

felt her way to the stove and secured a heavy poker, while Mingo was fumbling with the sash, which she knew was fastened and could not be raised.

On her way she picked up the carving knife from the table, where Bobbie had placed it, and carried it in her left hand. She would have liked to light a lamp, but did not dare for fear of her besieger's revolver.

He went to each of the windows in turn, while she followed. None of them would go up. He came back to the one from which he had started, and what she was expecting happened. There was a crash of glass, and a large part of the lower sash flew past her into the kitchen.

She stood aside with uplifted poker, which she brought down with all her might as soon as she detected a movement of attempted entrance. The blow was followed by a howl of rage and pain—then silence.

Mary waited for several minutes in readiness for a renewal of the attack; but no second attempt on the window was made. She was beginning to hope that she had triumphed when startling sounds came from the door. Heavy blows were rained upon it, and she heard the sharp splintering of wood.

Mary knew that the door must go down in a minute or two, and that she would then have to face the enraged ruffian; but she was less concerned even for herself than for father and the Polar Star. She determined at all hazards to delay the putting out of the lights as long as possible.

She retreated to the living-room and locked the door behind her. Then she locked the door leading to the tower, put the key in her pocket, and took her stand on the narrow landing at the top of the flight of steps by which the door was reached. She meant to defend the passage to the bitter end.

The outer door crashed in and she heard Mingo in the kitchen. She caught a faint glimmer through a crack, and knew he was striking a light. The next minute he burst open the frail inner door by a single kick, and stood in the opening with the lamp in one hand and the axe in the other.

His face, which was literally convulsed with rage, showed the distinct mark of Mary's blow. He snarled rather than spoke, and she could understand nothing but his murderous look as he set down the lamp and approached the steps.

She stood her ground bravely, and he advanced cautiously. When he put his foot on the first step she raised the poker in her right hand and threatened him with the knife in the left.

He grinned derisively, raised his axe and took another step. As he did so, a sharp report rang out a few feet behind.

Mingo dropped with a shattered leg, and rolled groaning to the floor.

'Don't you stir!' cried Bobbie, as the wounded man attempted to rise. 'Don't you stir or I'll fire again.'

Mingo glanced at the boy's threatening revolver and determined face, and lay as still as his pain would allow.

Bobbie kept a sharp eye on him, and at the same time did his best to comfort Mary, who was leaning against the lower door, trembling violently.

'Don't you be afraid, Mary,' he said, 'I've got him safe enough, and I'll take good care he doesn't get at you again.'

'Where are the others? Why aren't they coming in?' gasped Mary.

'There isn't anybody here but me,' explained Bobbie. 'You see I didn't get away from the place. He made after me too quick, and I had to dodge into the wood-house to shake him off. Then he began to cut up so, I thought I'd better stay and take care of you. I couldn't bear to go away. I knew he'd get in and at you long before I could fetch help.'

'But where did you get the revolver?' asked Mary.

'Oh! that's his,' answered Bobbie. 'I grabbed it when you blew the light. I was sure I could shoot straight. Uncle Tom often let me try with his revolver; but I didn't like to fire till I saw him go at you with the axe. Then I slipped in and blazed away.'

Mingo gave a groan of mingled pain and rage, but did not dare to move.

Mary soon recovered her courage, and was not long in deciding what to do. She unlocked the tower door and stole up to her father's room. He was sleeping soundly, and had heard nothing. She put on her wraps then and hurried off for help.

During the half hour she was gone Bobbie kept close and effective watch over his captive, whom he would hardly allow to wink.

Mingo had his broken leg attended to, and was safely lodged in Norton gaol before morning. In due time he was sent thence to the penitentiary under a twenty years' sentence, which in his case proved to be for life.

The Polar Star did not arrive until midnight, by which time the storm was raging wildly. She would almost inevitably have been lost had Norton Light been extinguished.

Their father's praise was all the reward that either Mary or Bobbie desired; but the Canadian government presented each of them, when their heroism became known, with a handsome and suitably engraved gold watch, in public acknowledgment of their bravery.—*Irish Catholic*.

When the reins of a government are too slack, the manners of the people are corrupted; and that destroys industry, begets effeminacy, and provokes Heaven against it.

Perfect happiness is not to be found on this side of the grave; but if we humbly follow the example of Our Blessed Redeemer, He has said He will never leave us nor forsake us.

Though selfishness hath defiled the whole man, yet sensual pleasure is the chief part of its intent, and therefore by the senses it commonly works, and these are the doors and windows by which iniquity entereth into the soul.

## The Catholic World.

**ARMENIA.—Conversion of Nestorians.**—The Holy Father has received a letter from Mgr. Altmayer announcing that as a result of the preaching of two Dominicans, Father Bhetore and Father France, fifty thousand Nestorians have joined the Church in Mesopotamia, and that thirty thousand Armenians in the district of Van have done the same. The good news has given joy to the Holy Father, who set the missionaries to this work and whose efforts for reconciling dissidents to the Church have had remarkable effects in the East. He may be said to have prepared the way for the Dominican Fathers, and they have proved worthy agents of his.

