

The Catholic Journal

Prince Of The House Of God.

BYE. M. MCCARTHY

(Continued from last week)

"The best eye specialist was brought in and on examination he found the optical nerve badly injured, but would not give up hope, saying to him, 'you must have all the courage and be as brave as you can. We have but one chance and with good health and nerves I feel sure I can save your sight. So for weeks he had to remain in a darkened room. Such isolation and suffering for one of Duke Cordillo's nature were almost unendurable, but the patience of his sweet, beautiful wife was, to him, real sunshine. Little by little she read to him and as often as she thought best she would read from a spiritual book. The lion was being gradually tamed and as she went along in her work she saw a great change in him. When well he never went to church; that was for children and old people, he said. One day she was reading the great Passion of Christ. She saw him raise his hands in prayer, and when she had finished, he said: 'Bernice, if God will have mercy on me and if I get better, I will go to church every Sunday. If my God afflicts me with blindness all my life, I deserve it, for I have been a very bad man, stopping at nothing. I would have my own way, no matter what the cost. The sufferings of others I did not consider. God has opened the eyes of my soul. I see now what I never would see before. Even you, my darling wife, stole from a lover who was a good man. If, dear, I am blind for life, I will give you your freedom. I do not wish to have you burdened with a blind husband, and maybe God will accept this terrible sacrifice and will pardon all my wickedness.'

Bernice was softly crying and when she had ceased she went to him and held his hands quietly in hers, telling him she never loved him until now, adding: 'I love you, my dear, and I will never leave you, I will help you on your way in life that we both may gain eternal life, and out of this suffering great good will come. So cheer up now, my love, I will sing to you, and then go for a visit to our dear Lord, and I am sure He will let you see.'

The surgeon when he called the next day, said, 'I think you had better return to Florence, and when you have rested after the journey I will perform the operation. There is a surgeon there of that would like to help me, and I need a change myself, so I will go with you.' They were delighted at this. In a short time they were all at the splendid home of the Cordillo's and in a few days the operation was performed.

The day before Bernice said to the doctor, 'I want to ask you, doctor if there is any danger in this operation?'

He looked into her eyes and read the high purpose which was there. Then taking her hand he said: 'Yes, my child, yes, but with your fine health and splendid nerves, we are going to do our very best, and with your prayers, we will succeed.'

'Thank you,' she replied, 'I will be as brave as he is and remain before the altar of our Lord until after the operation.' The doctor could not keep the tears back. Then she went back to her husband and in a straightforward way she told him she must have his soul cleansed from sin, saying: 'I have sent for the Padre at the Cathedral and he is a very holy man and will help you make your confession. You will be very happy afterward and have nothing to regret. I will stay before the altar of our Lord tomorrow morning during the operation, and now have great courage.'

After the Padre had gone the Duke called her to him and told her he had not felt so happy in years, not since he had made his First Holy Communion, and now, dear, I have one real hard duty to perform; I must and I will do it. He then told her to send for me, and when I read the note, I tell you gentlemen, 'I hurried as fast as I could to get to him.'

'Count Raffa,' he said, as soon as he heard my voice, 'I want to ask your pardon for all I have caused you to suffer, and one of the noblest men in all Florence, Count Caracolo, if you think he can forgive me, I would beseech him to hear it from his own lips.'

'As freely as I forgive you Duke Cordillo,' I replied, 'I am sure Count Caracolo will also forgive and I will go myself for him.'

'No,' he replied; 'send him a note by one of my servants. I have some things to say to you.' Then he told me, gentlemen, what I have just been telling you.

While waiting for Count Caracolo to come Duchess Cordillo had tea served, and I was glad to have a cup, as I felt my nerves all dancing under the sudden change in our enemy. But as I saw his angel wife in all her tenderness, I marveled not. She would tame even a greater one than he. At the sound of voices in the hall, the Duke became a little excited. His wife calmed him, saying, 'Count Caracolo will be our friend.' I just said to him, 'Count Joseph is the noblest of men, like him whose name he bears, St. Joseph, Prince of the House of God.' We left them together, and as we drove home, I could not talk, and you know that's very rare for me to lose the power of speech; it all seemed like something one would read about, you do not usually see these things. But we saw, and we heard and we felt them.'

Count Caracolo looked at Count Raffa saying, 'Well, Raffa you do tell it well, only you give me too much praise.' He laughed, 'I do not give you enough, if you were not here, I would say more. Several times, though, I thought you would say, 'Hold up, Raffa, but you had marvelous patience, as well as our other friends.'

Mr. Clementi, as well as the others, clamored for the rest. 'Did he recover his sight?' they asked.

