

# The Catholic Journal.

—THE LEADING DIOCESE IN IRELAND—

Twenty-first Year, No. 18.

Rochester, N. Y., Friday, January 21, 1911.

Price 10 Cents.

## In the Cause of Truth

"Little Gerald is crying again, poor little one, he has been restless and fretful all day; I'll just go in for a minute and see if I can make him more comfortable."

Bert Norman looked after his wife with an air of approval, as she left the cool, fragrant terrace. Truly she was a wife of whom any one might be proud, he thought contentedly, as he noted her graceful carriage, and caught the glint of sunshine on her nut-brown hair. Then he leaned back and puffed vigorously at his cigar, while the shadow of a frown crossed his handsome face. If only that gloomy suspicion could be banished from his mind! Rumor had it that she intended to become a Papist, a Roman Catholic, a member of that Church that bought and sold indulgences, and was steeped in blackest superstition. He had denied it indignantly to every busybody who had come to him with the story, but as yet he had not had the courage to face his wife with the question and get a direct answer.

Despite his apparent disbelief of the tale, there was a vague, haunting fear in his heart that she might not deny the accusation, and he dared not risk the trial. Yet the suspense and agony of mind he was enduring was unbearable, he must know the truth and cast what it might be would ask her that very day.

In the meantime Mrs. Norman her eyes alight with the tenderness of motherhood, was sitting beside the crib, softly singing her baby to sleep. At last the little one's eyes grew drowsy, the plaintive cries ceased, and he drifted off to slumberland. The little lips that had drooped so pitifully during the long, hot day, relaxed into a peaceful smile, and he looked so sweet and innocent that Mrs. Norman murmured almost unconsciously:

"Sleep, my little one, and rest! God's angels are whispering to thee."

Softly she turned away from the little white-draped crib and went into the nursery. Two rosy-cheeked, bright-eyed, curly-headed youngsters were rolling over and over in the downy hearth-rug in a merry tussle. There was a joyous scream at her approach as the two contestants fell apart and scrambled with more haste than dignity to their feet. Paul, the older was the first to reach her side, and little Roy was not slow in following. In another instant their chubby arms were about her neck, and she was almost smothered by their caresses.

"There, there, my boys!" she exclaimed, "don't make too much noise. Little Gerald has been ill all day and has just gone to sleep. And, besides," she added playfully, "it's near somebody's bedtime. Listen, don't you hear the Sandman coming?"

There was an instant's hush; then Roy wound his arm tighter about his mother's neck.

"He isn't coming yet, mother dear," he piped; "don't go 'way so soon."

"But I must, little son," she returned gently; "father is all alone, and I promised I would not stay away long. Here is nurse all ready to give somebody his supper."

Reluctantly they let her go, but only after they had exacted the promise that she would return and kiss them "good-night" before they went to sleep.

Outside on the terrace her husband was pacing up and down, his brows knit in thought. At his wife's approach he looked up.

"Sit down for a moment Catherine," he said, "I want to ask you a question."

She looked at him smilingly.

"Is it a very serious one?" she queried innocently; "because if it is you had better ask some one who is better posted on affairs of state than I am." Then she paused, for something in his face gave her a warning of what the question might be. But she had no time for further deliberation.

"Catherine," he said slowly, "it is not a question of affairs of state, but one that concerns us both more nearly." He hesitated.

"I hate to ask it," he continued regretfully; "it seems like an insult to imagine even for a moment it could be but I must to relieve my mind and heart. Are you intending to become a Catholic?"

It had come, the blow she had dreaded and had tried so hard to avert; the sword had fallen, and for an instant she quivered under the shock. Then she rallied, and threw back her head with a gesture of mingled courage and appeal.

"Yes," she answered simply, "I am."

"For a moment he was too dumb-founded to speak.

"So you, too, have turned traitor," he exclaimed bitterly. "My God is there anyone true in the world? Leave me, Catharine," he added sternly, "before I forget what is due to myself and say something we may both regret."

