

# The Catholic Journal

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## "Number 28"

The conversation had taken a slightly metaphysical turn as one incident after another had been related by the various members of our little group. Dr. B. alone remained silent, though an interested listener. One of the party who had been studying his countenance intently for some time, said abruptly:

"Now, Doctor, it is your turn. Your face shows that you have something to tell us if you will."

The Doctor hesitated a little and then he began.

I will try to give the story in his own language.

"The incident which I have in mind happened while I was an intern at St. Barnabas' Hospital. My term of service was nearly ended and I was about to open my office for general practice, though still keeping up my connection with the hospital as a visiting physician. I was on duty one evening, when a man was brought in by one of our ambulances. He was a most pitiful looking object. He was, in every way the worst wreck of humanity that I had ever seen, unshaven, unkempt, his clothing in rags, and filthy in every way. I gave orders that he should be washed and put to bed. The orderly carried out my instructions at once and the man was given a bath, shaved and put to bed."

"When I made my rounds the morning, I was astonished to see the change in my patient. He was about fifty years old and his appearance indicated that he was a man of the highest type of cultivation and refinement. His aristocratic face and his grace of manner rendered it impossible for him to conceal the fact that we had no common man to deal with."

"His qualities of mind and heart commended him to us from the first, but as time wore on, he endeared himself to us all more and more. I began to look forward eagerly to the time I was to spend at his bedside, for I was a pupil as well as a physician. He spoke English perfectly and with elegance, but with a slight accent which I could not quite place, though I believed it to be Italian. He was equally familiar with the other modern languages that I had been brought into reading, writing and speaking them fluently, besides being a finished scholar in Greek and Latin. How much farther his education reached, I am unable to say, as circumstances did not arise in a day or two as practically well."

"I had overstay my time at the hospital two weeks to oblige my patient, Dr. F., whom I respected, though I believed it to be Italian. He was equally familiar with the other modern languages that I had been brought into reading, writing and speaking them fluently, besides being a finished scholar in Greek and Latin. How much farther his education reached, I am unable to say, as circumstances did not arise in a day or two as practically well."

"I had been out one evening during the last week of my stay, and on my return, I went at once to the room of 'No. 28.' I had been there but a short time when the ward was startled by the most agonizing shrieks and groans. My companion leaned forward as far as possible to look out and learn the cause of the disturbance, while I hastened in the direction from which the sounds came, to find that Shirley had been seized with a bad attack of heart trouble. The pain was excruciating and we were given to understand we could go no further, and the character of the attack he conveyed the fact by his manner only, but the innate dignity of the man was such that he kept his eyes as arm's length upon that subject. Religion was never discussed between us. I had no means of knowing, but I had the feeling that he was a Catholic."

"We saw from the first that thinking to quite him, but upon he was hopelessly paralyzed from his hips down and that his death was a question of a few weeks at the most."

"He grew somewhat stronger and fear and he begged piteously under our care and said as he found for a priest, Father McCarthy, the time a little heavy on his hands, he asked for some employment. We felt, also, that there were five doctors present, wanted to make all possible return for our attention to him, including the ambulance surgeon. Two of us were Catholics. The Sister in charge had supplied and the others Protestants. We him with books and various forms of entertainment from the man's physical suffering. How far beyond human aid, he was beginning, but that was not what he wanted. He desired to be of Protestant doctors, taking their use. He asked if he could not assist the doctors with their writings, if ing and when we afterwards turned over to him considerable work of this kind we found him of great help to us. He had been a favorite of the entire hospital, attendants and patients alike."

"As for myself, every moment I could spare from other duties found me at his bedside, for he was not only a cultivated gentleman but he was a good fellow. We had given him a small private room soon after he came to us, thus ensuring privacy if he wished it, but also enabling him to look out into the ward whenever he chose to do so."

"Not long after his entrance, a man named Shirley, who had been badly injured, was brought into the hospital. The firm by which he had been employed paid his expenses and directed that money should not be spared in caring for him. This man was of quite opposite character and disposition to our favorite. Aside from being a person of very common stamp, he was choleric and morose. He was violent in his language and bitter in his denunciation of everybody and everything in any way connected with his accident."

"His injuries were so serious that at first we thought it impossible that he could get well, and being expectant of fatal results at any moment, and thinking that he was a Catholic, we asked him if he desired to see a priest. He angrily declared that he did not. He broke out into a loud tirade and told us that he wanted nothing to do with priests or ministers. Father McCarthy, who was the chaplain of the hospital, was an object of special aversion to him, merely, however, because he represented the clergy, for the priest was a most amiable and agreeable man. The clergyman did not intrude upon him in any way, so there was no open friction. Shirley's vigorous constitution, quickly began to count in his favor and we saw that he would recover. He mended rapidly and was soon out of danger. As he grew better, his temper improved, until, at last, he became quite tolerable. The only person in the hospital to whom he had shown courtesy and consideration from the outset was our paralyzed patient, known on the records of the hospital as 'No. 28.' He liked and respected him and never showed him his courtesy side."

