

The Catholic Journal.

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The Rise of the O'Connor's

Continued from last week

And into the car went the O'Connor, father, O'Connor, mother, thirteen young O'Connors and all their bundles, bags and grips, armed with their pass.

The train pulled out. The coal man breathed easily. The O'Connors were gone.

Word had been sent to Chicago that the O'Connors were coming. The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Chicago had arranged to meet and care for them. A ladies' auxiliary had been formed in Chicago and its first work was to handle the O'Connors.

When the train rolled in, the ladies' committee surged forward ten of them. They met and overwhelmed the O'Connors. The dear children, the sweet babies, the lovely twins, the poor little lambs, all tired out—these and a host of endearing, welcoming, soothing expressions met the ears of the astonished O'Connors. The family was taken to a near-by hotel. The news of the size of the family spread quickly. Newspaper reporters came to interview the O'Connors. The children were sketched. The head of the family gave interviews and accepted little hospitalities, especially liquid ones. The children had peanuts, candies, fruit, offered by the kind-hearted ladies of the auxiliary.

In the next day's papers were accounts of the large family and the story of their venture to the West. "Pioneers from New York" ran one of the headlines. O'Connor found himself famous. He was described as a "quick-witted, sensible Irishman who had tired of the slums of New York and sought new fortunes in the great West." He met the men of the Chicago St. Vincent de Paul Society with the air of one to whom the society was much indebted. His tone showed that he knew he had conferred public attention upon the society. He asked why he could not see the sights of the city. So the family was taken out in three coaches and the ladies showed the sights to the children, who received more candy, more fruit, and more attention. Chicago was one grand holiday tour for the O'Connors.

Mr. Onahan, of Chicago, had begged another pass for fifteen to Omaha. And, when Chicago's ladies had fed and smothered the O'Connor children with attentions and sweets and more gifts, and O'Connor, senior, had successfully negotiated sundry small loans, the family moved on, traveling upon pass number two, and arriving at Omaha.

The far East heard nothing from the O'Connors. No letter of thanks came to the Vincentians of the Seventh Ward. Henry, the druggist, at last paid his bet of three cigars that the family would be back for the winter. He lost but three cigars because no one would take his offer to bet a dollar. Henry was always lucky on bets and predictions.

A year had rolled around when a priest called upon the coal merchant at his office one day, and inquired if he were not the gentleman who had arranged for the Western settlement of the O'Connors.

"Why, yes," eagerly admitted the coal man, "how are they getting on?"

The priest informed him then which Catholicity has made in that they were on the farm, but that country. Scarcely more than they had refused to work the half century ago Catholics in farm, expecting to be cared for by the Bishop and the Catholic Colonization Society, and that Fr. Walter Panis, M. S. H., because there had been so much asks help in restoring his church publicity given to their arrival at Tandag, Surigao, P. I. What the "first family from the East assistance he has already received to settle there," and so forth, heed toward this end has come from had been ashamed to thrust them his native country, Holland, and out. So he had advanced about he feels that great America \$150 to keep them in food and should show herself as generous supplies, which he would be glad to have the gentleman who had sent them out to pay.

Whew! It was the same old O'Connor problem. But the family was not on Madison street Jan. 15th. The members are renewed. The coal man's courage requested to come and bring a rose. He glared at the priest, friend.

"Not a cent," he said, "in the words of Pickney, 'millions for defense but not one cent for tribute.' We spent all we're going to spend on those people. You've got them. Look out for them. Do you think we're going to send them out and have you act as banker for them at our expense? Not on your little old New York. We're through. Collect from the O'Connors and good luck to you."

The priest finally admitted that he had not really expected to be reimbursed, that he knew it was soft on his part to give the family so much cash, but that New York was rich, and he was not, and he thought it was worth while trying to get that money back. And, after a smile and a few pleasant words about the family, he told the New York gentleman that the eldest boy had done some work, and with the money thus earned, and some of the priest's money, had bought a team of horses which he hired out to the farmers. When the priest wished the boy to do a few days' ploughing for him, around his garden, the crafty lad replied, "Nix, you wouldn't pay anything. I don't want to work for a dead horse."

The O'Connors were on the farm, but not working it. They were living on charity. The Bishop did not have the heart to order them away, or reveal the manner in which all had been taken in by the O'Connors.

The New Yorker laughed. "Thank goodness," he said, "some one else has a dose of them. We're sorry for you, but we can't shed any tears about it. Keep them, and may God bless you!"

