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Kathleen

"We do indeed have strange experiences on the missions," said Father Rex. "I suppose if I were to write down some of the things that have really happened to me, people would say I was raving." And yet—

"The old missionary paused. "And yet there are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy," murmured Mrs. Singleton, softly.

Father Rex bowed in the direction of the white-haired lady. "Exactly, my dear Madame! Shakespeare never penned a truer line. And now don't be frightened, my dear people, young and old" (he turned to the group gathered about him), "if I tell you a true story of one of my recent missions."

So, amidst a hushed silence, we listened to a touching narrative.

I was giving a two-weeks' mission in a large manufacturing city not very far from a certain great metropolis. I was not exactly a stranger in the locality; for at least three times in the past I had been on mission bands that had been sent to the parish of which I am speaking. Thus I happened to have come in contact with quite a number of the parishioners, some of whom I knew fairly well. So when one evening I was called down to the parlor to see a certain Mrs. Mulcahey, I greeted her more or less as an old friend.

But Mrs. Mulcahey was in dire straits that night; for, in addition to the usual tale of a drunken husband and other troubles, she had a new anxiety owing to the conduct of her oldest girl, Kathleen, aged nineteen. The exercises of the women's mission were just beginning, and Kathleen had flatly refused to "make the mission." She had expressed a preference for the moving picture shows.

"And 'tisn't that so much, Father," said Mrs. Mulcahey, dissolving into tears, "but she's taken to running round in the evening, and coming in at all hours. Maybe it's thinking of getting married she is—if they mean honest by her; and they don't always, running wild like that on the streets, Father. And sure we need her earnings yet, anyway."

This looked rather serious. Reserving my own opinion of good Mrs. Mulcahey, I questioned her further, eliciting the information that Kathleen was working steadily "in the shop" (the designation by which the great carpet mills of the locality were known); earned in all her earnings except a dollar or two every week; and was, in fact, as she had been since she was twelve years old, the main support of the family.

I well remembered the girl, though I had met her only once, and that somewhat casually, about three years before. She was sixteen at the time, fragile and childlike in appearance, and with a sweet, shy manner. Contrary to the provisions of the State law, she had already been at work four years, and faint lines showed sadly around the corners of her soft eyes—eyes of true Irish blue. Even at the time I was vaguely troubled about the girl's future. She seemed too frail, too gently attractive to be thrust for thus to battle with the world. I safely enrolled her in the Children of Mary, however; and now and then at my Mass, all unbidden, seemed to come to my lips a special memento for Kathleen Mulcahey. But not till the evening of which I am speaking had I heard any further tidings of her.

"Don't try to coerce her into making the mission," I had advised the tearful Mrs. Mulcahey. "Perhaps she would come to see me?" I added tentatively.

"Indeed, Father, she wouldn't," said Mrs. Mulcahey, conclusively.

I pondered a moment, then an inspiration seemed to come to me. I picked up a sheet of paper and scribbled some words like these: "Kathleen, one who is in trouble needs your help. Will you come

to see me tomorrow evening?" I enclosed the paper in an envelope and addressed the latter to Miss Kathleen Mulcahey.

"I think that will fetch her," I said, with a confidence which surprised even myself. And I handed the communication to my caller.

Mrs. Mulcahey opened her mouth in amazement—perhaps in protest; but, fortunately, at the instant the bell rang and another caller was announced.

And, after all, my note did produce the desired effect. Kathleen Mulcahey came to see me, but did not on the evening I designated. Had she come then—well, perhaps I should never have had this story to tell.

The good old priest paused, while a look of pain flitted for an instant across his refined and gentle features.

It was one evening toward the close of the mission. I had thought of the girl often; but had almost given up any hope of seeing her. I was ushering one caller out, and just about to close the hall door when I heard a light step approaching. In another moment Kathleen stood in the illumination from the hall light, and I knew her. She was changed in many ways, and yet it seemed to me that under any circumstances, I should have known the gentle Kathleen, whose name was so often in my prayers.

It was not, however, till we were seated in my office, directly facing each other, that I had my first good look at her. I suppose I could not conceal the surprise and distress which I felt.

"Am I all that changed, Father?" said the girl, simply. "There was a gentle dignity in her manner."

