

The Catholic Journal

Twenty-third Year, No. 44

Brooklyn, N. Y., Friday, August 28, 1914

My Choice

By Jerome Raymond Whitman

Continued from last week

It was a new sensation for me to see the light-hearted Joseph weep. He must be undergoing an ordeal, I thought. He arose after some time and as he turned there was a look of unusual joy and peace on his countenance which told of some victory. As he was about to leave he glanced to see me and blushed with confusion, as boys often do when found out doing something especially pious.

Before departing I made a fervent act of thanksgiving, for the light and edification I had received. I found Joseph at the door waiting for me, and I accompanied him home. It seemed an opportune time to lay my proposition before him and I did so.

"I am indeed, very grateful to you Mr. Morris, for your kindness but I have already made a contract for life," he replied laughingly.

"What is that?" I asked in astonishment.

"Well, you just witnessed it. I have resolved to become a Brother and it was just this evening I ended my novena to Saint Joseph and my last doubts and temptations have disappeared. It was a hard struggle but grace conquered at last. Father O'Brien has approved of my step, and my parents have consented although they were opposed to it at first."

"But," said I, merely to draw him out, for I admired his noble aspirations. "Why do you want to bury yourself in the obscure life of a Brother when you have such brilliant prospects of a pleasant and useful life before you in the world?" He replied with all the reasoning of a theologian, saying among other things:

"As for obscurity, Saint Joseph's life was one of obscurity, yet he is counted as the greatest of Saints. I doubt if there are many men who do more good than Brother Charles and the Brothers who are connected with our school. See what a great influence for good they have had on us and on all who have passed through their school."

He then told me he expected to accompany the Brothers to their Mother-house at Notre Dame, Indiana, soon after the commencement, and recommended Francis Howard as a most worthy subject for the position I offered him. We had now reached his residence, everything about which struck me as a model Catholic home, and one very hard to leave. After a few words of commendation upon his proposed course I bade him a cordial good night.

The next day I went to the home of Francis Howard, who lived nearly at the outskirts of the city. It was a very small and plain house, but everything about it, notably the well-kept garden, indicated good taste. Francis received me cordially and introduced me to his mother, a refined but sickly lady, and to his sister Mary, a pretty girl of seven. Mrs. Howard was delighted to meet me as she had Francis speak of me.

"Francis has so much confidence in Saint Joseph," she said, "that he is sure his novena which he just completed last night, will be answered today, and he has made me of much the same mind."

Then she told me of her trials, her poor health since her husband's untimely death and of the struggle for existence, although, she added, "God had blessed me with two good children who have always been a source of consolation and hope to me."

Could anyone, I thought, be more worthy of Mr. Russell's benevolence.

"Francis, I think your novena has been successful. I came here for no other purpose than to offer you the position as confidential secretary to Mr. Russell, attached to which is a handsome salary and the probability of rapid promotion."

At first they thought this was

too good to be true, then began to doubt his ability to fill so responsible a position, but I assured them there was no cause for I had studied my subject well, but I did not tell them what I had witnessed in the church the previous evening.

Then Francis exclaimed, with tears of joy, "Did I not tell you, mother, that all would be settled today?"

It was truly a happy day for the Howards, nor did they forget to offer thanks to the kind Providence for the favor granted through St. Joseph's powerful intercession.

The next morning early, as agreed, Francis dressed in his Sunday clothes, and his heart going pit-a-pat, reported at the office, and I presented him to Mr. Russell.

"So this is Master Howard," he remarked dryly as he extended his hand and observed him keenly. Francis in his usual straightforward way met his gaze without flinching. This seemed to please Mr. Russell and his face softened.

"I like your face and I am sure you will do," he said patting him on the shoulder in a fatherly way which went straight to Francis' heart.

"I will try my very best, sir," he replied.

"But where is the other one?" the senior member inquired. I informed him quietly, for Miller had told me in confidence.

"Good for him, I shall not dispute the claim."

It was arranged that Francis was to finish his course at school and to act as Mr. Russell's private secretary during his free time.

Several weeks passed. Francis had completely won the heart of Mr. Russell. He had surpassed all expectations, and the good old gentleman often remarked that his own son could not have been more reliable and attentive.

The commencement, the crowning event of the year, had passed off with great success. Francis had delivered the salutatory address, and Joseph a very affecting valedictory, influenced no doubt by the thought of his coming departure.

On the day following the commencement we find our two friends arm in arm strolling down the street engaged in earnest conversation. It was to be their last heart-to-heart talk.

"So you are leaving us tomorrow. I shall miss you awfully," said Francis, trying hard to keep back the tears. "Do you know, Joe, I would like to go too if I had no one depending on me."

"Your vocation is to take care of your mother. God bless you in that," replied Joseph.