The priest went away. When Henry, the druggist, heard of the western deeds of the O'Connors, he shook his head. "I paid my bet too soon," he said, "they'll be back."

A few weeks later the coal merchant called to see his grave and reverend pastor about a matter of business. Three days before, when he called for the first time about the business matter he recited with glee the incident of the Nebraska priest advancing the \$150 and trying to collect in New York. He and the pastor laughed heartily over the story.

When the coal merchant came into the reception room of the rectory on his next visit the pastor smiled as he came forward. "Who do you suppose was in here looking for a job?" asked the coal man, "who?" "Old man O'Connor," said the rector. — Dr. S. Maccoll.

The Peruvian Government is taking further steps to ameliorate the condition of its Indians. At its request Bishop Zubietta, O. P., and six Dominican priests have sailed from Spain to assist in the civilization and evangelization of these tribes.

The more sons in a family and the quicker they are married the better the Chinese mother likes it, for all these young wives will be so many servants. Custom insists upon all the family living together, eating together and working together. Outside help, therefore, need never be hired, and this community life is a source of economy or even wealth.

At the sixtieth anniversary of the cathedral at Melbourne, Australia, Archbishop Mannix, spoke forcibly of the great strides which Catholicity has made in that they were on the farm, but that country. Scarcely more than they had refused to work the half century ago Catholics in farm, expecting to be cared for by the Bishop and the Catholic Colonization Society, and that Fr. Walter Panis, M. S. H., because there had been so much asks help in restoring his church publicity given to their arrival at Tandag, Surigao, P. I. What the "first family from the East assistance he has already received to settle there," and so forth, heed toward this end has come from had been ashamed to thrust them his native country, Holland, and out. So he had advanced about he feels that great America \$150 to keep them in food and should show herself as generous supplies, which he would be glad to have the gentleman who had sent them out to pay.

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News From Ireland

Austria.

Thomas Scullion, postmaster of Crosskeys, Millquarter, near Toomebridge, was taken suddenly ill on Monday, December 8, near his home and expired before medical aid could be summoned.

Carlow.

Rev. H. Cullen, P. P., presided at a meeting in Carlow-Craigie in connection with the reorganization of the Carlow-Craigie and Killishin branch, U. I. L., when, after addresses by P. J. Mahon and M. Molloy, resolutions were passed expressing confidence in the Irish party and urging that every effort should be made for a successful Home Rule fund collection.

Cavan.

The Local Government Board have sanctioned the appointment of Dr. Andrew Leitch as doctor of the Castleberg Union.

Clare.

The death after a brief illness occurred on Saturday, December 6, of Charles E. Parker, C. S. P., of Killaloe, who also acted as secretary of the Killaloe and Ballina agricultural show. Deceased was an efficient officer and of a kindly and gentle manner.

Derry.

Great regret is felt by many friends at the death of Mrs. Mary Jane Bryson, of Limavady, widow of the late Dr. Theobald Matthew Bryson, coroner. Deceased was a daughter of the late John O'Kane of Maine, Drumsmurn.

Down.

J. Quigg, N. T., Parkhill, Letterkenny, has been specially promoted to first section of first grade.

Down.

The death occurred at Warrenpoint of Francis Norman Best, son of the late F. J. Best, of Cushman House, Richhill. The remains were removed to Armagh for interment.

Dublin.

T. Meade, son of a well-known Dublin journalist, has been appointed engineer to the improvements committee of the Dublin corporation.

Fermanagh.

The needlework industry in Fermanagh, including lace and crochet work, resulted in the sale last year (ending August 31) of the worst for seven years—of £2,778 worth of work.

Galway.

P. Mannion, N. T., Menlough Boys' school, County Galway, has been promoted to second grade as from April 1, 1913, in view of his efficiency service and excellent record.

Kildare.

W. J. Mason, accountant National Bank, Newbridge, has been promoted to the branch manager ship in room of C. A. Townley, promoted to the charge of the Kells branch.

Kilkenny.

The Kilkenny Corporation have unanimously increased the salary of their borough treasurer P. J. Morrissey, by £1 a week, and the wages of their workmen by 2s a week.

Limerick.

A small holding of two acres three roods, three perches under a second judicial rent of £11 5s, at Corbally, was sold at Limerick on November 28 by W. R. Fitz for £350.

Louth.

The death is recorded of Michael Hardy, of Dublin House, Omeath, a well known business man and Caringford Lough oyster bed proprietor, who was for several years a member of the Dundalk R. D. Council and board of Guardians.