"You have been ill, child?" "A little, Father," she replied. "not much. I don't have the time."

"One should always take time to keep well," I said, a trifle clumsily I suppose, for I was somewhat confused.

Kathleen smiled a sad little smile, which it somehow wrenched at my heart to see. Then a look of keen anxiety crossed her features.

"O Father, you won't give me away?" she said, clasping her hands together. "If I can only hold out another six months, Patsy and Nellie will be sixteen—they're twins—and old enough to go to work."

And then, as she did not speak she explained:

"They would put me out of the shop if they knew, the laws have become that strict."

"Have you seen a doctor?" I asked quietly.

"Yes, Father—the dispensary doctor. He says one lung is all gone, or nearly, and the other is pretty bad."

"My poor child!" I said. "Why your mother told me nothing of this."

A look of pain tinged with resentment crossed the girl's white brow.

"She doesn't know, Father; and if she did—well, it's only the 'pay envelope' they both seem to care for," said Kathleen Mulcahey, a touch of bitterness now in her young voice. "But, Father" (she evidently wanted to put that former incumbent of the position phase of her life aside), "you for 43 years, has been granted a pension of £40 per year."

"Messrs. P. Moonan & Son, auctioneers, have sold the Townsend farm for Blakestown, the property of Colonel Smith, to Peter Curran, Drogheda, for £8,500."

I paused, and she looked at me a trifle incredulously I must admit.

"In trouble—about you, Kathleen."

"No need, Father. I'm a good girl—yet." And she lifted her clear glance to mine. Meeting it fully, I knew she spoke the truth. But that "yet" stung me somehow like a whiplash.

"A good girl," I repeated softly; "and always will be Kathleen?"

To Be Continued

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News From Ireland

Carlow.
The death has taken place of Rev. Francis Colgan, S. J., son of Dr. Francis Colgan, Carlow.

Carraig.
Thomas Brady, Killakeen, died recently at the ripe old age of 108 years. Deceased belonged to an old Rheimin family and was a fluent speaker of the native Irish to the last.

Clare.
At the Cathedral, by the Rev. D. O'Dea, Adm., with nuptial mass, Patrick, son of the late John Fahey, Deerpark, Quin, to Kate, daughter of the late John McGann, Market St., Ennis.

Cork.
J. D. O'Sullivan, D.C., Mill St., Cork, which is D. D. Sheehan's constituency, has forwarded from the priests and people of that district a cheque for £32 to the Irish Parliamentary fund.

Donegal.
Married.—November 30, at St. Agatha's church, Clar, Donegal, by Rev. Bernard Cunningham, C. C., John McGroarty, merchant, Bridge St., Donegal, to Mary E., eldest daughter of John McGinty, Drumlonagher, Donegal.

Dublin.
Justice Gibson, who opened the business of the Leinster Winter Assizes on Dec. 1, in Green St., courthouse, Dublin, said that on the whole it was a matter for congratulation that there was no serious crime to be investigated.

Formanagh.
Edward Gallagher, of Carn, Tempo, has been appointed an instructor in Agriculture for County Tyrone. He recently completed the three years' course of training provided by the department in the agricultural faculty at the Royal College of Science, Dublin.

Kerry.
An action for damages for breach of promise has been brought by Miss Margaret Daly, daughter of a farmer residing near Listowel, against a neighboring farmer named Wm. O'Connor.

Kildare.
Amongst the successful medical graduates of the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin, Dr. Peter Burrows Kelly, Athy, son of the late Gilbert Kelly, clerk of the Crown and Peace for Queen's county.

Kilkenny.
James Landy, a native of Cussane, and for some years a valued employe of the Cuddahy Packing Co., in Chicago, paid a visit to his old home in Cussane recently, on his way to China, where he has been sent by the Cuddahy company.

Leitrim.
Died.—Recently, Edmond McNamara, Killcullane House, Holy cross.—Recently, Patrick Hartigan, Ballymantymore.—Nov. 30, Mrs. Maria Gale, 2 Grattan Villas, Limerick.—Recently, P. Costello, Patrickswell.

Longford.
Miss Casey, Clontarf, has been appointed school teacher in Longford Union. Miss Coogan, the former incumbent of the position, for 43 years, has been granted a pension of £40 per year.