"But don't you find it hard to leave your relatives and friends?"

"Yes, naturally it is a little hard," he admitted, "but when God calls a person He makes all sacrifices easy. In fact I can hardly wait till the time comes. My parents, moreover, esteem it a favor from God that He should call one of their children to the religious life and their only prayer is that I may persevere. Besides it is not so difficult as many imagine. Indeed all religious say that they never knew what true happiness was until they had entered the religious life."

Thus the youthful philosophers conversed until they reached Francis' home where after a warm hearted goodbye they parted.

The next day Joseph bade an affectionate farewell to his relatives and friends to respond to the call of his beloved Master.

Some fifteen years have passed. Many changes have taken place. The name of the firm has changed to "Morris and Howard." I have practically retired leaving everything under the control of the capable management of the junior member, who has risen by his own merits and not by any favoritism to the highest position in our power to bestow. Good old Mr. Russell and his beloved wife have gone to their reward leaving the greater part of their fortune to Francis, whom they loved

as their own son.

But he regards the highest as given him in trust by God and there is no worthy cause that is not indebted to his munificence. He is loved and revered by all as a model Christian gentleman.

Joseph Miller gave himself up generally to the religious life. He resolved with God's grace that there would be no reserve in the sacrifice he had made to his beloved Master. So his advance in all that makes a true religious teacher was remarkable. His ardent and cheerful disposition has been a great help to him. Not once did he wish to turn back, but offered up thanks to God for the grace of vocation.

One of my greatest joys is to be favored with one of his letters permeated with such a lofty spirit and yet so kind, so sympathetic.

He is known now as Brother Edward and is superior of an excellent high school where he and his co-laborers are doing noble work for God and country, in fine forming other Francis Howards and Joseph Millers.

The End.

Weekly Church Calendar

14 Sunday after Pentecost

G. No one can Serve Two Masters

S Sept. 1—St. Giles
M. 2—St. Stephen
T. 3—St. Phoebe
W. 4—St. Rose
T. 5—St. Lawrence
F. 6—St. Zachary
S. 7—St. Regina

Catholic Summer School

With several metropolitan soloists of prominence on the program the annual concert at the Champlain Assembly on Sunday evening proved an entertainment of delightful dimensions. An excellent list of masterpieces was rendered and the various numbers were warmly applauded. The concert was under the direction of Camille W. Zeckwer, of Philadelphia, instructor in the various branches of music here.

The concluding performance of the Dramatic Co., which has scored a record hit under the direction of George Lund, was given on Saturday evening when the feature act was J. M. Barrie's "A Woman's Curiosity."

The Gillespie Challenge Cup for the boys' golf tournament which has just closed was won by the son of the donor, Geo. J. Gillespie Jr., of New York City, with Kenneth Fox as runner-up. Two wins in succeeding years entitles the visitor of this session to the permanent right to the handsome silver trophy.

The final cotillon of the summer at the Jersey Club on Monday evening was attended by more than 200 couples and the affair was most successful. On the afternoon of the same day, a round-table talk of her experiences was given by Miss E. M. Burns, of the survivors of the ill-fated Titanic.

The evening lectures, during the week just closed were given by the Rev. Paschal Robinson, O. F. M., one time editor of the North American Review prior to the beginning of his ecclesiastical studies. Father Robinson spoke on "The Early Franciscan Poets," considering St. Francis of Assisi, Thomas of Celano, Jacopon da Todi, and concluding with the Franciscan sources of Divine comedy.

The morning lecture course was under the direction of Denis R. O'Brien, of Brooklyn, who spoke on "The Philosophy of Education." The list of topics was of gripping interest and the various subjects were handled in a masterful and scholarly manner.

of Philadelphia, will speak on the topic. When finished was Bishop's opening with "A Page of Mediaeval Romance." The final lecture will also be by one of the most popular soloists on the list when Miss Gertrude M. O'Reilly of Ireland will speak on Celtic Literature. Thursday's topic will be "Early Celtic Romance" and that of Friday "The Irish Precursor of Dante." Miss O'Reilly is a well-known lecturer on Irish Art and Folk Lore and a long awaited speaker here. The sermon in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Lake on Sunday morning was by the Rev. Walter J. Shanley, lecturer during the previous week. Father Shanley spoke on "The duty of returning thanks to God."

The big subscription which has been organized under the auspices of the Alumnus Auxiliary Association on Friday afternoon at the Champlain Club was a fine success. The prizes were of special interest.

The College Camp will close on Saturday, and the annual of the present session, mark the present season of the camp as one of the most successful in the history of the Assembly. Nearly 100 were registered during the summer and the success of this chapter of the camp reflects great credit on the zealous Commandant, Joseph J. Struhr, W. R. Oliver the prominent lecturer and newspaperman is among the late-season guests from Brooklyn, and his scheduled for several round table talks at the various clubs and cottages.

