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A Strayed Child of Mary

A True Story

By Mary Rowena Cotter

Continued from last week

After a tirade of abuse in which he bitterly denounced him for trying to lure his daughter away, Mr. Lawrence ordered him to leave the house. The humiliated priest said as he turned away: "Sir, you have taken your wife from the faith in which she spent her happy youth and brought in to the world a family who are little better than unbelievers. You have even taught them to despise what once, and still is, dear to their mother. I do not censure you, for you know no different, but God has called one pure soul that He entrusted to your keeping and He will have His own. As for yourself, if you ever need a friend do not be afraid to call on me."

He was gone, but something in the sweetness of his voice impressed them far more deeply than either Mr. Lawrence or his wife would admit. However, pride conquered, and the father would have his way.

It was the first week of Lent, but that mattered not to our friends. Arthur Lynn was coming Thursday evening to take Agnes to the theater for the first time, and she had to go in spite of her own wishes to the contrary. As she put on her hat the pin was missing, so she ran up to her room to find another, and fell on her knees to ask the protection of her Blessed Mother.

"Please hurry, Agnes," called her mother. "It's getting late, and Arthur is waiting."

She sprang hurriedly downstairs, hat-pin in hand, and tripped as she neared the bottom. For a minute she was motionless, but her lover was at her side offering assistance. He saw her give a sudden jerk of the hand in which she held the pin, then rise to her feet.

Agnes appeared to take but little interest in the play, and her face showed marks of pain, but she made no complaint until her friend asked if she had been hurt much.

"A little," was the reply. "I have a pain in my foot; that's all."

He noticed she walked lame when the play was over, but she refused the carriage he wished to call to take her home.

The pain continued to grow more severe in the foot into which the pin had penetrated deeply; the limb was swelling and turning dark, but not a word of complaint was uttered. She could not stand in the morning, and her mother, thinking she was tired after being out the night before, did not disturb her until noon, when she went to tell her dinner was ready, and found her very pale and in tears.

"What does this mean child," asked the mother whose whole morning had been one of happy triumph.

The doctor was called too late, for blood poisoning was feared, and after doing all in his power, besides having a council, he said to the disconsolate father who had scarcely left the room for two nights and days, during which he had seen his Agnes suffer the most intense agony: "If there is anything your daughter wishes, do it for her, as there is no hope left."

He spoke almost in a whisper, but Agnes heard, and turning to her father, said: "Please, papa, will you send for Father L—?"

All the tenderness faded from his face, but he was silent.

"Is it not enough to have to lose her," he thought, "without having such an insult as this thrust into my face at the last hour!"

For the first time in years the wife dared assert herself as she said:

"Yes, Agnes, we will send for him at once," and the same man who had turned the priest so

roughly away a little over a week before, had to open the door and welcome him back now.

Only a few hours remained until the end, but before it came her father gave the passing eldest child his promise that he would lose no time in learning the truths of the faith she had so bravely embraced and defended.

When all was over Father L— said to the grief-stricken parents: "You refused to give back to God when He called her, the child He had entrusted to your care, and He has taken His own sooner than we expected, but she will not forget you and her brothers and sisters in the better world to which she has gone."

After all the sufferings of years which he had caused his wife, Mr. Lawrence would not wound her feelings farther; but when alone with the priest he said: "Had Alice not given up so easily in the beginning it might have been different; but I was young and headstrong then; had I heard so much that was had about the Catholic Church that I thought I was doing her and my future family a kindness in saving them from such superstition. Besides, I thought there could not be any great good in a religion my wife would so easily give up; but my child has taught me a lesson I shall never forget."

Easter Sunday the father, who had been baptized with his eight children, received his First Communion with those who were old enough.

Agnes Lawrence has been in her grave for nearly a quarter of a century, and her pious parents would gladly have given up any of their children to the life she had chosen; but they all seemed destined to become fathers and mothers of good Catholic families until the youngest whom Agnes had cared for as an infant announced his intention of becoming a priest.

They lived to be present at his first Mass.