Tipperary.

A public meeting in Clonmel decided upon the erection of a statue of St. Patrick beside the Well and Shrine of the National Apostle near the town.

A soft answer turneth away wrath.

A plant often removed cannot thrive.

Catholic News Notes

On the occasion of his twenty-fifth episcopal anniversary, the diocese of Wichita presented its loved Bishop Hennessy with a sum of \$8,000.

The sisters of the parish schools of the city of Tranton, N. J., for the first time attended the recent annual session of the Mercer County Teachers' Institute.

Bishop Conaty has just seen his 12th anniversary as Bishop of Los Angeles. In those 12 years the six churches in that city grew to 24.

The new Church of the Holy Name will be dedicated at Wilmet, Wis., on January 9. It is to replace the one destroyed by lightning and fire on June 15.

The New York diocesan directorship for the Propagation of the Faith collected nearly \$152,000 last year.

The new Slovak Church of the Immaculate Conception at St. Clair, Pa., was recently dedicated by Rt. Rev. John J. McCort, D. D., auxiliary bishop. It is a brick structure of Gothic design and cost about \$30,000.

The sum of \$25,000 was given by Mr. John D. Rockefeller to the "campaigners" of Cleveland who are endeavoring to raise \$20,000 for the new St. Vincent Hospital addition in that city.

Sir Lawrence Fabacher, Knight of St. Gregory, has presented a splendid statue of St. Charles Borromeo to St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, La. It was recently unveiled and blessed.

The Bishop of Davenport dedicated St. Mary's Church at Oxford, Ia., on Thanksgiving day. It is a solid edifice 50x115 feet.

St. Joseph's parish, Winstead, Conn., is to have an imposing granite church on the corner of Main and Oak streets, to seat 1,000 persons.

In the presence of Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Lawler and Bishop Duffy, the last stone of the magnificent Cathedral of St. Paul, Minn., was raised and placed in position on its dome on the first of this month. The Archbishop made an address.

The cornerstone of the new convent of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Philadelphia, has been laid by Rev. James A. Dalton, the rector.

The classes of the New York City Normal Training School for Catechists in connection with the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, are being held at the churches of St. Cecilia, St. Borromeo, St. Bernard and the Holy Name.

The cornerstone of the new Church of St. John at Lafayette, La., was recently laid. The church will cost \$75,000 and will be one of the handsomest in the Southland.

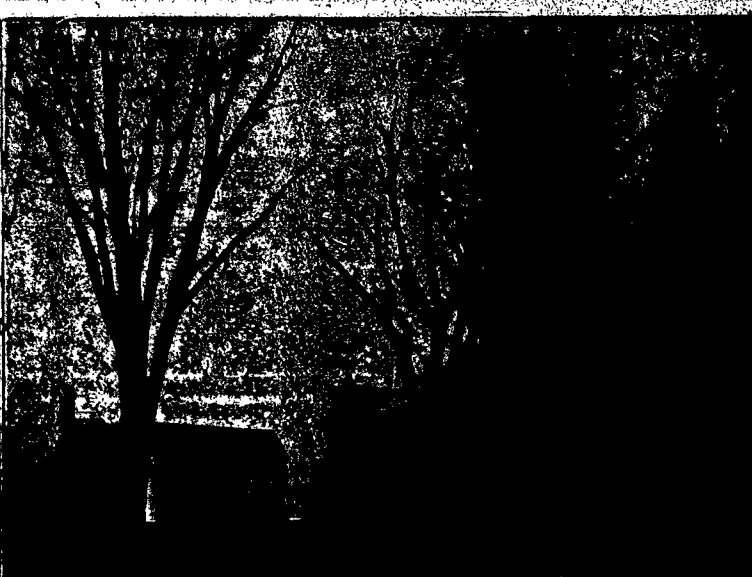
Poor box thieves are again active in Cincinnati, despite convictions meted out some time ago.

The Poor Handmaids of Christ at South Bend, Ind., have removed to Gary, Ind., to take charge of the new hospital there.

In the year 1690 there were only two Catholics in Manchester, England; now there are 110,000.

