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The St. Regis Santa Claus

Continued from last week

They were still at work when the Angelus chimed. The matron in charge spoke aloud. "The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary"; and as they uttered the response the voices of the workers softened in the great wonder of the Christmastide.

Madeline joined in the words with a tumult in her heart. It was a long time since she had said the Angelus. The clangor of the city had drowned the gentle peal of the bell and she had forgotten that pious custom even before the time when she had started to miss Mass on Sundays. As a work was being finished Madeline reflected on how long it had been since she had first missed Mass on a Sunday. It was just after the evening when she had detected a sneer on Armand's face at sight of the pearl rosary on her desk. The following Sunday morning he had invited her to a skiff ride and she had hesitated to bring forward the excuse that she had not yet been to Mass. She remembered well the awful fear that had clutched her heart as they sailed along on the bright surface of the water on that Sunday morning; the fear that something should happen and she be drowned with the mortal sin on her soul. But the next time it had seemed less serious, and still less the next, Armand disapproved of religion and he had laughed away her scruples.

Now the teachings of Madeline's childhood came back with great force, and she was more than half determined that if the question which she anticipated was asked on the morrow she would take a firm stand upon retaining the practice of her faith. She worked on with the rest until a late hour, and night had deepened when, with weary bodies but warm hearts and joyful Christmas wishes they separated beneath the old church tower.

On her homeward way, a few squares from the Mission, Madeline came upon two persons standing in the shadow. The stately, well-groomed figure of one of them seemed familiar to her, and in another instant she started, as a ray of light from the swinging lamp overhead showed her Robert Armand's face. Armand's face, not mobile, courteous, smiling, as she had known it, but cruel, coarse, and vindictive; and at the moment his arm was raised as though to strike. Before him stood a woman, small and dressed in black, who spoke bitterly and tensely: "Let your cowardly blow fall if it will. But I tell you again, Robert Armand, you shall not wreck another life as you have wrecked mine."

Unobserved, Madeline stood for an instant as though turned to stone. Then she fled quickly. An hour later, when the people had begun to gather in the old church above the Mission, a slender, graceful girl with the face of an artist, but eyes red as from recent weeping, entered one of the confessionals. When she reappeared the light of a great peace rested upon her. She knelt with bowed head before the dimly lighted Manger of Bethlehem, that was erected in a corner of the church. Working men and working women, with rough hands and faces and uncouth clothing, came one by one and knelt near her, but she did not shrink from them. She remained there a long while, pouring out her soul in thanksgiving to the Divine Child, who had so sweetly sent His "little ones" to recall her. She trembled to think of the awful fate that would have been foreign and domestic news, and hers had she not come to the neighborhood of St. Regis' that evening, and her soul bowed down in humility before the mercy that had saved her from utter wretchedness, notwithstanding sides discussing the Balkan and her sinful neglect of her religious duties. With what infinite sweetness had the Lord munificently rewarded her for the obedience to a simple impulse of kindness, by the Paris Foreign Missionary Society, of which Bishop Ducoeur the church she met the pastor in is Prefect Apostolic.

the doorway. "A Merry Christmas," he said cheerily.

"Thank you, Father," pausing. "If you are in need of more workers at the Mission," she continued. "I should like to join after Christmas. I have a good bit of leisure time."

"We shall most certainly be glad to have you, child. You did a great deal for the Mission today."

"Not a thousandth part of what the Mission did for me, Father," and as she passed on the priest wondered at the words. Yet, perhaps, he wondered not so much, for he had worked a long time among the people and was used to viewing the tragedies of the soul.

Meanwhile the girl had hastened to a telegraph station, and far out over the frosty wires tingled the message: "Aunt Mary, please sit at a plate for me. Am coming home for an old-time Christmas dinner."

St. Joseph As A Friend of The Missions

St. Joseph is not without his following among the apostles, Fr. J. Chappoteau, S. J., a Madagascan missionary, says:

"When I find myself at the end of my resources I am sure that St. Joseph will come to the rescue, for he has always, at the final moment, sent me what I wanted. Last year on the day of his feast I received an unexpected and much-needed alms of a large amount.

