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A Song of Salvation

Continued from last week

As she considered her answer the little boy, who had been peeping in at the door, came with a soft rush to clasp Father Cavan's hand with his own, and rub his little cheek against it. With a gleeful laugh at having accomplished his naive greeting he was off again. Father John laughed, too.

"The little lad approves, you see. He does not think our concert such an unworthy affair."

"Oh, it is not that, believe me, it is not that! It is only that—perhaps if you knew—you would not ask me."

"We are no Pharisees here, I hope," he said gently. "We are all children of the good God. In His sight it may well be that I am a greater sinner than you."

She smiled at him through a sudden mist of tears, and shook her head.

"That could not be," she said, "but you are beautifully kind, will sing for you, Father, and shall be glad if that will further the attainment of the success you desire."

He thanked her warmly, named the hour of the next rehearsal, and went on his way rejoicing.

He was gratified at the young professor's surprise and pleasure and the delight of others in his acquisition. That rehearsal resolved itself into a little triumph for her, and they begged for song after song, never seeming to tire of the rarely lovely voice with its haunting note of sadness.

"You see it was not right to keep such a treasure hidden. It is not often these people of mine have such a treat as you have given them this evening," Father John said to her when it was over. She looked quietly happy, but at his words her eyes clouded with anxiety.

"Perhaps you are right, but I never meant to sing again—in public."

"God grant you may never regret having consented to do so. That voice of yours may do good work in His service yet."

She looked at him in rather a puzzled way as she said good night, and went out with the others.

In the weeks that followed, little by little, he learned her story, a very common life story in this big, busy country, where the substance is so often abandoned for the shadow. Good looking and talented, she grew up surrounded by admiring friends in her home city in the Middle West. She took her Catholic training quite as a matter of course, little realizing its significance and importance in her safe, sheltered life.

Then came the death of her father, leaving her mother and herself in rather straitened circumstances. After a few years, her mother, too, was taken from her, and she was left to face the world alone. Her voice offered the easiest means of earning her living. She obtained a part in a musical comedy which was starting out to tour the far West. In a few weeks the young woman who sang the leading part fell ill, and Claire Bailey was given her place.

The year that followed was one of material success for Claire, but its glories and its triumphs worked her spiritual disaster. Between the exactions of her calling and the demands of admirers, no time was left for the practice of her religion. So she let that safeguard slip when she most needed protection.

Then came Jack Langston, young, rich, fascinating, to sweep her off her feet. After a brief acquaintance, she consented to an elopement, a secret marriage. She shrank from that scant ceremony before a justice of the peace, but it was either that or the loss of Jack, and she could not face the alternative.

After a year and a half of rather doubtful happiness the reason for the secrecy came out to wreck all hope of peaceful love forever.

Jack had been married before, and his wife was still living. What difference did it make to Catholic Claire that there had been the formality of a divorce? Strength came to her out of the sweet, dead past, and though blinded by bitter tears, she took her baby boy and left him.

The struggle for the next few years, not only for a livelihood, but against the importunities of Langston to return to him, wore on her strength and vitality until many times she was on the point of yielding. But always some new opportunity came, always she was offered some chance to escape, and took it. But the fear that she might give in, that when next he found her in an abiding place, and came with his persuasive voice to plead his cause she might consent to his plea, hideous as it was to her, kept from returning to the practice of her religion. How beautiful, how wonderful, it seemed to her now that she counted herself an outcast?

In the midst of a particularly trying time came relief in the shape of a legacy from a distant, little-known relative. She resolved to make use of it, remove herself as far as possible from temptation. She would give up singing in public, leave the West behind her and bury herself in some little Eastern town where no one would ever think of looking for her.

"And how did you happen to choose West Hadley?" Father John asked her when she told him about that.

"The cousin who left me the money once owned some property here, and it was mentioned in some old letters I found among his effects. I knew nothing of the East, and I thought it might as well be that town as any other. When I came to Boston I made inquiries, and so learned of the little house and the quiet, peaceful place. I would like to stay, I have enough to live on here for a while and I can find something to do to earn an education for my boy. But singing frightens me. Only for that I should never have gone astray."