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were terrible to witness. The Sister in charge tried to console him by assuring him that God would recognize his great need and his strong desire to make his peace, and that his state would be the same as though his wish had been granted and the priest had ministered to him. But it was not enough. There was evidently something on his mind that he wanted to confess."

"His shrieks and groans were such that we were all acutely affected and, Protestant and Catholic alike, we fell to our knees and prayed that the man might find the spiritual help he needed. He continued his frenzied appeal but it was impossible for us to determine how much of his agony was due to his physical condition and how much to his mental state. As we knelt beside him, overcome by our own feelings and the awful solemnity of the occasion, we looked up, as if by some common impulse, and there coming toward us, was the paralyzed man whom I had left in his bed, a short time before, unable to move a muscle of his lower limbs. We stumbled mechanically to our feet, every one benumbed by what, for a moment seemed an apparition. His face was transfigured with grandeur and dignity as he approached us steadily with uplifted hand."

"Stand back! I am a priest." The robes were hastily procured and he put them on. Then this man, who had not been able to walk a step since he had been brought into the hospital, six weeks before, crossed to the altar a distance of fifty feet, took the ciborium from the tabernacle and returned to the bedside of the dying man. He heard his confession and gave him the last rites of the Church just before the breath left the body. He returned the Blessed Sacrament to its place, and, before any of us, petrified with awe, could collect our wits sufficiently to offer him assistance, he had gone back to his room, tottering a little at the last."

"Just at this moment, a priest entered with one of the doctors. The story was hurriedly told him and he hastened to the room of the unknown man. He heard his confession, gave him Holy Communion and in half an hour the unknown priest was dead."

"By the Bishop's orders, he was buried in the priest's vault in the cemetery."

"His identity is as much a mystery to us today as ever. Nobody except the priest, who heard his confession and the higher dignitaries of the Church, knows the name of the man who is on the books of St. Barnabas' Hospital as 'No. 28.'—Elizabeth Giddens Wood, in the Messenger of the Sacred Heart."

The fine bill of vaudeville announced for Thanksgiving week is as follows: The Alpine Troupe in a rattling fine wire act; the Kemps, a clever pair of colored entertainers; Marion Murray & Co., in a sketch called "The Prima Donna's Honeyman"; the Boudini Brothers, Acrobats; the Vivians, World's Greatest Sharpshooters; Mrs. Gardner Crane & Co., in her new comedy, "The Little Sunbeam"; Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer; Those French Girls formerly known as the Amoroe Sisters; and the Mooreoscope, something Worth Waiting for."

Miss Grace C. Lemieux and Eugene G. Sackett were married Thursday morning at Immaculate Conception church by the rector, Rev. A. M. O'Neill. A breakfast party at the Powers Hotel followed the ceremony, and immediately after this Mr. and Mrs. Sackett left on a journey. They will be at home after January 1st at Alameda St. and Raines Pk.

The annual Thanksgiving Eve reception and dance will be held Wednesday evening, Nov. 23rd, at 8.30 o'clock.

Rev. Dr. E. J. Hanna delivered a lecture on "The Life of Columbus" Friday evening, at Rochester, N. Y.

## Big Banquet

### Nearly Three Thousand Catholics Warm of Rochester Planning for Immense Dinner

More than 2,800 Catholic women of Rochester, members of the nineteen local branches of the L. C. B. A., have plans completed for an immense banquet to be given at the Hotel Seneca on Saturday November 19th, in honor of Supreme National President Miss Kate Mahoney of Troy, who will make her first visit to the local branches on that date. Following the banquet, there will be a reception. Miss Mahoney was elected head of the association at the national convention held in Cleveland in July last.

A number of other supreme officers from various parts of the United States will also be welcomed here and with the National president will be guests of honor at the banquet. Among these will be: First vice president, Mrs. Mary Murphy of Buffalo; supreme recorder, Mrs. Johanna A. Boyer of Erie, Pa.; supreme trustee, Mrs. Julia Ward Clingens of Chicago; and Miss Bertha McLean, editor of "The Fraternal Leader" of Pittsburg.

Mrs. Vera McFarland of Rochester has been appointed chairman of the reception committee. The committee in charge of arrangements consists of Mrs. John McFarlan, Mrs. Thomas Brannigan, Mrs. Mary Hughes, Mrs. Mary O'Hara, Mrs. Emma O'Neil, Mrs. Barbara Zorn, Mrs. Sophie Rogers, Mrs. Margaret Welch, Mrs. Mary Foley and Mrs. L. Savard. The toastmistress will be Mrs. Mary Foley of this city.

There will be no other guests at the banquet except the members of the L. C. B. A., who are all women. There are more than 100,000 Catholic women throughout the United States and Canada enrolled as members of the L. C. B. A. The big banquet and reception in honor of the visit of the supreme president and other officers will be one of the most important events in the history of the local branches.

Bishop Thomas F. Hickey confirmed large classes Sunday in Macedon and in the evening at St. John's Church in Clyde. Monday he dedicated and blessed the new parochial school in Waterloo. He was assisted by Rev. A. B. Meenan, D. D., and Rev. J. J. Kilien.