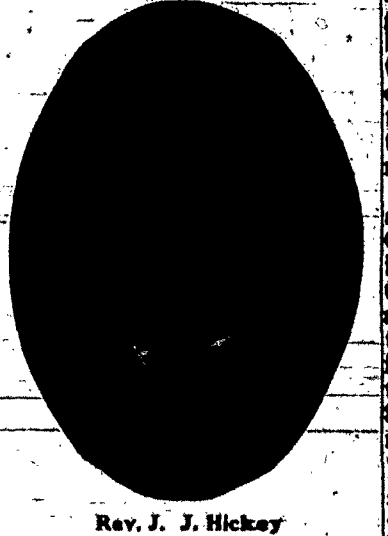
A man that breaks his word bids others be false to him.

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Holy Family Church Auburn, N. Y., Free of Debt

The final payment of \$25,000 on the parish debt of \$65,000 of the Holy Family church, Auburn, was made on December 31, 1913. This payment places the church entirely free from debt. Rev. John J. Hickey during the 18 years that he had charge of the pastorate has been striving to free the pastorate from outstanding financial obligations. When he took charge there was a mortgage of \$30,000 on the property and he has made improvements to the extent of \$35,000. Among the improvements at the church are a tower, new pews, new stations of the cross, a marble Sacred



Heart altar, stained glass windows, candelabra, a quarter oak sacristy, new vestments, canopy, new pulpit, an altar rail of onyx and brass design, a carved oak confessional, and elaborate sanctuary furniture. The interior of the church was recently redecorated. Father Hickey has in mind one more improvement which he hopes to make next year, which is to enlarge the vestibule of the church, the present one being so narrow that it barely allows room for two persons to pass. This improvement will necessitate changes in the North street facade of the edifice. The parish the first of the year had no encumbrances, the church, the rectory, the parochial school, and the convent, all four of which have been extensively improved, during Father Hickey's pastorate. They will also own a large tract of unoccupied land at North and Chapel streets. Father Hickey purchased the property where formerly a dwelling house and barn were situated and laid out the lot as a lawn, affording a suitable view from both church and rectory. The school also received many improvements; new floors have been laid, new desks installed and an addition built to prevent the over-crowding of pupils. The rectory and convent have also been altered to meet with modern requirements. After making the announcement of the clean-up of the debt Father Hickey thanked the parishioners for their co-operation, which has made this possible and commended the loyalty with which they had stood by him, expressing the hope that they would get the full benefit of the improvements which he said were made possible by their sacrifices.

Foreign Mission Notes

Surplus of Women in Africa

As Elsewhere

In the twenty provinces of Uganda the number of women exceeds that of men by 42,000. From this greater surplus it results that all cannot obtain husbands. This is particularly the case at Rubaga, where the young girls, the Parisiens of Buganda, have the reputation of being a little coquettish, too fond of excitement and fine dress and with little inclination to work. But the great mass of young men have no other hands for the cultivation of their bananeries than those of their spouses, they prefer a woman of the province, less comely and with hands hardened to toil, rather than one more civilized but with aristocratic fingers. The priests at Rubaga state that only half of the young girls of the district are able to make Christian marriages; with rare exceptions these become faithful spouses and conscientious mothers. Of the second half, composed of the young married women, three-fifths remain practical Christians.

Rev. Peter Koia, pastor of the St. Francis of Assisi church, has purchased the property of 104 Clark street, next to the parish house, which he intends to turn into a convent. It is intended that the new convent will be ready for occupancy by next September.

The Alhambras

Musa Caravan, Order of Alhambras, at its annual meeting Tuesday evening unanimously re-elected Grand Commander Joseph P. MacSwaney to succeed himself. The administration just closed has been a notable one in the history of the local caravan. When Mr. MacSwaney took office, less than a year ago, the caravan was in struggling condition. The membership had been more than trebled, many members being obtained in Auburn, Geneva, Canandaigua, besides Rochester. New quarters have been obtained and the organization placed on a sound financial basis, with all its obligations paid and a substantial balance in the bank. In addition to the establishment of an efficient method of handling the affairs of the caravan and the obtaining of a complete new wardrobe.

The Order of the Alhambras, an adjunct of the Knights of Columbus, its primary object is the marking of holidays throughout the United States and it has become popular with the members of that order as its popularity is largely due to the untiring efforts of Mr. MacSwaney, who is also one of its national officers. Others who were: Grand commander, William Marakki; supreme grand scribe, Dr. Judson Brown; scribe of the exchequer, Leon Newman; grand chamberlain, Daniel Decker; sentinel of the desert, G. Decker; sentinel of the tower, John Hally; master of the wardrobe, John Haggarty; captain of the body guard, Oswald B. Hughes; master of the oasis, J. George Minges; and historiographer, Dr. Philip Conboy.

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