"And it is helping you to find the way back?"

She looked at him with fear in her eyes. "The way back?"

"Can you not trust the good God, my child? Do you think it was just chance that you were directed to the little house across the way? Do you think it was chance that inspired you to sing that half-forgotten hymn of your childhood the other morning? I do not."

"But the way back, Father—it is so hard."

"Ah! not so near at hand as you think. Has it been so difficult to tell me the things you have been through? Has it not been a relief rather? Then will you find it even greater relief to lay it all in the heart of the loving Christ, Who would not abandon you, Who pursued and led you back to the very door of His temple, and will not be satisfied until you enter in."

That ever growing longing in her heart confirmed the truth and wisdom of his words, compelling her to following their gentle persuasion. That is how it came about that on the night of the wonderful concert there was a new note in her voice, an indefinable something that revealed to a sensitive ear the singer's peace of soul. And Father John, hearing it, had another reason for being well content.—Anne Cecilia Doyle, in the Magnificat.

D. & C. Lake-Line Accepts Railway Tickets

All classes of tickets—reading via the Michigan Central, Wash and Grand Trunk Railways—between Detroit and Buffalo in either direction are available for a brief transportation on D. & C. Line Steamers. This arrangement enables the traveler between eastern and western states to forsake the hot dusty cars and enjoy the delight of a cool night's rest en route. Send two-cent stamp for booklet and Great Lakes Map.

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Catholic News Notes

The Dominican Sisters have a summer school at Tacoma, Wash.

His Holiness received from the Archdiocese of New York a Peter's Pence collection of about \$50,000.

Schools are needed in the heart of the Philippines; a small school in a barrio costs only \$30 and the teacher's salary is only \$25 a year.

The Archbishop of Milwaukee, now in Switzerland, will return August 15th.

The Archbishop of San Francisco some days ago laid the corner stone of the new Young Men's Institute and Donahue Library. In this building said the President Bacigalupi "will be housed the first Catholic Library in the country."

Miss Madeline Edison, daughter of Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, was married June 16, to Mr. John Sloane, son of Dr. and Mrs. T. O'Connor Sloane, by Very Rev. Mgr. James F. Mooney, president of Seton Hall College, South Orange, N. J.

Last year St. Elizabeth's Hospital at Covington, Ky., had 1,477 patients and 384 surgical operations. The institution is in charge of the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis.

At the recent Field Mass on League Island, the congregation present was estimated at 75,000. Former Chaplain Father Chidwick delivered a notable sermon.

Rev. J. F. Nugent, D. D., pastor of the Church of the Visitation, Des Moines, Ia., has just celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his ordination.

The Rev. Charles P. Raffo, of Louisville, has been elected Spiritual Adviser of the Catholic Knights and Ladies of America.

The trustees of Loyola College, Maryland, have purchased a large block of property at St. Paul Street and University Parkway, Baltimore, which will be used as the site for the new college.

Bishop Colton, of Buffalo, surrounded by more than 300 priests of Ohio and New York, 2,000 Knights and in the presence of about 30,000 people, blessed the monument of the Knights of St. John, in the cemetery at Buffalo.

St. Patrick's parish, Chicago, is to have a new social center. The work has been begun by Rev. William J. McNamee, and will, the new building, it is expected, will cost \$60,000.

The new Elizabeth Hospital at Youngstown, O., will practically be an edifice of seven floors. The Bishop of Cleveland laid its corner stone on the 30th ult.

A bust of Cardinal O'Connell was unveiled in the restored Crypt of St. Clemente.

St. Benedict's Church at Terre Haute has celebrated its golden jubilee. Bishop Chartrand presided.

Physicians and medical students made a retreat in the Chapel of the Cathedral of Philadelphia.

Lightning struck St. Charles Church, Minneapolis totally destroying it and the adjoining residence. Loss \$30,000.

In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee 580 non-Catholics were received into the Church last year.

A hundred years cannot repair a moment's loss of honor.

News-From Ireland

Most Rev. Dr. Tohill sent a sympathetic message to the diocesan congress of the St. Vincent de Paul society of Down and Connor, which was held in Belfast.