"This is why, in spite of my heavy debts, I possess my soul in peace, my eyes fixed on my great provider, who will save me from catastrophe in the future as he has so often in the past."

The Jubilee in Mission Countries

Writing from Agaña, Japan, in the diocese of Nagasaki, Fr. Bonnet, P. F. M., says:

"I have just passed through a difficult season. Before the 8th of December I had to see to the making of the Jubilee ordered by Our Holy Father in three posts. This meant some work and traveling. I hope soon to tell you something about Oshima, a place that is little known. Although a part of Japan, it is entirely different in climate and manners of the people, not only from Japan, but from Europe. Its superstitions are limitless, and to overcome them will be a weary task. Your readers will no doubt like to hear of my efforts in this direction and of the people themselves."

Uganda now owns the distinction of having native priests, as two have been ordained. There is every hope of having this number speedily increased, as five other young men have received minor orders, and six the tonsure. This is a great triumph for the missionaries, as long and severe tests were needed to affirm the constancy and strength of the negro character.

The consecration of Mgr. Givélet, S. J., Vicar Apostolate of Fianarantsoa, Madagascar, took place at Reims recently. His Eminence Cardinal Luçon officiating. Bishop Givélet was born in 1857, and ordained priest in 1889. He has been in the Betsileo mission of Madagascar since 1902.

A copy of a Chinese newspaper "The Little Messenger of Kwang-Si," has just come to hand. This paper, which contains the unique sheet, while containing awful fate that would have been foreign and domestic news, and hers had she not come to the neighborhood of St. Regis' that evening, and her soul bowed down in humility before the mercy that had saved her from utter wretchedness, notwithstanding sides discussing the Balkan and her sinful neglect of her religious duties. With what infinite sweetness had the Lord munificently rewarded her for the obedience to a simple impulse of kindness, by the Paris Foreign Missionary Society, of which Bishop Ducoeur the church she met the pastor in is Prefect Apostolic.

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News From Ireland

Carlow.
The people of Clonegal and Kiedavin have started a movement to erect a memorial to the late Rev. John Byrne.

Died.—Recently, Edward Travers, Carlow; Mrs. Bridget Kelly, Borris; Timothy Doyle, Curran.

Cavan.
Dr. Charles Dolan, of a well-known and popular Cavan family always identified with the National cause, has been elected medical officer of the Newtown Gore dispensary district by Bawnboy Guardians.

Clara.
Corofin Guardians have granted a pension of £25 per year to Nurse Callinan, who recently resigned on account of ill health.

Cork.
J. Bourne, postmaster at Skibbereen, has been appointed postmaster of Tipperary.

The priests and people of Charleville have subscribed £51 to the Home Rule Fund as an evidence of their loyalty and faith in the Irish faith under Mr. Redmond's leadership.

The Derry Harbor Commissioners have prepared a scheme for the expenditure of £100,000 on a new graving dock, which will accommodate gunboats and destroyers.

Charles McConvery, a well-known and highly esteemed Nationalist of Gulladuff, died suddenly, recently.

Down.
When the Newcastle Urban Council decided to adopt electric lighting for the town and accepted the tender of Messrs. Curran, Belfast, for that purpose, the chairman, E. Beatty, remarked that he looked to the time when visitors could ascend Slieve Donard by electric cars.

Dublin.
The death of Sister Mary of the Good Shepherd, Stevely, occurred at the Convent of Our Lady of Charity of Refuge, High Park, Drumcondra, on December 21. The deceased nun was in the 37th year of her religious life.

Fermanagh.
The Local Government Board have sanctioned the appointment of A. J. Maguire as relieving officer for Lisnaskea at a salary of £20 per annum.

Kerry.
Dr. Welsh has been appointed pathologist to the Galway County hospital at a salary of £25 per year.

A handsome sum has already been raised for the erection of a suitable memorial to the late Canon O'Riordan, of that parish. The project also includes the placing of a mural tablet over the grave of the late Canon Brosnan.

