of a small pamphlet, giving a history of the church, names of former priests, notes of the church since Aug. 19, 1851. Also the program of the different festivities of the day, and the names and amounts given for the decoration of the interior of the church.

Rev. A. A. Hughes announced on Sunday last that there would be no more Italian weddings on Sunday after January 1, 1905.

A festival and dance was held at Pittard on Saturday evening last, for the benefit of St. Raphael's church of that place, which is under charge of the Geneseo mission and the net proceeds will amount to \$75.

Died, on the 18th inst., Mrs. Ann Donovan, wife of Michael Donovan of this village, after an illness of several weeks, aged 59 years. The funeral services were held from St. Mary's church on Saturday at 9 o'clock, Rev. A. Hughes officiating. Her husband survives.

Services are held at the County Home on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 o'clock during the month of November, Rev. A. A. Hughes officiating.

Charles Ryan of New York, is home this week on a visit.

DANSVILLE.

Rev. Father Day of Mt. Morris, will deliver a temperance lecture in St. Patrick's church Sunday evening, Nov. 27.

Jubilee services at Holy Name mission Groveland, Nov. 27.

St. Patrick's congregation is anticipating a series of card parties in the near future.

A requiem high mass for the deceased members of Branch 75, L.C.B. A. was offered on Friday by Rev. Father Dunn, spiritual adviser.

No Smallpox in the White House.

This is one piece of cheering news. Another is that the Langie yards are well filled with the "gilt edge" brand of coal, which is so popular because of its purity and remarkable heating properties. Central office, Triangle building; phone 980.

West Shore Excursion to New York.

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, the West Shore Railroad offers another of their popular excursions to New York at a rate of \$3.00 round trip, tickets good to return if used within ten days. Visit New York and see the great display of holiday novelties and the big Pottery Show at Herald Square.

Good news for subscribers.