The death has occurred at Belfast of Edward Murphy, at one time prominently connected with the milling industry.

On the closing of the Lurgan Labor Exchange, G. Carter, R. D. C., has been appointed by the Board of Trade local agent under the unemployment section of the Insurance Act.

Among the victims of the Emigration of Ireland disaster, it has now been discovered, was Mrs. Benson, formerly Miss Catherine Cochrane, well known as an operative in the handkerchief veining factory of T. Faloon, J. P., Victoria street, Lurgan.

The Most Rev. Dr. McKenna presided over a meeting of the Monaghan and Cavan Asylum Board, at which a vote of sympathy with Mrs. Taylor was adopted on the death of her husband, who was for many years medical superintendent of the institution.

Mr. Redmond has written G. Crosbie, B. L., Cork, asking him to convey to their friends in Cork his congratulations on the great victory won at the recent elections.

The fund for the relief of the families of the five fishermen who were drowned in Dunderum Bay on April 17, amounted to \$493. The amount has been apportioned between the families and dependents.

E. Moynihan, Derrybrien, N. S., Co. Galway, has been granted special promotion to first grade.

Much regret is felt in Dingle at the departure of P. O'Halloran, manager, National Bank, whose excellent business qualities and genial disposition won him a very large measure of popularity.

The Athy Guardians, on the motion of L. Heffernan, passed a vote of condolence with Michael Waters, a member of the board, on the death of his younger brother, Rev. Andrew Walters, in Colorado. Messrs. Deegan, Kelly and the chairman (Mr. Wheelan) associated themselves with the resolution.

The Dromtrasna Company, numbering sixty men, attached to Abbeyfeale Volunteers, marched to the church on Tuesday night, June 16, and took the total abstinence pledge from Rev. D. G'Riordan, C. C.

At the Dromed Petty sessions Major Gore, Derrycarne, was sworn in as magistrate for County Leitrim.

The death of Rev. M. McKeown, C. C., Dunleer, is deeply and justly regretted. Father McKeown was ordained in 1901, and spent almost all his missionary career in Dunleer, where he labored with much zeal and success, and was extremely popular.

T. J. Somers, Patrick O'Brien, M. Rigney and P. O'Connor, of the Patrician college, Mountrath, have passed the recent king's scholarship examination.

The Catholic Hall, Ballymore, raised in memory of the late Rt. Rev. Mgr. Loftus, is rapidly approaching completion and will be formally opened on Sunday evening, July 12. It will be one of the most spacious and accommodating halls in the province.

On the occasion of his marriage John O'Hanlon received a valuable presentation and address from the members of the New Ross Total Abstinence Band, of which he was a member.

Modern Dances Disapproved By Well-known Dancer.

Had Been the First to Introduce Them.

According to a statement in a recent issue of the New York Sun Miss Joan Sawyer, the first dancer of grace and distinction to give authority to the new ballroom steps, has now declared against these modern dances and has introduced the "old" dances, among them the minuet, into her program for the future.

"When folks dance as most Americans danced during the last year and a half," said Miss Sawyer, in announcing this change, "the man is not going to retain much wholesome respect for his woman partner. There isn't a dance that cannot be made a thing of grace and beauty and pure rhythm, but unfortunately the new dances lent themselves too easily to the other sort of thing. That is why we are going back to the old dances. The minuet, the valse, the waltz, the gavotte, and the scores of beautiful folk dances will come more and more into favor."

The new dances, she declared, "have been overworked" and "have been degenerated." "Any one who knows the real facts of the dancing mania knows that it bred thousands upon thousands of tragedies."

Further expressions on this matter are unnecessary. This dancer knows well of what she speaks. It would be well if our young people would heed her words and example and give up these dances, which have produced such a "mania" and have been responsible for so much suffering and sin.

C. B. of C. V.

A Ventriloquist in Gambier.

The savages of Gambier, Oceania, had been won to the Faith about three years when an event occurred which threatened to undo all the work of the missionaries.

