

The Catholic Journal.

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The St. Regis, Santa Claus

Madeline adjusted the furs about her slender throat and closed the door of the studio behind her. A smile hovered on her lips as she passed out into the street. Within her muff reposed a letter, a very ardent letter from her lover, speaking of regret at a short enforced absence, but of joyful anticipation of a sleigh ride on Christmas eve; and alluding to a hope for Christmas gift in terms that left little doubt as to what the gift was expected to be.

Madeline held herself as much as possible aloof from the shoppers on the busy street; they seemed a very jostling and vulgar crowd. One sweet-faced woman passing, with a basket on one arm and a tiny boy hanging to the other, reminded the girl of her own Aunt Mary. But her heart did not warm at the thought. Aunt Mary seemed commonplace, almost vulgar, too; belonging to the life, not so long past in time but far removed by events, before Madeline had come to the city to devote herself to art. She did sometimes feel a tinge of remorse at her forgetfulness of this good lady who had been as a kind mother to her in her orphaned childhood. She had forced back a tear on the day when Aunt Mary's last letter arrived, complaining of her niece's strange reticence and warmly urging her to spend Christmas in the old home. But the past was past, and must stay past. Though Aunt Mary was kind, she and her family were very ordinary, hopelessly plain. Madeline tried in vain to picture among them the elegant, clear-cut face of Robert Armand, whose intentions in her own regard were becoming more and more evident. And so she had declined Aunt Mary's invitation; and when she had later received her admirer's fervent letter the last tinge of regret faded away. Madeline felt that she was embarking upon a new career—a life of luxury and rarest happiness, and devotion to highest art. Her dreams of wandering through the famous Old World galleries were about to be realized, and under most happy circumstances. She could waste no time in looking back. The past seemed a prosaic procession of irksome, small duties among kindly, but uninspiring, associations, from which she had made a happy escape. This afternoon her mind was filled with her brilliant prospects.

Madeline passed on until, at a busy street corner she came upon a thin-clad little girl, who held a still smaller child by the hand. Their dangerous position among the rapidly-moving cars and vans caused the young lady to linger near them until a safe crossing was affected.

"Are you not afraid you will be run over?" she said, smiling down into the pinched face of the elder child.

"Will you please tell us where we can get the Santa Claus tickets, ma'am?"

"The Santa Claus tickets?"

"Yes, ma'am. You must get your tickets today, and then tomorrow Santa Claus will give you your present."

"Oh, yes," Madeline returned, as she remembered having read of the Christmas work of St. Regis' Mission among the poor.

"But you are several squares too far down, child. Come with me. I am going by the place and will show you where it is."

During the short walk Madeline learned that the elder child's name was Mary and the other's Margaret; that their father had been out of work for a long time; that their mother had told them they would have to come to see Santa at the Mission this year; and that Mary wanted a big doll with light curling hair and eyes that would go shut, and Margaret longed for a shiny-headed black dolly, with a twisty neck. She learned, also, that the children were filled with anxiety lest they be late, as the tickets were not to be given out after five-thirty. So she hastened with them and

when they reached the door of the Mission, entered to see if they were in time.

A ragged, but eager, line stood in waiting; and as Madeline worked her way to the front, the woman in charge greeted her with a sympathetic smile, evidently believing her to be some patron of the Mission.

"Will they ever stop coming?" the woman said, in a low voice.

"May I be of assistance?" Madeline asked, moved by a sudden impulse as she noted the woman's tired face.

"If you would be so kind," was the gracious response. "Two girls were here to help me; but one went home with a headache early in the day and the other just received word that her father is hurt."

Madeline threw aside her furs and mounted the little platform and soon her nimble fingers were flying among the coupons. Back of her, and on all sides, were piled the ever-increasing stores of Santa Claus. The spirit of the work crept into her heart as the moments flew by. She made note of the numbers on the ticket handed to her little friends Mary and Margaret, resolving that Santa should surely bring the respective curly-light-haired and shiny-headed, twisty-necked dollies.

When the last of the line had departed, Madeline received warm thanks for her help and was preparing to leave, when the pastor entered.

"You will have plenty of aids tomorrow, I hope, Mrs. Flannigan," he said, surveying the store.

"I fear we shall be rather pushed, Father," the woman returned. "Anna will be hardly well enough to come, and, of course, we cannot expect Alice Grey. I will try to secure someone, but you know Christmas eve is a busy day for everyone."