With a firm step, though with eyes dim with emotion, Mrs. Norman left the terrace and went to her husband's study. Dropping into a chair before his desk, she buried her face in her hands, and for a few moments gave herself up to her grief. Then with a determined air, she trusted away her tears and began to think. At the first outburst a strange, unnatural calm took possession of her. Mechanically she took out her Rosary and twined the beads, breathing as she did so a fervent "Hail Mary."

She had scarcely done so when the door was flung open and her husband entered the room. But a few minutes had passed since she had left him, but even in that short time he had undergone a great change. He was white with anger, passionate, resentful anger, in which reason was for the moment blinded. For a few moments he glared at her, and when he spoke his voice was low and hard.

"You can have your choice between two things," he said coldly. "Either give up all intention of becoming a Catholic and remain as mistress and mother in this house, or enter the Church and give up your home and children."

Catherine was on her feet in an instant.

"Bert, you cannot mean it," she gasped. "I could not live without my little ones, my baby boys."

Her beautiful eyes, so full of distress and sorrow, would have appealed to all that was chivalrous in her husband had he not been so completely dominated by passion; as it was, no touch of pity softened his heart. One thought was uppermost; he would make her suffer as he was suffering.

Poor Mother! A terrible conflict was raging in her soul. It would break her heart to give up her children—could it be that it was her duty? If she left them would they not be brought up as pagans, as infidels, in ignorance of the very God who made them, and yet if she gave up all intention of becoming a Catholic for their sakes, by what right would she teach them of a God she herself had denied and forsaken?

True, she had not as yet actually embraced the Catholic faith, but she was actually convinced of the truth of its doctrines, and only son of E. Blaise of Fulham, felt assured that for her, knowledge of what she knew, there could be no hope of salvation outside its gates. Bert watched her, his eyes searching hers with keen intensity. Would she yield or stand firm?

At last she raised her head.

"Will you let me say good-by to them?" she asked in low, even tones. "They are probably asleep now, but—" her voice quivered slightly. "I would like to kiss them just once before I go."

Her husband started as if he had been shot. "Before I go?" Then she was going, she had made her decision. The thought stung him to madness and drove the last spark of pity out of his heart. She preferred the Catholic Church to him. Well she should have her choice. Grim, determined lines settled about his mouth and the frown of his forehead deepened as he said gruffly.

"(To be continued.)"

## News From Ireland

Armagh.

Archibald Burns, stationmaster at Magheramore, since 1897, died suddenly in Belfast 13.

The biggest and heaviest cast-iron ever made for a ship were sent from Darlington to Belfast. They consist of the stern, frame, rudder, and brackets for the new White Star liner Titanic, being built at the Queen's Island, Belfast. This ship will be bigger, though not faster than the Mauritania or Lusitania. The castings weigh 280 tons and for their railway transit a double line had to be kept clear for the train, which never traveled beyond four miles an hour.

Armagh.

A new Barnagh club, to be called the National Club, has been started in Armagh. The members have secured premises in Cathedral Road, where it is intended to have a reading room, a debating room, and a card room. Patrick McKenna, Lower English Street, presided at the opening meeting, at which the following office bearers were elected: President, John McGlone, Mid Armagh Divisional delegate; vice president, John Short; treasurer, Joseph McKenna; secretary, P. McParland; committee, Messrs. Edward Donnelly, John Mulholland, George McKenna, Patrick, McKenna (builder), and Charles McMahon.

Cavan.

Mrs. Ellen Shaffrey died at her residence, Castlebar, on December 18, at the advanced age of 119 years. Deceased told interesting stories of what happened in olden times and a short time ago, and the Irish jig. She retained her mental faculties to the last, and passed away fortified by the rites of the Catholic Church. The funeral on Monday at Castlebar cemetery was largely attended.

Carlow.

Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, celebrated first mass at the Carlow Cathedral on Saturday morning, December 18, during which he ordained to the priesthood the Rev. D. V. Conside (Rockfort, Chicago). His Lordship was assisted at the solemn function by the Rev. L. Brophy, S. T. L., vice president Carlow College, and Rev. L. Kehoe.