The Holy Name Society of St. Patrick's Cathedral held its first regular meeting of the season last Sunday evening in Sodality Hall. There was a large attendance and many new members were received. Addresses were made by Rev. D. W. O'Hern, Rev. R. J. Henry and Rev. J. F. O'Hern.

A confraternity of Christian Doctrine was organized at the Cathedral. The following officers were elected: President, Wm. B. Moynihan; vice president, Mrs. Irene Lursey; Miss Margaret Ferron; treasurer, Rev. R. J. Henry. The reception of members into the confraternity will be celebrated on Thursday evening, December 8th, at the Cathedral. At the same time a large class of adults will be confirmed by Bishop Hickey.

Monday the men of the Cathedral parish held a social at Cathedral Hall. An interesting programme was arranged by the officers of the Young Men's Club.

## \$1.50 Fare Between Cleveland and Buffalo

The C. & B. Line daily Steamers are making a special autumn fare of \$1.50 between Cleveland and Buffalo, until Nov. 29th. Berths \$1.00 and \$1.50. Steamers leave Cleveland daily 8.00 p. m. and arrive Buffalo 6.30 a. m., central time. Leave Buffalo 9.00 p. m., eastern time, arrive Cleveland 6.30 a. m.

When traveling between these two cities bear this route in mind. The Steamers "City of Erie" and "City of Buffalo" are the finest and fastest on the Great Lakes and passengers can enjoy all the comforts of home. The service is unexcelled. Further particulars address W. F. Harman, Gen'l Pass. Agt., Cleveland, Ohio.

## Around the Globe

### Very Rev. Herman J. Goller, provincial of the California Province of the Society of Jesus, died on the 6th inst. of heart disease at Spokane, Wash.

Father David, one of the best known members of the Trappist community at New Mellary, near Dubuque, while walking through the hall of the monastery one night last week suddenly sank to the floor and passed away of heart failure before aid could be given him.

Professor James C. Monaghan, the distinguished Catholic publicist and lecturer, suffered a stroke of apoplexy while addressing a large audience in the Opera House at Portage, Wis., on Nov. 4. He had said but a few words when suddenly he fell to the stage unconscious. Physicians in the audience went to his assistance and he was removed to a hospital, where his condition was found to be such as to cause grave alarm.

The Protestant Episcopal Bishop W. A. Guerry, of South Carolina, speaking at the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopalians in Cincinnati recently, advocated Protestant parochial schools for the negroes of the South.

Rev. Stephen Barr, C. S. B., has received from the Bishop of Zanzibar the decoration of the Brilliant Star for his long and faithful missionary labors in Africa. Father Barr has been his apostolic work in 1888.

A gathering, unique in its way, that planned by Rev. Wm. Dalton, pastor of the Church of the Annunciation, Kansas City, Mo. It is to be a reunion of all the persons he has baptized since taking charge of the church, of which he is pastor, in 1874.

The clergy of Durk, at a meeting held recently under the presidency of Archbishop Amet, decided to send the Holy Father a telegram thanking him for the decree on Holy Communion. The telegram having been dispatched, his Holiness has replied in cordial terms.

Rev. Francis Bonne has been appointed Archbishop of Tientsin. Father Bonne is an alumnus of the Paris Seminary, which he left for Japan in 1879. He was born at Chambray, France, in 1828 and has for several years past been superior of the mission in the diocese of Nagasaki.

The funeral of Donato J. Gonyea, a notable figure in the movement who died at St. Joseph Hospital, Wednesday, Nov. 17, at a few days ago, and buried at St. Peter's Church, Mr. Gonyea, who was 67 years old at the time of his death, was born in Ireland and at the time of the Fenian uprising was a captain in the movement. He was imprisoned by the British authorities, and on his release emigrated to the United States.

The new religious congregation of the Brothers of the Poor of St. Francis Sepulchre, whose mother house is in Holland, was recently approved by the Holy See.

Rev. Brother Jerome Joseph Fitzpatrick, who died recently in Dublin, was one of the foremost teachers of the Christian Brothers' Institute, which has done so much for the education of Irish youth. As a teacher of the Irish language he was unsurpassed. He was the author of the "Christian Brothers' Irish Grammar" which has been described by competent judges as the best book of the kind ever written.

To do what is right, with unswerving tenacity, is the duty of every man. — Pope.

## News From Ireland

Married.—September 22nd at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, by the Rev. John McGinley, A.M., Wm. J. O'Donnell, with music, Miss O'Donnell, with music, Philip O'Reilly, N. E. second daughter of Philip O'Reilly, Miss Mary O'Reilly.

A very successful Auctioneer was held in Killaloe on Sunday, September 25, and was attended by large numbers who came from Limerick, Nenagh and other districts. Several hands were present. Spectacularly attended by Canon Flanagan, C. S. C., and Canon G. J. O'Reilly, who attended on behalf of the Limerick Industrial Mission. Competition was keen and many very valuable articles were sold.

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