Kildare.
Rev. James K. Fitzgerald, pastor of the parish of Ardferret, died on December 26.

Kilkenny.
John Dollard, D. C., of Ballytarsney, died in Dublin recently. Deceased was a brother of Rev. J. B. Dollard, of Canada, well known as a poet and author.

Leitrim.
George W. Ballam, a well-known and popular merchant, died at his residence Main street, Limerick, recently.

Longford.
The Granard Rural council has decided to have all its contract-work carried out on the direct labor plan.

The death took place on December 16 of Mrs. P. Hyland, Blessavoher.

Catholic News Notes

A white granite Celtic cross is to be erected over the grave of the late Bishop Cotter, of Winona, who died first Bishop of that See, June 27, 1909.

The Church of the Sacred Heart at New Ohio for Poles and Slavs was recently dedicated by Rt. Rev. James J. Hartley, D. D., Bishop of Columbus.

The Eastern Provincial of Redemptorists will hereafter reside in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Very Rev. Patrick F. Brannan, former mayor of Weatherford, Texas, soldier, author and missionary, celebrated his silver jubilee as a priest by giving a mission to Catholics and non-Catholics at Kerrville, Texas.

In the library of St. Meinrad's Seminary, Ind., is a manuscript entitled the constitution and laws of the Tailors Guild of Aachenburg, Germany, dating back to 1527.

The Franciscan Fathers of San Francisco have opened a gymnasium and club rooms for the young men of the parish.

The sixteenth centenary of the Peace of Constantine and the Eucharistic Congress at Malta, were the chief ecclesiastical events of the year.

A free lecture bureau has been established at Buffalo under the patronage of Rt. Rev. C. H. Cotton, D. D., and under the direction of Rev. F. X. Sindele, S. J., of Canisius College.

Rev. Franz Maximilian Wilhelm Schneeweiss, who has been stationed at St. Mark's and St. Clement's Episcopal Churches, in Philadelphia, has become a Catholic. He was received into the Church at the Dominican Monastery in Washington.

The year 1914 will be the "ad limina" year of our Hierarchy.

A new parish has been organized in South Toledo, O., under the patronage of St. James. Rev. J. S. Arnoldi has been appointed rector.

The new St. Patrick's Church at Dennison, Texas, is a handsome, solid \$45,000 edifice.

In Italy, the recent notable address of the Archbishop of Udine has precipitated a national discussion of the question of the independence of the Holy See.

Paintings by the famous Giotto, recently discovered in the Church of Santa Chiara, in Naples, were seized and declared national property of Italy.

The Luxembourg Chamber passed the bill for the betterment of the salary of the Bishop. The opposing members of the Chamber on its passage said: "That is the road to Canossa."

In Berlin the post office was overwhelmed by this year's volume of Christmas parcels and cards. German soldiers came to the assistance of the post-office.

New Students Every Week

The L. L. Williams Rochester Commercial School is receiving additions to its classes every week and almost every day. Quite a large number are registering from the graduating classes in the high schools.

The commercial branches, Osgood-Pitman and Gregg shorthand, and rapid touch typewriting are taught in the most thorough manner, 27 Church street. Both telephones. Visitors always welcome.—Adv.

Bishop Hanna Leads in Relief of \$14,000 in Three Years

San Francisco's Unemployed
The problem of dealing with the thousands of unemployed who at present harbor in San Francisco, has been taken up by leading citizens in a manner which reflects great credit on this city. Among those who immediately came to the front to give their time and talent for the purpose of extricating the sufferers from an embarrassing position was Rt. Rev. Bishop Hanna, who was elected president of the executive committee, thus taking his place at once at the head of the directing forces who promise to bring order out of chaos.

Plan to Raise Money For New Catholic Church

A meeting of the members of the newly established St. Andrew's Catholic church was held Sunday afternoon in Concordia Hall. Rev. Joseph Miller, the pastor, presiding. Plans were made for collecting funds in preparation for the fair which will be held in the spring. Various entertainments will be given by the young men and women for this purpose.