Clarke.

The village of Spanchill, about three miles from Ennis, was the scene of a destructive fire, when the licensed premises, occupied by Laurence Brohan, County C. were completely gutted and reduced to a pile of burned debris. The loss is estimated at £800. How the fire broke out is not definitely known, but it would seem to have originated in the shop part of the premises.

Cork.

On the eve of his departure for South Africa, J. W. Condrum of Clonakilty was made the recipient of an address and testimonial by the people of the town as a token of their esteem and good wishes for his future success. Married.—On December 12th, at St. Anthony's church, Forest Gate, London, by the Rev. Ephraim Hickey, Ernest E. Blaise, only son of E. Blaise of Fulham, to Louise, youngest daughter of the late Richard Longfield, builder, Cork.

Derry.

Mr. Shane Leslie, of Castle Leslie, Monaghan, has been selected as Nationalist candidate for Derry City.

Donegal.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Francis J. McDevitt, District Councillor, Greenans, Glenties, to the Commission of the Peace for the County Donegal. The appointment has given satisfaction in the district, where Mr. McDevitt is well known.

Mr. Teal, Excise Officer, Ballyshannon, has offered a silver cup more

to the committee of the Aodh Ruadh hurling and football club, Ballyshannon, to be put up for competition among teams in the Northwest playing Gaelic football. The committee have decided to present in addition a set of silver medals.

Down.

A convention was held in the Forester's Hall, Newry, on December 25, for the purpose of selecting a Nationalist candidate for the Parliamentary representation of South Down at the coming general election. The Very Rev. Joseph Kearns, D.D., P. P., V. F., Clonduff, presided, and there was a large attendance of delegates. Jeremiah McVeagh, M. P., sitting representative of the constituency, was unanimously selected, and in returning thanks to the delegates delivered an interesting speech.

Dublin.

On Sunday morning, December 19, the Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, assisted by the Very Rev. Canon Dunne, and the Rev. Michael Curran, at Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, conferred the Order of priesthood on the Rev. Brendan O'Brien, O. D. C., and Rev. Boniface Hanway, O. D. C. The Order of subdeaconship was conferred on Brother Malachy Cranfield and Brother Fintan O'Brien, O. D. C.

Fermagh.

At the meeting of the White Ribbon Union, Enniskillen, on December 30, a beautiful silver teacaddy was presented to Miss Bayley by the children and the young people of the union, as a mark of esteem in which she is held and for the noble work she has carried on amongst them.

Galway.

The death is announced of Peter Fallon, Ballinacree, near Dunmore, County Galway, father of Very Rev. John (Canon Fallon), P. P., Mountbellaw. He had attained his 95th year.

A large number of Rev. Canon Gargarty's parishioners recently walked on him at the presbytery at Crosswell, Galway, for the purpose of presenting him with an address, to show their appreciation of his efforts on their behalf in connection with the recent sale of the Pollox estate. Michael Neary, J. P., in presenting the address and a purse of sovereigns said he had known Canon Gargarty for over a quarter of a century, and always found him an ideal priest.

Kerry.

At the Mercy Convent, Doon, Limerick, recently, the solemn profession of Miss Hannah Keane in religion Sister Mary Raphael, fourth daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keane, P. O. Liscarrow, took place. This is the third daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keane that has entered religion.

Limerick.

Miss Lily Culhane (in religion Sister Mary Antonius) has received the white veil in the Convent of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God at Rockhampton, Surrey. She is a daughter of T. M. Culhane, Ballygiltanance-in-Limerick.

Mayo.

At a meeting of the Castlebar Urban Council on December 20, a resolution was passed, on the motion of M. Kelly, seconded by A. C. Larmine, J. P., congratulating the Very Rev. Dr. Gilmarin on his elevation to the episcopacy, rejoicing at the success of their illustrious townsman, and praying that he would be long spared to rule over the ancient and historic diocese of Confert.

Rosecommon.