The End

An African Struggle

The White Fathers are doing good work in the French Soudan district of Africa, and Fr. P. Thomas, A. F. M., is now founding a post at Bondokuy. As the rainy season was at hand when he arrived in March, he built only a temporary residence, and the tornadoes interrupted the busy carpenters. Five huts were hastily constructed after the negro fashion.

Each priest, for there are three at the station, has a modest home while one hut serves as a store, and another a chapel. The personal baggage had not materialized when the Father wrote, and like Sister Anne, the priests were vainly scanning the horizon each day for the welcome courier.

Very little altar wine was at hand, and the missionaries themselves were obliged to live practically like the natives. As there were no candles of oil, the missionaries retired with the chickens. Night falls when the sun sets in Africa. There is no twilight, so the labors of the priests cease with startling suddenness.

A little garden may furnish an agreeable variety of vegetables if it is spared by the dread scourge of grasshoppers which usually appear later. Fresh water of delightful purity is found in wells dug near the little settlement.

Fr. Thomas has already learned three of the native languages, and will now study "Ilobo," the dialect of this region. Another White Father is founding a mission in the Samo country, which is the seventh tribe evangelized by these Fathers.

These attacks upon the citadel of fetishism are not conducted along flowery paths of ease, but the brave soldiers of the cross faller not, but once their hand is put to the plough, never look back. Thus, Mohammedanism is fought and conquered in its own strongholds.

In Rome there are from three to four thousand ecclesiastical students.

News From Ireland

Carlow.

The Volunteers movement still continues to make rapid strides in Carlow. Each night the drill instructors have additional numbers.

Co. Wick.

At Inchigeela, County Cork, a packed house, composed mainly of Irish speakers, followed with rapt attention the presentation of "Cluiche Cartai," by Dublin's Gaelic Players. Rev. E. Fitzgerald, C. C., congratulated the performers on their marked success.

Captain Denis Cadigan, who died very recently, was well known in the south as a pioneer in the mackerel fishing business and as being associated with the old pilot boat service along the coast. He was a native of Cape Clear.

Dublin.

The profession took place quite recently in the Mercy Convent, Lurgan, of Miss Murphy, Dublin. It is stated that Messrs. Guinness have decided to transfer their business to England. At present it is the export trade which is to be transferred, and the revenue from this it is said is about £400,000.

Kerry.

Patrick J. Piggott, Killarney, has been appointed on the staff of the Inchicore Boys National school, of which the Very Rev. J. McCherry, O. M. I., is the manager. Mr. Piggott is a brother of Professor J. J. Piggott, of St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra.

The ordination took place at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow, recently, of Father John Ashe by Archbishop McIntosh. The parents, sister and a large number of relatives of the young priest were present. Father Ashe has already taken up his religious labors at the Archdiocese of Glasgow and is the eldest son of James Ashe, The Mall, Dingle.

Kildare.

The Kildare County Infirmary committee has passed a resolution of regret at the death of Rev. R. S. Chaplin, M. A., a valued member, and tendered sympathy to his family. Father Campion, P. P., was elected vice chairman.

Limerick.

After a most successful course and in the minimum time, P. J. Mulcair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mulcair, Renculla House, Berrigore, Limerick, has taken his degree of M. R. C. V. S. at the Royal Veterinary College, Dublin.

The members of the Catholic Literary Institute and Athletic Club, Limerick, have presented Miss Hartigan, honorary secretary of the ladies' section, with a costly silver and signed album on the occasion of her marriage. Rev. Father Connor, Adm., presided.

Tyburn.

Patrick Joseph McMahon, aged about 20, died suddenly on Saturday afternoon in High street, Omagh, as the result of the bursting of a blood vessel.

Waterford.

The death occurred on July 10 of Mrs. Butler, wife of Walter Butler, merchant, Carrickbeg.

At the annual meeting of the Waterford Hunt, the secretary, William Richardson, mentioned that arrangements had been made for J. Russell Seafield, to hunt the western portion of the county next season, and Joseph Widger the eastern portion.

Westmeath.