The project of holding temporary services until the church is built was abandoned as impractical. It was announced by Father Miller that plans for the building which will be a school and church combined, will be ready soon.

IN MEMORIAM.

At the last regular meeting of Council 23, C. R. B. A., held on Tuesday evening, Jan. 27, 1914, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved—That we as members of Council 23 extend to Brother Ryan our sincere sympathy in this hour of affliction and commend him for consolation to Him who doeth all things well. Be it further

Resolved—That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes, published in the Catholic Journal and C. R. B. A. Bulletin.

Mrs. Ellen Meade,
Mrs. Eliz. Blasi,
Miss Edith M. Sharp,
Committee.

Resolved—That the Council extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy. In expression of which a requiem mass be offered for the repose of her soul.

Resolved—That the charter be draped for thirty days, a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, be placed on our Council records and published in the Catholic Journal.

Burglars Steal Crucifix

James S. Fitch, real estate broker, whose home at 165 Glenwood avenue, Yonkers, N. Y., was robbed of \$600 worth of jewelry, silverware and clothing, said that the thieves again failed to take a valuable necklace with a crucifix attached.

"Three times in thirty years my home has been robbed and every time the burglars have left the crucifix," said Mr. Fitch. "Every time, too, it has been in plain sight, and it is much more valuable than many of the articles taken."

The Bishop of Rheims has been fined \$100 for interdicting some anti-religious school books.

St. Agnes Church in Avon Makes Record in Paying Debt

Avon, Jan. 27.—For a country church, with heavy fixed expenses to pay off a mortgage of \$14,000 in three years, a some undertaking, but that is just what the Rev. Father William D. Darcy, pastor of St. Agnes' church in this village, has just about accomplished. Three years ago when Father Darcy came to Avon there was a mortgage of \$14,000 on the beautiful new school property and hall in Park place. On January 1, 1914, the mortgage was but \$600, and this will in all probability be cleaned up within a few weeks.

The annual financial statement which Father Darcy published Sunday shows receipts for the year of \$23,487.67, with expenditures of that sum, less \$7.50, the balance on hand January 1st of this year. The money was raised in various ways. About \$2,100 of it was turned over by the donors out hands which the pastor appointed a year ago. Nearly \$1,000 came from the rag parties, while about \$3,000 came from different collections.

The St. Agnes property is now considered to be one of the most valuable Catholic church properties in Western New York.

Church Extension Society

This society, whose work is conducted from January 1st, McCormick building, Chicago, reported the sum of \$22,000 for missionary work and the maintenance of missions during the past fiscal year. The past month of the fiscal year, the first one, October, 1913, receipts were only \$2,000, the best month was April, which brought into the missions \$22,000. It was previously reported that the sum paid out for missionary work for the year was \$23,384.27, but this was a geographical error. The correct amount being as stated above, \$228,084.27.

"Night of the Big Wind"

Very often the Irish people refer to occurrences date matters from or before the "big wind." One man wants to know when was the "big wind" in Ireland. The night of the big wind was Jan. 6, 1880. On that date a hurricane swept the island doing immense damage. It was followed by potato rot and famine during which many starved to death and thousands emigrated to escape a like fate.—Catholic Universal.

Ambitious Boys of Madagascar

A petition for help from St. Michael's School at Tananarive Madagascar, is couched in these terms:

"There are in Madagascar many boys who would like to study in the mission schools, where they can receive not only a firm religious formation, but a completed education. Later, on returning to their native villages, they can become teachers, or even aids to the missionaries, or even priests, thus helping to raise the moral tone of their people.

"Without education they must remain savages, condemned to the jungle and perhaps scorned by all Christian beliefs. It is therefore the dream of every Malagash youth to secure an education in St. Michael's parochial school. The expense is light. Meals there consist of rice for breakfast, meat for dinner, rice for supper, all of which costs about three pennies a day. Let some favored young men make a few sacrifices to help these poor but ambitious brothers."

The Bishop of Besancon, France has also forbidden in his diocese the dance called Tango.