'Yes,' Count Raffa replied, 'he did.' 'The operation was a perfect success, and he and his angel wife were very happy. Count Caracolo visited him when last in Florence.'

'Yes,' Count Caracolo added, 'he certainly is a model husband and father. He has seven children. His wife is a real saint I feel sure, to do what she has done.'

Mr. Glandoni asked, 'Was it long after that when your wedding was celebrated?' 'No,' he replied, 'only a short time. Some of my friends wished me to have a quiet affair, but I would not consent. I wished all the merriment and joy to be given to this sacred affair of my life. I wanted nothing spared and I think nothing was spared to make our wedding as my honored father and mother would have it, had they been here.'

Count Raffa said in his merriest tone, 'and I am going to tell as nearly as I can something of that affair. If Count Caracolo was King there could have been no greater celebration. You see I was the best man and it could not be otherwise.' A roar of laughter greeted this. He certainly was a wit. He continued, 'all the nobility of Rome and Florence were present. His uncle Cardinal from Rome married them, and I tell you Joseph, you were a credit to him, when he looked at you, with the pride of your old Caracolo family, and I am sure he gave an extra blessing to you and your fair lovely bride.'

At this Count Raffa asked the butler to pass some of the old, Caracolo wine. Count Caracolo told him to open the rarest. When the glasses were filled, Count Raffa stood up saying: 'In honor of our esteemed and beloved friend, Count Caracolo, and I have never known a more perfect man. When I was young boy like himself, I was a little inclined to be a gay lad, but his noble example led me always in the path of virtue.' All drank to this, and with bright merriment he said, 'Now Count Joseph, you tell the rest.'

'Well, my friends,' Count Caracolo said, 'there is not very much more to tell. Just before

we were married, my uncle in Boston who was too ill to come to our wedding, wished us to make our wedding trip to America. He and his wife were very old and had no children. When we came here, I could see that his time was not for long, but our coming improved him greatly. He would not let us go, so we remained with him as long as we could, and he made me promise I would come back here to live and take up his banking house. You see that is why we are Americans. When we returned to Florence to make arrangements to live in America, we had a great deal to do. Count Raffa took entire charge of the man who came near being an assassin and ever since he has been in his family and is a splendid fellow, and his brother the butler at Duke Lucia's, my wife converted him that he is a very good man. He never had anything to do with the Cordillo deeds, but he knew of them, and was so afraid of his brother, He begged to come with us, so he is one of the oldest of our servants. Among the cherished heirlooms which we brought to America was the beautiful statue of St. Joseph. We had an oratory built and the Countess keeps lilies there all the year around. We and our children assemble there every evening for prayers, and I assure you, my friends, we never forget to thank the Infant Jesus and his foster father, St. Joseph, Prince of the House of God.

[The End.]

Catholic Notes of Interest.

Bishop Eis, of Marquette, is now in his 76th year.

Very Rev. Wm. H. Ketcham, head of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, has acquired the Choctaw Indian language, and has completed his Choctaw translations.

The Working Girl's Club and Home, in Philadelphia, is in a prosperous condition. The club has purchased the Garrett mansion and opened there its new St. Regis Home.

At last year's centenary celebration of Suarez a doctrinal controversy arose between the Jesuits and Dominicans relative to the doctrines of Suarez and St. Thomas Aquinas. It is not yet settled.

The oldest Catholic Church in the District of Columbia is Holy Trinity, at Georgetown. Its register of baptisms begins with 1795.

An Italian church costing \$10,000 has been erected in Duluth.

Two thousand and twelve Knights of Columbus of Chicago are in military service.

Mgr. Rainer of St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, is 73 years of age.

It is believed that St. Patrick came into the Archdiocese of Tuam in the year 440.

The Vatican Bureau of Information Concerning War Prisoners is seriously handicapped by Austria. His Holiness the Pope is taking serious measures to correct this. He is no longer in free communication with the occupied territory and its Bishops.

The City of Arras, France, has offered a site for a magnificent monument to the late heroic Bishop Lobbeday.

The Catholic Center party has effected the closing of the public crematoriums in Bavaria.

His Holiness, the Pope, secured the release from Austria, of 500 Italian prisoners afflicted with tuberculosis.

In the Ukraine, Russia, the names of O'Brien, O'Rourke and other Catholic families from Ireland, are found.

FRANCE NEEDS IRISH AID.

Does the Old Tie of Brotherhood Still Hold?