The Westmeath County Council on Saturday unanimously decided to increase the wages of the men employed on direct labor in the county district from 12s to 15s a week, and allow carters 6s a day.

Wexford.

For having building contracts under the council, J. Colfer has been disqualified from sitting as a member of the New Ross District council, who has been so informed by their solicitors, Messrs. Colfer and Son.

Louvain University, Belgium, has 8,000 students.

Funeral of Pope Pius X

Rome, Aug. 24.—Never in 400 years has the funeral of a Pope been as simple as that of Pius X. The ceremony occupied only fifteen minutes Monday evening. Only diplomats, cardinals, officials and a few invited guests were present.

The congregation has published a new constitution for the conclave compiled by the late Pope. It includes Pius X's ordinance against the power of veto which is expressly forbidden whether written or spoken directly or indirectly.

The late Pope begs in the constitution that the chosen candidate shall not shrink from accepting the papacy and adds: "God who imposes the burden will help bear it."

Pope's Sister Not Dead

London, Aug. 21.—An erroneous statement was made public in London late last Friday night and telegraphed to New York that Anna Sarfo, sister of the late Pope Pius X, had died in Rome shortly after the passing away of her brother. Shock, caused by the Pontiff's end, was given as the cause.

It appears that this mistaken report was the result of a telegraphic error which occurred in the transmission of a dispatch from Rome. The Pope's sister is alive, although suffering from shock. She is under the care of Dr. Amici.

Catholic Orders.

Number of Professed Men and Women in United States.

The Society of Jesus, commonly called Jesuit, is one of the oldest of the Church societies, and considerably the largest society in this country exclusively male. Its number 1100. The Catholic orders having largest numbers in this country are the Benedictines and Franciscans.

There are in all sixty-eight societies and orders in the Catholic Church in America having exclusively male memberships. Notable among the societies of American origin are the Paulists, the Christian Brothers and the Holy Cross.

Societies of women vastly outnumber those of men in numbers and memberships. There are upwards of two hundred societies, and some of them, notably the Sisters of Charity under varying names, have memberships running to four and five thousand each. A fairly accurate estimate of the professed women in the Church in this country is 220,000. This number includes the teachers, who form indeed the largest proportions.

Most of the famous orders of men, such as the Dominicans and Franciscans, have corresponding societies among women, bearing the same or nearly the same names.

Memorial Services For Pope.

Catholic churches in the city and throughout the diocese Sunday were draped in papal and mourning colors in commemoration of the death of Pope Pius X. For the most part the sermons preached at the different masses in the morning were eulogies on the life and work of the late Pontiff.

At the Cathedral, Rev. Dr. Michael J. Nolan preached at the high mass at 9.30 o'clock. He devoted his discourse to the life of Pius X and to a consideration of the great things he has accomplished in his eleven years on the Chair of St. Peter. He dwelt especially on the eucharistic prophecies, which the late Pope conducted throughout the church, and on his work to uphold orthodox teachings.

Send us your printing.

According to a notice sent to the different churches in the diocese by Rev. Dennis J. Curran, V. G., who is in charge of the affairs of the diocese in the absence of Bishop Thomas F. Hickey, a special requiem mass will be celebrated in each church this week.

Catholic Film Association.

Under the leadership of Dr. Conde B. Fallon, head of the Catholic Encyclopedia Company of New York City, and a prominent Catholic layman, the Catholic Film Association has been incorporated at Albany, N. Y., with a capital of \$500,000 to buy and distribute education and amusement pictures to Catholic schools, churches and societies.

The association later hopes to have a studio of its own where pictures based on Catholic themes will be made. For the present it will content itself with buying the work produced by the regular film companies.

In Memoriam

At the meeting of Council 23, C. R. & B. A., held Monday evening, Aug. 25th, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to take unto Himself our Holy Father, Pope Pius X, His representative here on earth, and, Whereas, it is our duty as children of the true faith to deplore the loss of one who was ever solicitous for the welfare of the Church, its children and our Holy Religion, be it,

Resolved, that we, the members of Council 23, of the Catholic Relief and Beneficiary Association give expression to our feelings over the ending of the earthly career of our beloved Pope Pius X, His wise and saintly career has been for the betterment of mankind and will ever stand as a monument of a life devoted to purity, devotion and love.

