

# The Catholic Journal.

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## The Procrastinator

They had been playmates all their lives until Wilfred left the little village of his birth to enter an architect's office in a neighboring city. Their homes stood side by side, a private hedge separating the well-kept gardens, and when both were too small to see each other over the top of it, they would creep through a little hole that Wilfred had made by pressing his small body through it until the compact branches no longer refused to remain apart, but kindly allowed him and his little playmate, Geneva, to pass through it at will.

Their mothers had been childhood friends and both were early widowed. Wilfred's mother was the gentlest of women; her son greatly resembled her. The perfection of neatness in home, garden and person, she was, however slow of purpose as of movement, her neighbor could accomplish three times as much in a day and was jokingly fond of reminding her of it.

These traits were accentuated in the boy by a habit of procrastination in things which might not be considered essential, save for the truth that everything in life has its appointed time and place in the making of a harmonious whole. But the boy's facility and quickness of apprehension somewhat counter-balanced his greatest defect.

Geneva's mother was altogether different from her friend. Capable, energetic and far-seeing she anticipated every tomorrow through each recurring day. It had always been her regret that Geneva was not a boy or that she did not possess more stirring and aggressive qualities. But she loved the child as devotedly as the gentler mother loved her equally gentle son, of whom Geneva's mother was also very fond, though she often deplored the procrastinating nature, prophesying that it would be a hindrance to his success in life.

Wilfred was a dreamer. He would leave an occupation of amusement in which he was interested to chase a butterfly or discover the nesting place of some strange song bird, and unless very important, would utterly forget what he had been doing when the winged creature or silver-throated warbler had lured him from his task or play.

Geneva thought him the perfection of every virtue and talent. He was four years older than herself, but from infancy she had shared all his amusements and some of his studies. And when she was thirteen and he Wilfred in his eighteenth year, the fiat of separation went forth and the child, for she was only a child, thought that her very heart must break without her friend and companion. He, too, felt the parting, but, with the ambition of the youth setting his feet for the first time upon the stage of life, made light of the years that must pass until they would again be together.

"But, Wilfred," she said, in reply to the tale of bright prospects he had woven before her as they sat in the old summer-house where they had so often read and studied during the long years now past, "shall we ever again be together? When you're a man and an architect it will not be here in our little village that you will be working. My mother says you have very wonderful talent, and if you are persevering you may become a great man. We don't need handsome, large buildings in Bedford. They laughed together at the idea.

"I'm afraid not," replied the boy. "But we shall all live in this city, Geneva, just as we do now. We shall find two pretty cottages side by side, and you and I shall live in one, while our mothers can be very close to us in the other."

"That would be a strange way of living," said Geneva. "What odd things you say, Wilfred."

"No, no," replied the boy, a little shyly. "Haven't you heard people say a hundred times that we must be married when we are old enough? And so we shall be—shant we, Geneva?"

She looked up at him innocently, and replied:

"Yes, Wilfred, if you think so, I could never, never love any one as I do you."

"It is settled then," cried the boy, taking both her hands in his own and looking tenderly into the soft blue eyes that so fearlessly and openly met his gaze.

"I shall write to you twice a week Geneva."

She laughed softly.

"I'm afraid that's too often to promise," she said. "You know how you hate writing letters, how there is always a quantity to be answered from your uncles and aunts and cousins for weeks after Christmas. A good long one once a month would be enough, Wilfred, if you would be sure to send it."

"Why, Geneva?" cried the boy.

"What should I be thinking of, not to write oftener than that? Twice a week, I said, and expect an answer every time."

"As mother says," rejoined the girl. "But I promise you one to every three, at least, and very long it shall be, telling you everything."

Geneva's mother smiled when she repeated the conversation. "You're both young yet to think so far ahead," she rejoined. "Children's plans do not count for much. Let us see what happens."

Geneva turned away. Her mother was never unkind, but she was intensely practical, and the gentle affectionate girl felt repressed by her manner and sentiments. She crossed the garden to her neighbor's house and sat down to help Wilfred's mother mark his new linen.