Louth.
Messrs. P. Moonan & Son, auctioneers, have sold the Townsend farm for Blakestown, the property of Colonel Smith, to Peter Curran, Drogheda, for £8,500.

Mayo.
Died.—Recently, James Philbin, N. T., Clanbrack.—November 26, John Reid, Towneyemon, aged 70 years.

Monaghan.
At Castleblayney on November 28, Most Rev. Dr. McKenna solemnly blessed the bell of the new convent of the Sisters of Mercy. The occasion was favored by beautiful weather and the ceremony was attended by large numbers of the parishioners.

Queens.
Died.—November 12, Wm. Engleton, Killyon.

Pope Will Not Intervene

An effort on the part of the Kaiser to enlist the aid of the Pope to persuade Italy to meet Turkey half way in the peace proposals which Germany is urging at Constantinople has met with a failure. Here is the story as it is told:

In submitting the proposition the Prussian minister at the Vatican hinted that a word from the Pope might influence the King of Italy. The minister is credited with being greatly astonished when the Pope shook his head and refused to co-operate in the scheme.

"I am sorry, but I cannot do anything, as the wires of the Vatican telephone are not connected with these of the quinquennial," he said.

"But your Holiness knows," said the minister, "that wireless telephones have been invented."

"Yes," said the Pope, again shaking his head, "but none has been installed at the Vatican."

The Kaiser's appeal to the Pope interpreted as showing the personal relations of Emperor William and King Victor Emmanuel are less cordial than heretofore. The best official information is that Italy has determined to remain passive and await Turkey's expected overtures for peace.

M'Namara's Mother Dying

Mrs. Mary B. McNamara, mother of James and John McNamara, confessed dynamiters now in the penitentiary at San Quentin, Cal., is slowly dying at her home at 4806 Quarry street, Cumminsville, the home that her convict sons helped to build for her.

The Rev. John Hickey, pastor of the church Mrs. McNamara attended, said Friday that in his opinion she could not last long. "That blow when her boys confessed struck right to the heart," said Father Hickey. "The criticism that has been made that the boys were not properly brought up is one of the cruelest statements that has been made. I know that for years that mother worked from morning till night over a washtub that her boys could be properly reared."

At Death's Door

All the cardinals in the Sacred College when Cardinal Gibbons became a member of it, are now dead except three, and one of these three, Cardinal Capella, has been at death's door for several weeks.

Webster Priest Honored

Rev. John Miller, pastor of Holy Trinity church in Webster was very pleasantly surprised Tuesday evening. A delegation of motormen and conductors of the Rochester & Sodus Bay Railroad presented to him, on behalf of seventeen conductors and sixteen motormen of the road, a handsome carved leather arm chair, in appreciation of his many acts of kindness shown the employes of the road.

Following the presentation Father Miller served an excellent luncheon, and a pleasant social evening was enjoyed.

Father Miller was appointed pastor of Holy Trinity church in 1898, since which time he has won the respect and esteem, not only of the members of his parish, but of all classes in the community. He has always taken a keen interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the village.

Weekly Church Calendar

Sunday, 1. Sunday after Epiphany
S. 7 St. Lucian, martyr
M. 8 St. Severin,
T. 9 St. Julian
W. 10 St. Agatho
T. 11 St. Hyginus
F. 12 St. Tatiana, M.
S. 13 St. Veronica

Catholic News Notes

The Bishops of Scotland petitioned the Holy See to continue the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle as a holy day of obligation, and the petition has been granted. It is becoming a practice among London Scot. Catholics to attend Mass on St. Andrew's Day, November 30, to mark their reverence for their holy apostle, while the custom of wearing a sprig of heather from the old hills of their native land promises to become almost as popular as the wearing of the green on St. Patrick's Day.

For the first time in its long and honored career Ireland's national ecclesiastical seminary recently conferred degrees in arts upon a number of its students. Maynooth College, by Act of Parliament been made an affiliated college of the National University, and its claims as a great educational institution of long standing have been at last recognized. Sir Christopher Nixon, vice-chancellor of the National University, who presided at the ceremony in the unavoidable absence of the chancellor, delivered a most interesting address, in the course of which he said the institution had established its claim to be regarded as the greatest ecclesiastical college in the world. Macaulay, speaking of Maynooth, said: "It did more to form the character of those who were the character of millions." That it had done so most successfully in the past cannot be denied, and that it will continue to do so in the future under the more liberal treatment which is being extended to it is absolutely certain.