"I shall be disengaged tomorrow afternoon, if I could be of use to you," Madeline said, pausing with her hand on the door-knob.

Her offer was gratefully accepted, the woman remarking that she could, indeed, be of great assistance, especially as her fingers were so deft. With a kindly goodnight, Madeline departed, her face glowing as she stepped out into the street.

But when the girls fingers again came in contact with the letter in her muff the smile left her lips. This would prevent her sleigh ride with Armand; and what would he think of her devoting herself instead to a pushing, ragged mob, possibly scratching on broken toys the slender white hands that he admired so much. She winced as she thought of his cynical smile, and was about to turn back, but paused; she felt that she could not meet the frank eyes of the priest and make her plea of a previous appointment; he would surely suspect the lie. The sleigh ride could be delayed until Christmas morning, and Armand need not know how she was spending the afternoon.

Early the next morning, with strangely mixed feelings of interest and dissatisfaction, she purchased the two dollys. She also bought a few bolts of holly-ribbon, thinking it would add to the attractiveness of the packages and that possibly no one else would remember to buy it. It was indeed a busy day at St. Regis'. Provisions came in from grocery stores and complete dinners were packed in baskets and set in long rows on one side of the room. Dolls were mended and dressed, toys assorted and articles of clothing altered or repaired. Now and then there would be a general exclamation of pleasure as someone would hold aloft an exceptionally dainty donation from some wealthy patron. Behind a gray curtain a huge tree was being trimmed. Without, the snow fell steadily. Occasionally the snatch of a Christmas carol mingled with the talk and laughter and the hum of the sewing machine.

To be continued

A neighbor's testimony is the test of everybody.

News From Ireland

Carlow.
The Carlow County Council has unanimously appointed Peter Byrne, Graigalug, as returning officer for the county.

On December 10, at the Ursuline convent, Crawa, took place the solemn religious reception of Miss Annie Carey, third daughter of Patrick J. Carry, of Kyle Pk., Tinryland.

Clara.
The death took place recently in Kingston, Jamaica, of Dr. Wm. J. Kenny, eldest son of William Kenny, of Craleigh, Ennis.

Clare.
Dr. John F. Walsh, Middleton, was elected by the Macroom Board of Guardians to discharge the duties of dispensary medical officer for Ballynakerrra.

At the Convent of Mercy, Bantry, on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated with great rejoicing, the Golden Jubilee of Sister Martha.

Derry.
The death took place recently at the Convent of Mercy, Derry, of Sister Mary Alphonsus. The deceased Sister came from a family widely known and highly esteemed in Derry and Donegal. She was a daughter of Patrick Coyle, Oughterlin, Rathmullan.

Down.
Newry Guardians have granted a pension of £72 per year to Dr. O'Riordan, who, owing to a long continued illness, was obliged to resign his position as medical officer of the Meigh district.

The late Dr. William Patterson of Rathzar, left estate valued at £1,902.

Kerry.
Mrs. Stockpole, widow of a farmer, has died at Aughrim, Newtownsandes, aged 105. She was a native of Glin, but lived in the neighboring parish for 70 years.

Kildare.
Messrs. M. Doyle & Sons, auctioneers, Athy, sold a farm containing 18 Irish acres, the property of Patrick Whelan, at Rathmore, to Daniel Dowling, Luskyllass, for £380.

Kings.
A magnificent Home Rule demonstration was held in Tullamore on December 14.

Limerick.
Dr. T. J. Hartigan has resigned the position as medical officer of Craom Union and dispensary district.

Month.
Kells Urban Council has under consideration a scheme for the erection of 16 hours on Moynalty Road, 18 on Magdalene Road and 4 in Bective street.

Mayo.
A 7-year-old girl named Grogan, of Swinford, set her clothing on fire recently, and so badly was she burned that death ensued in a couple of hours.

Meath.
George E. Hartness, a well-known and popular young man, died recently at his home near Ballybay.

Rosecommon.
The Lord Lieutenant has appointed William Early to the office of Clerk of the Crown and Peace for the County Rosecommon, vacant through the resignation of W. H. Robinson.

Sligo.
A settlement has been effected in the case of the cabinet makers working on the premises of the Sligo Wood and Iron Company, who had been out on strike five weeks.

Tipperary.
The death occurred at the Presentation Convent, Carrick-on-Suir, on December 16, of Mother M. Aiden, sister of J. J. Shee, M. P.