The first day the boy spent in the city was so lonely that he could write but a line to his mother and his friend. At the end of a week, he prepared to answer Geneva's long letter, as well as one from his mother, with a mind more composed, and quite interested in the novelties around him. After that, true to his nature, Geneva's letters accumulated until so many confronted him that he feared to begin answering them. He excused himself on the plea that his days were so full and his evenings so necessary for reading, music, and concerts, not to mention visits among his new friends, that he would have to set aside some special holiday to answer them as they deserved. After a while they ceased; Wilfred began to feel guilty, but still put off writing. At this time he only wrote once a month to his mother but he never failed to mention his old neighbors. He was a strange youth; so peculiarly constituted that he never dreamed the affliction of Geneva had suffered any diminution by his silence, because, judging her feelings by his own, he regarded her if possible, with greater tenderness every day.

At the end of two years he went home for a vacation. He had not been in the house for more than five minutes when he hastened over to the next cottage. Geneva was not at home, but her mother seemed to respond coldly to his joyous greeting. She did not tell him that he had grown, nor that he was looking well, nor years now past, "shall we ever again be together? When you're in the profession he had chosen, a man and an architect it will not be here in our little village that you will be working. My mother says you have very wonderful talent, and if you are persevering you may become a great man. We don't need handsome, large buildings in Bedford. They laughed together at the idea.

"You seem glad to see me, Wilfred," she said, as though "Glad to see you?" he exclaimed. "Never in my life have I been so glad of anything. But like your mother, you are very cold."

"And why should we not be," she replied, still gently—for she could not have spoken of her wise—but with reproach in her tones. "In two long years, Wilfred, you have only written to me once. And you were the one who promised to write twice a week—"

To be continued

## News From Ireland

**Cork.**  
The result of the Cork City contest was declared on January 19. William O'Brien being at the head of the poll with 97 votes over A. Roche, one of the Nationalist candidates, who was also returned, the defeated candidates being Maurice Healy, William Murphy (Nationalist), and Sir Edward Fitzgerald.

**Carlow.**  
Patrick Kearney, D. C., died at his residence, Ballymoon, Fenagh on January 20.

**Married.**—January 19, at the Cathedral, Carlow, by Mgr. Tynan, assisted by Rev. P. Gorry, Adm., William Delaney, Abbey, Leix, to Frances, second daughter of the late Mathias Tynan.

**Obit.**  
The departure of J. F. Plummer who has been promoted to the postmastership of Mullingar, was availed of by the Ennis postal staff to mark their appreciation of his many excellent qualities. The presentation took place on January 16 at Miss Lally's and consisted of a silver rose bowl, silver kettle and silver fruit dish. John O'Neill read an address, to which Mr. Plummer suitably replied. Subsequently he entertained a number of friends to supper.

**Cavan.**  
Cavan's new Town Hall opened on January 19 in the presence of a large number of the townspeople. There was a luncheon in the afternoon, and a grand ball in the evening. The new hall is an up-to-date structure, well adapted for the uses it is intended for. There is a spacious maple floor which will be utilized for roller skating at such times as the hall may not be occupied for other purposes.

**Mrs. John Clinton, mother of Rev. A. M. Clinton and John F. Clinton, Kansas City, Mo., died at her residence, Mullagh, County Cavan, on January 12.**

**Dublin.**  
The Sinn Fein daily announced that as enough of capital was not subscribed to keep it going, it ceased as a daily paper. Like all newspapers devoted to an ideal it was run in defiance of all ordinary newspaper business lines, and the inevitable want of success could not be stayed off. It will be continued as a weekly.

**Drogheda.**  
William Doherty, for more than forty-one years principal teacher in Cooladown National School, Killygordon, died on January 13, at an advanced age.

**Derry.**  
Patrick McLaughlin, Eglinton Place Derry, rose from his deathbed, and dressed, full of courage with the intention of voting on January 20. While waiting, he grew weaker. He was left a while to recover, but his death agony came upon him, and the poor man died a martyr to his devotion for Ireland.

**Dowry.**  
An eight year old daughter of John Mulligan, Drumcree, Killybeg, was accidentally burned to death on January 15.

**Galway.**  
A fire on January 10 destroyed the contents of the premises of Alex McNeilly & Son merchant tailors, Conway Square, Newtownards.

**Kildare.**  
Mr. Gwynn was returned unopposed from Galway city. Nominations papers on his behalf were handed in by the Very Rev. Father Dooley, P. P., and on the expiration of the statutory period, the returning officer, Cecil E. Henry, declared him duly elected.