A correspondent to the New York Evening Sun writes the following letter:

Ireland's attitude on conscription in this world's war that civilization should survive in offering passive resistance to conscription is most deplorable. This is not Britain's war, neither is it France, United States, Italy, Portugal, Brazil, Greece, Japan or Cuba, but it is a war of democracy, that people may rule against hereditary monarchy and aristocracy.

Ireland, from its first King Hermon, a Milesian of Spain, 1300 B. C., to the Anglo-Norman Invasion, 1171 A. D., was an independent nation and kingdom. The treachery of a Dermot caused Henry II. to invade and conquer Ireland. Since then has spread the dominion and oppression of Great Britain. It is true that Ireland should have Home Rule and self Government the same as Canada, Australia and New Zealand; that Ireland has been persecuted by England goes without question. Memories of wrongs are still prevalent. The Catholic faith has been proscribed.

But Ireland, "The Isle of Warriors," should revere and come to the rescue of the nation of all nations who tried, and gave its best, to free Ireland, and that is France. How can any Irishman refuse the call of France at this hour of her dire distress, or fail to recall the great French General St. Ruth, at the Battle of the Boyne and his able assistants De Tess, Lauzun, De Rosen Broseleau, who fought with their gallant French comrades and the brave Irish at Athlone and Aughrim? The English then had German and Dutch mercenary soldiers fighting for pay under the commands of the Duke of Wurtemberg, Prince of Hesse, and Gens. Schomberg and Ginkei, who opposed Irish freedom. The Irish and French under the command of St. Ruth had all but won the battle to give freedom forever to Ireland when a shot from the enemy's cannon instantly killed St. Ruth, who was at the head of his troops in the charge. The untimely death of this great soldier was a death knell to Ireland's freedom, but in the fifty years thereafter Ireland sent 450,000 Irish soldiers to help France fight her battles.

Any Irishman who has ever read the charge of Gens. Lally, Dillon, Clare and Roth at the Battle of Fontenoy would blush with shame to refuse to fight for France to-day. The French have always appreciated Irish valor. In 1871 during the Franco-Prussian War, Marshal MacMahon was one of the best generals France had, and afterward became President of France.

Ireland for the time being should forget her hatred of Great Britain and either consent to conscription or else volunteer to fight in this greatest of all wars. When the Allies defeat Germany, at the council table the Allies will then ask that Ireland receive Home Rule and local self government the same as Canada and Australia. I am afraid, if Ireland persists in this course of fighting conscription, the Allies after peace is declared will have no sympathy for Ireland or its cause. If Great Britain, the United States, Italy, Portugal and Belgium place their armies under the absolute command of a French general there is no reason why Ireland shouldn't do likewise in the cause of freedom.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

- May, Mary's Month
- Sunday after Ascension
- 12 S. St. Pancratius M.
- 13 M. St. John the Silent Bp. C.
- 14 T. St. Pachomius Ab.
- 15 W. St. John B. de la Salle C.
- 16 T. St. John Nepomucene M.
- 17 F. St. Paschal Baylon C.
- 18 S. St. Venantius M. Vigil.

Foreign Mission News

The Propagation of the Faith Society, 345 Lexington Ave., New York City

When things begin to look black I do not let myself worry. I feel around a bit in the dark until I get a firm grasp of the Master's Hand, and then all is well. Shall I lose confidence in Him who provides with loving care for the little sparrow on the housetop? - Words of an African Missionary.

The first ordination in Alaska took place in Juneau on Holy Saturday, when Rt. Rev. Bishop Crimont, S. J., raised to the priesthood Fr. Gallant.

Fr. Gallant is a Canadian by birth, but his early studies were pursued in California and his course in philosophy and theology at the Seminary of Mount Angel, Ore., where he was professor of mathematics.

The Church in Alaska is making great strides and will no doubt increase the number of its children rapidly under Bishop Crimont's guidance.

FOLLOWING A CUSTOM THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

Peculiar ceremonies attend the birth of children in all pagan countries. Those of the Fiji Islands are described by our correspondent, Fr. Guillard:

"When a babe is born, if a boy, it is forbidden to put him on mats; he must be his first bed. If a girl, she is allowed the use of the mats.

"After about two hours comes the opening of the babe's digestive organs.

"For this they take a raw banana (in this state bananas are full of bitter juice), squash it, introduce the juice into the child's mouth and open, so they believe, his throat and stomach.

"Three days after the birth of a boy, four after that of a girl, the babe is bathed solemnly.

"For the bath they use a great wooden—or earthen dish—lined with broad leaves. They fill it with water, put in it prawns, small fishes, a root of 'cago' and leaves of a flowering tree. A nurse then takes the child and sits near the water. All the men in the town when the newly-born is a boy, and all the women when it is a girl, sit in a circle round her. They unite their hands so that the thumb of one touches the little finger of the other and place them under the babe.