Waterford.
A religious profession took place at St. Mary's Convent, Rochampton, London, lately, amongst the ladies who received the black veil being Miss Nellie Ryan, daughter of John Ryan, of 67 Manor street.

Catholic News Notes

Chauncey Olcott, the actor, bought the first ticket to the Paulist Festival in Chicago for \$1,000.

The city council of Peoria, on the occasion of Archbishop Spaulding's Jubilee, "Resolved that the congratulations of the city of Peoria, through its council, be and they are hereby extended to this eminent churchman and citizen, whose life among us has been typical of all that makes for the highest citizenship."

Notre Dame Academy, Cleveland, is to build a superstructure costing \$175,000.

Bishop Hoban, of Scranton, in a sermon advises Catholics not to meet force by force.

Bishop Carroll strongly endorses trade unions and opposes the formation of workmen into separate bodies.

James E. Deery, recently elected judge of the City Court of Indianapolis, is well known in A. O. H., K. of C., and Y. M. I. circles. Mr. Deery is county president of the Hibernians of Marion county. He is a graduate of Notre Dame University and a member of the Cathedral parish.

Because of professional services rendered the diocesan orphan of New York, the Holy Father has made Dr. Edward L. Keyes, of that city, a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory.

Bishop Lynch, of Dallas, Texas, has happily recovered from the injuries he received in a recent accident.

The Sisters of Mercy, at Buffalo, have bought a site and propose to erect a modern hospital. The purchase contains six acres adjoining the Mother House of the order, on Abbot Road.

Cardinal O'Connell has composed a new Christmas hymn. It was sung for the first time at the Midnight Mass in Boston's Cathedral.

Col. Roosevelt and Very Rev. Dr. Zahm, O. S. C., were guests at a banquet in Buenos Ayres, presided over by Mgr. Duprat, Ecclesiastical Governor of that city, on November 13th.

The parish of the Blessed Sacrament, Cleveland, Ohio, is to have a new school on Euclid avenue. The plans have been approved by the rector, Rev. John M. Kiely.

Cardinal Gibbons held his New Year's reception on January 4th.

The Federation of Catholic Societies of Brooklyn, has voted unanimously to support Deputy Police Commissioner Newburger in his crusade against all motion picture films, the theme of which is the white slave traffic.

Bishop Morris, of Little Rock, recently dedicated three churches and administered Confirmation to four classes in Arkansas in one day.

The new Church of St. George, the first Lithuanian Church to be built in Milwaukee, was recently dedicated. Rev. Constantine F. Zatakus is the rector.

Manchester, England, whose population is about 720,000, has a Catholic Lord Mayor.

At Ancey, France, a bell is being cast for a church at Rouen to weigh 39,000 pounds.

Canon Joseph Watson, of Sheffield, New Castle, England, died recently, aged 93 years.

Veiled Threat From Anti-Catholic Sheet

"The Liberator" Hints at Violence in Attack on Church.

That the continued and ever increasing flood of slanderous "literature" which is being turned out at the present time, stirring up the ill-formed to a white heat by its morbid and false tales in regard to the Church, will finally result in open acts of violence, as in the days of Know-nothingism and the A. P. A., has been predicted for some time. Many secular papers of late [in response to the suggestion of the Central Verein that an editorial expression be given on this subject] have pointed to this danger. In confirmation of their statements, "The Liberator" of Jan. 1, a paper on the same order as "The Menace," published in Magnolia, Ark., in two places in the same issue contains a rather thinly veiled suggestion that deeds of violence should be restored to the warfare on the Church. On its very first page, in speaking of "A Million Dollar Campaign Against Rome," it says that when the "President" of the United States "is compelled to kiss the hem of the scarlet garments" of the Roman hierarchy for votes, it is time to "drive from power this exotic despotism of the Dark Ages and save this fair land from disgrace and destruction," and significantly adds:

"It is or it is not too late. If it is too late for reason it is not too late for the last resort. Let us hope it is not too late for Reason! Let us see if it is! Let us do all in our power to avert a calamity which if it must be will astonish humanity—that a Republic founded on patriotism and suffering must defend its existence by force in the full blaze of the twentieth century."

On page 2, the subject is again touched upon, where it is stated "that many years will be required to reach the end (the destruction of "Romanism" in this country) whether it be in the arena of reason and argument, or pass to the field of blood where so many similar issues of the past have had their final adjustment. But certain he (the editor) is that whether with pens or swords this issue is to be settled it is the greatest issue confronting this republic, and it must be settled for the liberties which cost our sires so much, or this Republic will sink in a maelstrom of Pagan and Pagan night to which there can be no political morning."