**Kilkenny.**  
Married.—January 19, at St. Audoen's High street, by the Rev. Father Hayes, James, son of Patrick Burns, 9 Usher's Island, to Marian, daughter of the late John Kelly, Harrison/Kildare, and 41 Usher's Quay.

**Kilkenny.**  
William Dwyer, Inland Revenue Officer, Kilkenny, has just been notified of his appointment to Connell as Surveyor.

**Messrs. Michael Meagher and Patrick O'Brien have been returned as members of Parliament for North Kilkenny and Kilkenny City, respectively.**

**Limerick.**  
Ground was broken at Roden street and Military road, Limerick, on January 20 for the new city Technical Institute. The Mayor, Alderman T. Donnellan performed the ceremony in the presence of a large gathering.

**Kerry.**  
Messrs. John P. Boland and Thomas O'Donnell, have been returned as Parliamentary representatives for South and West Kerry, respectively.

**Meath.**  
Mrs. Nelligan, for many years matron of Kells Union, has resigned her position. The Guardians are considering the advisability of introducing a nun as matron.

**Monaghan.**  
The little boy, Thomas Mallowney, who was injured by being struck with the bar of a gate while in an act of closing a portion of it, succumbed to his injuries on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 16.

**Monaghan.**  
Messrs. Edward Brady and James Clinton have been re-elected as members of Clones Urban Council. Hugh Gum has also been elected to the same body.

**Monaghan.**  
Messrs. John Toomey, Patrick Fingleton and Murtagh Moran have been elected as Town Commissioners for Mountmelick. The first two mentioned as new members, Mr. Moran being re-elected.

**Roscommon.**  
Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin, is at present in Rome on his usual visit "ad limina Apostolorum."

**Sligo.**  
Miss Mary O'Dowd has been appointed matron of Sligo County Infirmary in room of Mrs. Rushe, resigned.

**Tipperary.**  
The death in his 90th year has occurred at Templemore near Templemore, of Thomas Collier, a well-known local Nationalist, who in the early days of the agitation was imprisoned as a suspect in Clonmel prison.

**Tipperary.**  
Miss S. McGillion, of Ballykeel, Sixmilecross, has succeeded in gaining a certificate from the London College of Music at their recent musical examination.

**Waterford.**  
John E. Remond, chairman of the Irish party, was on January 17 returned unopposed for the city of Waterford, which he has represented in Parliament for eighteen years.

**Wicklow.**  
At the Convent of "Our Lady of Mercy, Lawside, Dundee, Scotland, on January 6, the solemn profession of a nun took place. The young lady who had the happiness of dedicating the remainder of her life to the service of God was Miss Mary Grannell, in religion Sister Mary Brendan, eldest daughter of the late P. Grannell, Currantown, Arklow. The consecrating ceremony was performed by the Most Rev. Dr. McFarlane, Bishop of Dunkeld.

**Wexford.**  
Died.—January 16th, at Barrow, Edward, youngest son of the late Edward Devereux.—January 15, at his residence, Carnage House, County Wexford, Abraham John (Geff) Howlin, aged 70 years, son of the late John Howlin, D. L. J. B., Ballyhyland.

## Around the Globe

**On December 31, the convent school for girls, situated at 200 Calle San San Sebastian and conducted by the Augustinian Sisters as Our Lady of Consolation was totally destroyed by fire. The fire originated in the ceiling of the chapel, and was due in all probability to defective electric installation.**

**W. E. Purcell, the new senator from North Dakota, and second Catholic at present in the upper house of Congress, has been appointed a member of the Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee to succeed Senator Poynter of Kentucky, who resigned.**

**Nine out of every 100 M. P.'s elected in England are Catholics, to-wit: Major M. Archer-Shee, Central Finsbury (U.); Mr. H. Sirs Balfour, South Bedford (L.); Sir William Dunn, West Southwark (U.); Sir Ivor Herbert, Monmouthshire (L.); Mr. James Fitzalan Hopa, Central Shaftesbury (U.); Rowland Hunt, Leamington (U.); Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Liverpool (Scotland Division) (Nat.); James O'Grady, East Leeds (Lab.); Lord Edmund Talbot, Chichester Division (U.); Thos. J. A. Udalston and four not-Tories.**