The acting president, Rev. Thomas McMillan, C. S. P., took occasion in the waning season to ask prayers on Sunday for the late Bernard Sullivan, who up until last summer had taken a prominent part in all the dramatic entertainments and social events at the Assembly.

Bishop Grimes in Office

The Rt. Rev. John Grimes, the new bishop of the Syracuse, N. Y. diocese, was born in Ireland Dec. 18, 1852. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Francis McNeimny at Albany on Feb. 19, 1882.

He was made assistant to the Rev. Dr. James A. O'Hara, pastor of St. Mary's church, Syracuse, in 1882 and rendered valuable service to the spot pastor during the building of the magnificent edifice which is now the cathedral. After two years' service he was transferred to North Creek, but upon request of the building committee he was returned to St. Mary's.

In 1887, when the Syracuse diocese was formed and Bishop Ludden came to Syracuse, he transferred Father Grimes to Whitesboro. His leaving caused great sorrow in the congregation, but was turned to rejoicing when after the death of Dr. O'Hara in 1889, Father Grimes was made pastor.

In 1904, when St. Mary's was made the cathedral, Father Grimes was appointed rector and became a member of the Papal household with the title of monsignor. In 1909, when Bishop Ludden asked for a coadjutor, Pope Pius appointed Father Grimes to that office. He was consecrated May 16, 1909, by Archbishop John M. Farley, now cardinal.

The ecclesiastical honors given him have been a source of great gratification to his parishioners and his various friends throughout the diocese, particularly his selection as Bishop Ludden's coadjutor and successor when the time, which has now arrived, came. No act of the church will signal the succession of the new bishop to the head of the diocese it being automatic with Bishop Ludden's death.

At Utica, N. Y., a \$200,000 children's home is now completing.

Your Eyes

Do not neglect your eyes. Have them examined and in case you need glasses have them supplied and fitted by the Briggs Optical Co., 223 Mercantile Bldg., whose reliable work and reasonable prices meet with the approval of

Catholic News Notes

Cardinal Gibbons has gone to Southampton, I. I., for a few days' rest. He was accompanied by Bishop O'Connell of Baltimore, and Foley of Detroit.

St. Rev. Mgr. McCort, Bishop of Philadelphia, will be consecrated in September. His Bull of appointment was received on the 22d ult.

St. Rev. Bishop Kelly of Detroit, Mich., ordained the following young men to the priesthood a few days ago: Ross, T. Kenny, T. Fallon and P. Dugan.

Very Rev. J. O'Connell, of the Order of the Holy Ghost, Detroit, Mich., has been appointed Vice Apostolic of St. Mary, Michigan.

Bishop Maloney of Rockford, Ill., has just purchased a public school in Rockford and will convert it into a Catholic high school. He has also completed a new residence which is now in operation.

The walls of the dome of the newly pro-Cathedral of Minneapolis are rising. The dome will be surmounted by a glorious statue of the Immaculate Conception.

Sixty thousand union workmen passed for five minutes in their work the other day from 10:35 to 11 a. m. Mass was held for the late Martin B. Madden at St. Malachy's Church, Chicago.

At Peotterburg, Iowa, in a small district, is one of the most beautiful churches in Iowa, consecrated and costing about \$100,000. About 24 of the parishioners contributed each \$1,000 towards its construction. One contributed a \$250,000, and many from \$100 to \$1,000 for its interior furnishings.

At the general chapter of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Detroit, held at Marquette, Kalamazoo County, Mich., Rev. Mother Anthony was re-elected Superior General for another term of three years.

The Lepers Colony, near New Orleans, numbers about seventy afflicted with that dreadful disease. The Benedictine monks and nuns care for them.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Schrambs of Toledo, O., is conducting the retreat for the clergy of the diocese of Portland, Oregon.

The first frame church erected in Milwaukee, which was also the first Cathedral of Bishop Hennrich, has been restored, after years of almost forgotten obscurity and the historic old building was again dedicated to the service of God on a recent Sunday.

The well known Jesuit College of St. Francis Xavier, in New York, has been consolidated with Fordham University.

The Fathers of the Lyons (France) African Mission are in charge of the Negro mission in Georgia. A new colored mission has just been opened by them in Atlanta.

Dr. Kreck, pastor at Laibach, Tirol, has been appointed Coadjutor to the Prince-Archbishop Von Lavant, of Laibach.

The city of Venice has presented the Holy Father with a facsimile in gold of the gigantic Angel of gilt bronze that stands upon the pinnacles of the Campanile.

Stores and houses also a room flat to rent, at reasonable terms, inquire of Mrs. Deane at residence of 750 Jay St., open evenings.

Send us your job printing.

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...

The Rev. Fr. ...