An Ivory Crucifix, said to be the work of Leonardo da Vinci, has been bought in Madrid from the wife of Deputy Mayor by an unnamed American for the sum of \$125,000. Senora Mayor inherited the Crucifix from her mother.

A struggle is going on in Brazil between the Freemasons and the Catholics, says the London "Catholic Times." Though members of a secret society, the Freemasons, wherever they have the power, use it for the suppression if possible of associations formed by members of religious orders. Years ago they forced the Brazil Government to undertake to stamp out the religious orders that were working for the maintenance of religion in the country. A law was passed forbidding the communities to receive novices, and it was enacted that on the death of the last surviving monk the property should devolve to the State. Since then Church and State have been separated in Brazil. The Church was set free in 1899, and it was held by competent jurists that the act against the orders was abolished by the act of separation. Then religious communities began to enroll novices again. Later the Government swooped down on them. A force of police seized, in its name, the Francisca Convent of San Antonio, in Rio de Janeiro, and other seizures have been threatened. But the Brazilian Catholics are less disposed to tolerate injustice towards the clergy, and they are conducting a vigorous agitation against the Government's policy. The case has been taken to the law courts, and if the decision is adverse to the orders, the questions will be fought out in the constituencies. If Catholics everywhere only made good use of their votes there is scarcely any grievance that they could not get redressed.

The report of the Catholic Church Extension Society of the United States for the fiscal year ending October 15, 1911, is a remarkable document. Many movements are in the Church which are of unquestioned merit, but which die of languor for want of proper nourishment. On the face of it the Church Extension Society might have been one of the movements. It began with nothing but enthusiasm and zeal. An article appearing in the "Ecological Review" some seven years ago received such encouragement from the clergy that an organization to support poor missions was formed under the name of "Church Extension Society." There was no money in the treasury of the new society, but the men who were behind it were practical men, members of the hierarchy, clergy and laity.

The present report shows that the society's receipts for the fiscal year were \$307,873, which is \$30,000 more than half of all that had been received during the five preceding years, although this was the considerable sum of \$583,073. The money thus received was not only cash, but also represented by securities, which with the notes for loans have been held by the society in a sort of endowment fund. This fund now shows an assets amounting to \$282,406.23. The society has practically no liabilities.

Chicago's Diocesan Union of Catholic Young Men's Societies has established an employment division, which addresses itself to the business men of the city and promises them candidates of exceptionally good character in answer to requests for help to fill vacant positions.

The corner-stone of the new St. Rose's Free Home for sufferers from incurable cancer, in New York, at the corner of Hudson and Front streets, was laid with appropriate ceremonies on December 15. The new home will accommodate one hundred patients. It will be five stories high, on a plot 50 feet square, and will be built of brick, terra cotta and limestone, with a steel frame. The cost will be \$500,000 and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy by June next. The work of St. Rose's Home is conducted by the Sisters of St. Dominic, nuns who devote their lives to the care of destitute sufferers from incurable cancer. Sisters Mary Rose, O. S. D., and other Sisters are in charge of the home.

Thanks to the charity of Mrs. (Pa.) Council Knights of Columbus, Rev. Father, pastor and chaplain of the Erie County Almshouse, shall have the pleasure of canvassing for funds to aid in his work of rescuing the souls of the friendless poor who die in the institution from the freezing rooms of the almshouse and attending to the decent Christian burial. The Knights have commendably volunteered to meet whatever expenses may be incurred by Father Bender in the prosecution of his mission of mercy.

The headlines next week in the Temple Theater will be the famous American comedienne Irene Franklin, assisted by Irene Green at the piano. Miss Franklin will present a new type of comedy with a broad appeal to the others on the bill. Mrs. Jimmy Barry is the sketch "The Emb" Montenegro, the tragic trilogist; Mena Marou, the young actress; and Franklyn, the young man in "The Duke Detective" and "The Duke Detective" and "The Duke Detective".

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