**An unusual double funeral took place recently at St. Vincent-de-Paul's church, St. Vincent O., Rev. L. W. Munnings being the High Mass of Requiem, and the bodies of two brothers, Daniel Meehan, aged 8, and Thomas Meehan, aged 10 years, who died only ten hours apart.**

**Announcement is made of the death at Kilmallock, Kerry, of Bridget Turner, wife of Patrick Turner and mother of Rev. William Turner, D. D., of the College of the University of America; Rev. Denis Turner, C. S. C., Louisville, Ireland; Rev. John Turner, D. D., New York; and Rev. Patrick Turner, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Turner had three daughters, among the Sisters of Charity, New York, one of whom, Sister Mary Roberts, survives her.**

**Rome, February 9.—The following appointments proposed by Cardinal de Lai, secretary of the Consistorial Congregation, were ratified by the Pope to-day:**  
Right Rev. Denis O'Donoghue, D. D., Auxiliary Bishop of Indianapolis, to be Bishop of Louisville, Kentucky.  
Rev. J. J. Lawler, rector of the Cathedral at St. Paul, Illinois, to be Auxiliary Bishop to the Archbishop of St. Paul.  
Rev. J. W. Shaw, rector of the Cathedral at Mobile, Alabama, to be Coadjutor Bishop of San Antonio, Texas.

**The consistorial ceremony at Rome, of which Pope Pius X. is prefect has been postponed to create a Texas province, including the different dioceses of Texas and possibly those of Arkansas and Oklahoma, according to an announcement made recently. The petition presented to the consistory carries with it a request that an archbishop be appointed for the province. Interest in the proposed province are more than 800,000 Catholics.**

**The Supreme Court of Ohio last week sustained the will of the late Rev. E. M. O'Callaghan, pastor of St. Colman's church, Cleveland, who bequeathed his estate to the late Bishop Healy, a man as head of the diocese in order of her life to the service of the nucleus of a fund for a Boys' Protective League. The will was contested by relatives of the deceased priest and has been before the court at intervals since April, 1903. The plaintiffs contended that it was drawn under compulsion and then that it was not signed by the testator. Judge Strimple, who dismissed their contentions, was sustained by the circuit court and is now upheld by the Supreme Court.**

**What Catholics have accomplished in Holland, where they now constitute about one-fifth**

of the population, the Catholic Union can attest against the prevailing sentiment. During the past year they have risen to a position of political importance, which is second to none in affairs. They have also shown prodigious generosity in supporting both means and missions to the Church's work.

**Mgr. Broche, Archbishop of Montreal, has received a telegram from Lord Strathcona, favoring the use of his home residence during the late of the Eucharistic Congress, held in Montreal next September. His grace may use the house himself or for his guests. His residence contains many treasures and is completely furnished. Mgr. Broche is now visiting several Archbishops and Bishops of the United States in connection with the Eucharistic Congress, and is expected to be in New York for an extended stay.**

**DIOCESAN FEDERATION OF ITS OFFICERS.**  
At the annual meeting of the Rochester Federation of Clergy and Laymen, held at the Hotel Hamilton, on Monday evening, Jan. 24, the following officers were elected for the year 1910:

**President:** Rev. J. J. Lawler, rector of St. Vincent-de-Paul's church, St. Vincent O.  
**Vice-President:** Rev. L. W. Munnings, High Mass of Requiem, and the bodies of two brothers, Daniel Meehan, aged 8, and Thomas Meehan, aged 10 years, who died only ten hours apart.  
**Secretary:** Rev. J. J. Lawler, rector of the Cathedral at St. Paul, Illinois, to be Auxiliary Bishop to the Archbishop of St. Paul.  
**Treasurer:** Rev. J. W. Shaw, rector of the Cathedral at Mobile, Alabama, to be Coadjutor Bishop of San Antonio, Texas.

**Weekly Church Calendar.**  
Sunday 27.—St. Basil's.  
Monday 28.—St. Theobald's.  
Tuesday 29.—St. Alban's.  
Wednesday 30.—St. Andrew's.  
Thursday 31.—St. George's.  
Friday 1.—St. Ignace's.  
Saturday 2.—St. John's.