Resolved, that these sentiments of our Holy Father be spread on our minutes and published in the Catholic Journal.

E. J. Ryan,
P. F. Guinan,
Elizabeth Blaes,
Committee.

At the last regular meeting of Council 23, C. R. & B. A., held Aug. 25th, 1914, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from our Brother and Sister, Patrick and Elizabeth Claffey, their beloved mother, be it,

Resolved—that we as members of Council 23, extend to them our sincere sympathy in this their hour of sorrow and sad bereavement and commend them for consolation to Him who doeth all things well; be it, further

Resolved—that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes and published in the Catholic Journal.

Mrs. M. B. Sharp,
Mrs. M. E. Brennan,
Miss M. L. Ferguson,
Committee.

At the last regular meeting of Council No. 23, held Aug. 25th, 1914, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to take from our worthy president, E. J. Ryan, his beloved father, be it,

Resolved—that we as members of Council 23, C. R. & B. A., extend to him our sincere sympathy in this his hour of sorrow and commend him for consolation to Him who doeth all things well. Be it further,

Resolved—that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes and published in the Catholic Journal.

Edith M. Sharp,
Mrs. M. F. Brennan,
P. F. Guinan,
Committee.

Catholic News Notes

The date for the consecration of St. Rev. T. J. Shahan, D. D., of the Catholic University, has not yet been selected, but will probably be in the early fall.

A cancer hospital is to be built in New York. Towards it the sum of Mr. Thomas F. Ryan has contributed \$50,000.

Rev. Patrick J. Cullane is organizing the new parish of St. Thomas the Apostle in Detroit. He has been transferred for his work from the Church of the Sacred Heart at Yale, Mich.

When Daniel Boone first visited Kentucky, Bishop Flaret, the first Bishop of Louisville, was six years old.

At Anamosa, N. Dak., a Catholic Day was recently held.

At Augusta, Ga., there is a magnificent new academy for girls, just completed at a cost of \$370,000. It will accommodate 200 boarding students. It is called St. Joseph's Academy.

The unification of the Ursuline convents of Tiffin and Toledo, O., has been accomplished. The two houses have heretofore been independent.

On August 2d the magnificent new church of St. Ignace, in San Francisco, was dedicated. Three Bishops officiated. Its interior reminds one of the Basilica of St. Paul, outside of the walls of Rome.

The new St. Regis Home for Working Girls in Pittsburg has been opened. It is on Congress street and has 85 sleeping-rooms.

At Fond du Lac, Wis., fifty young ladies received the Habit of the Order of St. Agnes.

Davenport, Ia., is to have a magnificent school in its Cathedral parish. The corner stone was recently laid.

The free Catholic high school for boys in New York, whose building when completed will cost \$1,500,000, will open in September.

Denver has a women's Eucharistic League. Following a retreat at St. Rose's Convent in that city 87 members were enrolled.

Cardinal Von Piffa, Archbishop of Vienna, is a member of the Augustinian Order, and has devoted much of his time to the Catholic press.

Next year's German Catholic Congress will be held in Munich.

R. B. I. September Classes. There will be large entering classes in the Rochester Business Institute on Tuesday, September 1st, the opening date of the fall term.

Registrations in all departments have been very active during the past two weeks and will be especially so today and Monday.

Those who have previously registered will be quickly classified and started in their work on Tuesday, and that will facilitate the registration and adjustment of the course of those coming to the school office for the first time on Tuesday.

We shall be glad to send a copy of our new catalog promptly to any address or to deliver it personally at our school office, and to make arrangements for personal interviews with the principals of the school.

Rochester Business Institute, Y. M. C. A. Building, Bell Telephone, Main 2654—W; Rochester Telephone, Stone 326. S. C. Williams, Principal; Dr. John F. Forbes, Associate Principal.