Have not these attacks on the Church gone far enough? Are not these statements about the limit? Will not our fair-minded and intelligent non-Catholic fellow-citizens awaken to the menace contained in such wild statements and by the force of their united public opinion stamp out these vile organs which threaten to destroy the domestic harmony of our Republic?

The Union Chapel, once a fashionable Protestant church, at Lakewood on Chautauqua Lake, N. Y., has been purchased by the Catholic summer residents and is now the Church of the Sacred Heart. Rt. Rev. Bishop Colton has placed Rev. Father Harrigan in charge of the new parish.

The high elevation of Chautauqua Lake (700 feet above Lake Erie), combined with the beauty of the lake itself and the surrounding country, has made this one of the popular summer resorts of New York State.

Catholic summer residents will be pleased to learn of the new church which will be dedicated to Catholic worship some time during the coming summer.

Ladies Auxiliary of the A. O. H.

Installation of officers took place in auxiliary No. 1, Thursday evening, Jan. 15th. The following officers were installed by the County President, Mrs. Min-

Both telephones—Adv.

nie E. Murphy assisted by Miss Margaret Finn.

Pres. Mrs. Morrison vice Pres. Mrs. Sheehan; Sec. Mrs. Murphy; Fin. Sec. Mrs. Dixon; Treas. Mrs. Breen; mistress of arms Mrs. Sloan; Guard, Mrs. Walsh. After which a most pleasing entertainment was given. The O'Connell's Own Band gave some good lively music. Mr. Leo Hogan and Miss Marguerite Sheehan sang several good Irish songs. Mr. W. McCarthy, president of Div. I, gave some very interesting remarks. Also Mr. Treese of Div. I. After which supper was served to 150 members and guests.

Aux. No. 1, in a most prosperous condition and are gaining new members at each meeting. Every woman, Irish or of Irish descent should belong to the auxiliary, as it is an organization of which they should be proud to belong.

Knights of Columbus

Rochester Council No. 178 has a few dates to keep the members busy: Saturday night, Jan. 24th, is club night. Lecturer Dr. W. J. O'Neill promises the big surprise of the season in entertainment Monday, Jan. 26th, 8:30 P. M. Sharp, first degree. This degree will be conferred on a large class Saturday night, Jan. 31st, club night; a very interesting lecture will be given by Mr. F. W. Fletcher, Engineer of the Rochester Railway & Light Co. The lecture will be illustrated by lantern slides.

The Council stands a good chance of coming in first in the Library Voting Contest. If the members will read the Union Advertiser Saturday they will note the places where they can vote on purchase days. Purchase days are Special Days giving increased votes. Without much effort on your part the vote will be greatly enlarged. Try it.

Rochester Council's big night is February 18th. That's the night of our show at the Lyceum Theater. We would like to have this show patronized by every member, their family and friends. The cast is working hard and the show is bound to be a success. Rochester Council leads in amateur ventures and deserves your personal attendance.

Hard Times in the Chinese Province of Kwei-Chan

Fr. J. Champeyrol, P. F. M., describes himself as lost in the depths of Koui-yang-fou, in the poorest province of the Chinese Empire. Inundated with pagans since the revolution, he has neither schools, pharmacy, nor an adequate chapel to accommodate the catechumens.

Hard times are the rule among his people. The failure of the harvest causes great suffering. Roots gathered in the mountains have been forming the chief diet of the population, with the result of causing disease and utter exhaustion.

Another disaster, though intended for the general good, came through the new edict against opium. A large crop of poppies had been planted, and an abundant harvest was assured, when the Government passed the law prohibiting the sale of the plants and a large amount of money was accordingly lost. All the hopes of the starving people lay in this traffic, but the soldiers had orders to destroy the crop in the fields, and did so.

Opium is surely the great curse of the people, and the Government has the good of its children in view, but the moment of enforcing the law was a trying one to Father Champeyrol's charges.

Under these circumstances the attention of charitable souls is called to this corner of China.

Popular Night School

New enrollments are being received at the L. L. Williams School every evening. The commercial branches, Osgoody-Pitouch typewriting are taught in the best manner. Visitors are always welcome. 27 Church street. Both telephones—Adv.