**AUSTRIA.—Religion and Politics.**—The Roman correspondent of the *Morning Leader* says: The Papal Nuncio at Vienna, Mgr. Taliani, who has now quite recovered from the effects of the partial cerebral hemorrhage which at one time appeared to endanger his life, has sent a short but significant message to the Secretaryship of State on the subject of the so-called 'Los von Rom' movement promoted by Deputies Wolff and Schönerer. In this diplomatic document it is stated that a strict and impartially conducted inquiry has revealed the fact that hitherto only 3,352 Catholics have gone over to Protestantism throughout the Austrian Empire. This falls considerably below the 10,000 which Herr Wolff confidently declared would be the number of converts to Protestantism before Pentecost. At the Vatican no importance whatever is attached to the 'Los von Rom' movement which is now considered as practically dead.

**ENGLAND.—Prayers for Conversion to the Catholic Faith.**—We are glad to find (says the *Catholic Times*) that Cardinal Vaughan's appeal to French Catholics for prayers for the conversion of England is being widely published on the Continent. The *Eco d'Italia*, of Genoa, asks its readers to become 'fervent apostles of this great work.'

**Stonyhurst Association Dinner.**—The members of the Stonyhurst Association held their annual dinner at the Hotel Cecil, London, on July 20, the guest of the evening being Captain Kenna, V.C. Amongst those present besides Captain Kenna were Mr. Oswald Walmesley, President for the year (in the chair), Bishop Brindle, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Arundell of Wardour, the Rector of Stonyhurst (Father Browne), Father Gerard, the Hon. Mr. Justice Mathew, Sir Westby Perceval, K.C.M.G., the Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, the Hon. J. Maxwell Scott, the Hon. Walter Constable Maxwell, Colonel Heathcote, Mr. H. J. Walmesley, General Goodfellow, Colonel Gordon, Mr. Philip Colley, the Rev. J. Clayton, Major Chichester, the Rev. A. Charnley, Mr. N. J. Synnott, Mr. William, Father Tarleton, Mr. J. Lescher, Mr. R. Trappes Lomax, Mr. Donabue, Mr. Austin King, Major Murphy, Mr. Munster, Messrs. Weld, Sir A. Murray, Mr. Walmesley Cotham, Mr. J. G. Snead-Cox, Mr. B. Belton, Mr. F. Worthington, Mr. T. H. Waters, and Mr. T. M. Waters.

**Catholic Procession in London.**—As usual the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was celebrated on Sunday, July 16, in the Italian quarter, London. The quarter was gaily decorated, and a fine arch, brilliant with gilt and silver tinsel, had been erected at the approach to Saffron Hill. There was also a multitude of flags. The procession, which the *Daily Telegraph* says, it would be impossible to match in the country, was very long, and caused the tram traffic to be stopped for a quarter of an hour.

**Death of a Recent Convert.**—The *Weekly Register* records with regret the death of Captain Curzon, of the 10th Royal Hussars, which took place about the middle of July, in his 29th year. He had been received into the Church a few months previously. Captain Nathaniel William Curzon was the only son of the late Mr. Robert Curzon, of Alvaston, Derbyshire, and of Mrs. Hibbert, of Ashby St. Ledgers, Rugby.

**The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in London.**—An interesting function took place in London recently. Close to Leicester Square, within sight and sound of one of the most thronged parts of the metropolis, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament have established themselves, introducing a leaven of religion and purity in the midst of a region where they are too often absent. They have just added a new wing to their convent in Leicester Place, and this was solemnly opened and blessed by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. They are a French Sisterhood, and are surrounded by a large French colony who inhabit the district lying between Leicester Square and Oxford street. The Sisters have charge of the schools attached to the Church of Notre Dame de France, provide a home for working girls out of a situation at a moderate charge, and labour zealously among the poor of the locality, and it is gratifying to know that they do not lack friends and benefactors, amongst whom may be mentioned his Eminence the Cardinal, his Excellency the French Ambassador, the Duke of Norfolk, Mrs. Claude Watney, Lord Gerard, the Earl of Denbigh, and Lord Ashburnham.

**A Memorial to the Late Dr. Rivington.**—It is proposed to erect as a memorial of the late Rev. Dr. Rivington a marble column in St. Peter's crypt of the new Westminster Cathedral.

**Visit of a celebrated Dominican.**—The celebrated French Dominican, Père Olliver, the eminent Paris preacher, was on a visit to England in July, and was the guest of the Dominican Fathers at Haverstock Hill, London.

**ROME.—An Unlikely Alliance.**—The movement which General Ricciotti Garibaldi, son of the famous revolutionist, is trying to promote (says a Rome correspondent) is exciting a great