J. J. O'Kelly was unanimously chosen at the convention, held in Boyle, as candidate for North Rosecommon.

Sligo.

The Dublin Gazette announces that the Lords Justices have appointed Colonel R. K. Parke, C. B., Dunally, High Sheriff for the County of Sligo.

Waterford.

Died.—December 17, Mrs. E. Harnett, Charle street, Limerick.—December 18, Mrs. Margaret McCarthy, Curragh.—December 22, Mrs. Henry Feely, Tra-

## Around the Globe

The Catholic church of Cherry Hill, lost three-fourths of its members in the recent mining disaster whereby 300 men perished.

There are now seventeen vacancies in the Sacred College of Cardinals, and eleven fewer than when Pius X. ascended the throne.

Hon. John Meagher, of Bathurst, Australia, recently presented to the Sisters of Mercy of that city a magnificent convent building and twenty-five acres of park land all of which cost \$75,000.

For the first time in the history of Milwaukee, a class of Missions received first Communion at the Mission of St. Benedict the Moor, that city, on a recent Sunday. Most of the Negroes who attend the mission are converts. It is in charge of the Capuchin Fathers.

Preparations are being made in Spain to celebrate the centenary of the birth of the Rev. James Luciano Balme, the noted Spanish priest, philosopher and publicist whose "European Civilization Compared" is a monument of learning, and a splendid defense of the Church.

A mission in a State penitentiary may strike some as peculiar. Such a mission was given to the Ohio State Penitentiary by Rev. F. L. Kelly during the week of December 12. Hundreds of non-Catholic prisoners attended the mission and many are preparing for reception into the Church.

In its seventh series of missions since September, the mission band of Vincentian Missionaries began the new year with missions at the Sacred Heart, Brooklyn; at the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn; at Chicago, Jamaica, and under its auspices, the Rev. Thomas McDonald, began a series of missions to the engineers and laborers of the Panama Canal.

Three noted Catholic centenaries are to be celebrated during the coming spring. March 2 will be the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Pope Leo XIII., March 20 will be the centenary of the late Cardinal John McCloskey, America's first Cardinal, and May 30 will be the one hundredth anniversary of the Most Rev. Martin John Spalding, Archbishop of Baltimore.

The new Attorney-General for Ireland, succeeding Mr. Cherry, who has been made Lord Chancellor of Appeals, in Roman Catholicism, is Mr. Henry B. B. O'Connor, Q. C. It is the first time since 1890 that the Attorney-General and Lord Chancellor are both Catholics. D. J. Brown, Q. C. also a Catholic succeeds Judge Shaw, a non-Catholic.

In the final examination for free scholarships in the Glasgow University Scotland, recently, 307 students from all kinds of schools and colleges competed. Among them were five Catholic boys from St. Aloysius' College, a Jesuit institution in Glasgow. The result of the examination showed that all these Catholic boys are on the list of the first fifty candidates and are within the first fifty candidates and are within the first seven; one is placed first of all.

At Nairobi, East Africa, we recently had the honor of receiving Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States. He writes Rev. Joseph C. S. in the January number of Catholic Missions. "The visit lasted about two hours. Mr. Roosevelt wanted to see and hear everything. He impressed all of us as being the remarkable and good man that fame reported him. Before taking leave he desired to be photographed with the missionaries. The photo was accordingly taken."

Hon. John Carmichael, of the Supreme Court, Dakota, is a member of Council No. 6.

Upon the recommendation of the consistorial court, Pope has appointed the Rt. Rev. John J. Neenan, of Boston, Mass., to be Bishop of Burlington, Vt.

Six Chinese were baptised at the rectory of St. James, Boston Sunday afternoon. In the past three months have been baptised the Chinese mission school which was founded by Father Walter J. Ryan.

The will of Mary G. Ryan, New York, leaves her estate worth about \$100,000 to Archbishop of New York, the income to be used for the education of the poor.

Very Rev. Henry B. W. O'Connor, of St. Mary's, Boston, and Chaplain of California State, has been appointed to be the first Catholic to be a member of the California State Bar.

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