"They sing an old song with four stanzas. At the end of the first, second and third stanza the people lower their hands to the water, but do not touch it. At the fourth they dip their hands. The old woman lowers the child, and its wailings let the people know that the little one does not like disturbing fish.

"The Fijians are most faithful in observing their ceremonies. I have tried to find the meaning of them. They say that they inherited their customs from their ancestors, and keep them without knowing why."

HER COURSE TOO QUICKLY RUN

Africa must proceed more slowly than the Far East in obtaining native priests and native nuns. But that does not mean that a hopeful beginning has not been made. Sometimes the lives of these religious are all too short.

Not long ago Father Flottat, of West Africa, wrote that the first native Sister of his district had been professed. Sister Rosa was a beautiful character and had great influence over the women and children of the mission. Father Flottat was looking forward to many conversions as a result of her teaching and good example, but God's ways are not our ways, and so Sister Rosa left her earthly work unfinished and earthily work unfinished and went to Heaven to spend the rest of the Sacred Heart with her Divine Spouse, for whom she had worked so earnestly and faithfully ever since she had been made a Christian.

Late News of Ireland

Connaught

James Ryder, 76, farmer, Moygounagh, Ballina, collapsed on the road home, and died immediately.

Most Rev. Dr. Naughton has appointed Very Rev. James Murphy, President of St. Muredach's College, Ballina, a canon of the diocesan chapter.

The Department have taken over compulsorily the lands of Newtown, Bunlin and Lavally, containing 80 acres, the property of Captain Packenham Mahon, Strokestown, and have offered it for consere.

Tobercurry Guardians unanimously adopted a resolution calling for a modification of the restrictions on the import of maize and asking the Department of Agriculture to take steps to protect Irish farming interests in the matter.

Roscommon G. A. A. elected Rev. D. Carney, president; D. O'Rourke, Castleres, vice president, and F. Farrell, Lansboro, secretary. The convention decided that in future the competing teams will share equally in 40 per cent of gate receipts. The following committee was appointed: Rev. M. Keane, C. C., president; D. O'Rourke, secretary, and Messrs. Madden, Green, Gillane, Shavlin, Kearns, Doohy and Travera.

Very Rev. Canon Crimmins, P. D. D., and Rev. P. Murray, C. C., Roscommon, have been appointed chairman and vice chairman respectively of the Roscommon County Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Leinster.

Very Rev. J. Murray, P. P., Orms, Carlow, is now convalescent. The death occurred at Mount Carmel Convent, New Ross, of Sister M. Gertrude McGrath, who had been 40 years in religion.

Dr. J. Dillon-Kelly, J. P., medical officer of Mullingar workhouse and dispensary district for 40 years, has retired.

The Marshalltown (South Kildare) land dispute has been settled owing to the exertions of Very Rev. W. Duggan, P. P., Castledermot.

Very Rev. Canon Lennon, V. G., P. P., distributing the prizes to the successful pupils at a drill display in Loreto Abbey, Gorey, paid a tribute to the manner in which the Community had, not only looked after their spiritual welfare, but also their physical wants.

Munster.

A branch of the Irish Master Farriers Association has been established in Cork, with E. Wallis Hoare, V. S., as president.

Very Rev. Monsignor Ryan, P. P., V. G., and R. B. Heuston, Ballykisteen have been re-elected chairman and vice chairman respectively of Tipperary Joint Technical Instruction Committee.

As a result of collections at Cork Catholic churches, £200 was added to the Milk Fund inaugurated by Most Rev. Dr. Cohanlan. The committee will continue the supply of a pint and a half to each poor family until this month.

At a meeting of the Education students of the University College, Dublin, a resolution was passed congratulating Patrick Lyne on his appointment to a post in Tralee under the Department.

North Tipperary County Council appointed Miss Teresa O'Donoghue, Lackan, Templedeery, nurse, Matron of Roscrea Tuberculosis Hospital by 20 votes to 5 for Miss Dwyer, Thurles. There were 11 candidates.

Rev. W. Hackett, S. J., presided at the meeting of the Limerick Food Supply and said 50 tons of oatmeal had been received. Messrs. Cleve were supplying milk at cost price. Mr. Goodbody was giving the use of a store, and Provincial Bank lending the money at 3 per cent. It was stated that arrangements were being made by which potatoes would be sold to consumers at 8 pence to 8 1/2 pence per stone, instead of 11 pence and 1 shilling.