One of the most powerful of the pagan gods who had been overcome by the Catholic religion was called Tuhivi. He had been held in great veneration, and one day, in the midst of the new calm, it was announced that the voice of Tuhivi had again been heard in the land, issuing from a tree formerly held sacred.

Running in haste to the scene, the priest found a large crowd gathered around the tree from whence, sure enough, issued a very audible voice, exhorting the people to return to their ancient beliefs. This the former pagans, awed by such remarkable manifestation, were ready to do.

For a long time the missionary was himself much perplexed, but at length the idea of ventriloquism entered his mind, and he began to observe those standing closest to the tree. One of the number was a woman, who appeared to be acting suspiciously. The Father bade two of his catechists to place their hands over her mouth, taking care not to harm her. This was done, and to all the following questions hurled at the god in the tree only silence answered.

Convinced of the treachery of the woman, the natives would have maltreated her if the missionary had not intervened, and she at length confessed that in order to gain an influence over the people she had often, by means of her extraordinary power, addressed them as the god Tuhivi.

Sentence of excommunication was, however, passed upon her, to satisfy the irate Christians. The poor woman, thoroughly sorry for her sins, asked that six months' penance be imposed upon her. This she faithfully performed, and at the end of her probation was received again into the fold. The lesson was a good one to all concerned, and served to enlighten the natives as to the nature of their deities.

An Interesting Japanese Mission.

The Bishop of Nagasaki, Mgr. Combar, F. F. M., after acknowledging the kindness of American friends, says that he had been passing many weeks in his little boat coasting over difficult waters or painfully climbing hills in search of his scattered flock. Confirmation was conferred upon a large number of boys and girls.

One new Christian center counts more than 1,100 Catholics. It is the same place where the Blessed Camillo Costanzo, S. J., met martyrdom, and as usual the blood of martyrs is bearing fruit. The town is a very poor one and the native priest who is in charge lives in a wretched house open to all the winds of heaven, and so infested with rats and insects that it is impossible for the soundest sleeper to get any repose.

The chapel is a Japanese house so small, that most of the congregation remains outside during services. It is impossible to keep the Blessed Sacrament in such a structure, and this is a great deprivation to the priest and also for the sick, who sometimes cannot receive the Holy Viaticum.

The Bishop adds that St. Francis Xavier seems to be protecting them, as they have not been suffering from eruptions of Sakmagima, the volcanic mountain. The cinders at times destroy the crops of the poor people and have even wiped out whole villages.

WEBSTER

New Branch of Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association Instituted

Webster, July 14.—Branch No. 1319 of the L. C. B. A. was organized by the Ladies of Holy Trinity Church of this village Monday evening with a charter list of thirty-six. The branch was instituted by Mrs. Cora McParlin, supreme trustee of Rochester, assisted by Mrs. Fry, Mrs. Weber, and Mrs. Hasborch of Rochester. Rev. Jos. Miller was chosen spiritual adviser, and other officers were installed.

After the installation, Mrs. McParlin received an arm bouquet of sweet peas as a token of appreciation of her zealous efforts in behalf of the new branch. Interesting remarks were made by Rev. Jos. Miller and the visitors from Rochester, who spoke in particular of the enthusiasm and apparent success of the branch. The meeting then adjourned and ice cream and cake served.

Pupils Give Recital

Interesting Program Given by Vocalists.

An interesting musical was given Monday evening, July 13, by some of the pupils of E. M. McCarthy, at the studios, No. 8 Gibbs St. Although the evening was warm the audiences were made very comfortable by electric fans. There were twelve numbers on the program and all were very well rendered.

Special mention and applause were made for Mr. F. J. Boetta, whose tones are of a rich baritone, and also of Mr. Ivan Ball.

Weekly Church Calendar

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost.

Gospel, St. Matt. vii, 15-21

S19 St. Vincent of Paul, C.
M 20 St. Jerome Aemiliani, C.
T 21 St. Praxedes, M.
W 22 St. Mary Magdalen, Pen.
Th. 23 St. Apollinaris, B. M.
F 24 St. Christina, V. M.
S 25 St. James the Greater, Ap.

Personal

Mrs. Michael Ulton, of 4 Arklow St., is visiting friends in Boston and Providence, R. I.

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