

men and lame men, the widows and orphans—all these would, I verily believe, have bled their arms to do "Miss Mary" a service.

She was always kind and good to them. Whenever she met them she had a friendly smile and a sympathetic smile for one and all.

Not so Constance; and many a time the younger sister would call Mary to account for "so lowering herself as to enter into conversation with such people as these!"

"But they are good-natured and well-intentioned," Mary would say, "and they are so grateful, poor creatures, for trifling kindnesses."

"They don't know what gratitude means!" was the other's retort. "They are a low, designing, cunning lot, every one of them. I never even notice them."

This was, of course, conclusive, and Mary never pressed the point further. But she was so far unmindful of Constance's wise counsel as to persevere in her folly and want of respect. She was, I am afraid, a hardened sinner when charity, love of one's neighbour, and tender, human pity for God's poor were concerned. I doubt whether any advice would have corrected the girl's habits in these matters.

Well, it so happened that the Bellevue's little plot to beguile young Mr. Roberts to the house succeeded admirably.

George Bellew and the young engineer spent the day shooting, and when they returned to Bellevue House in the evening, to a very dainty dinner indeed greeted them, and the shabby rooms were shining, the muslin window-hangings, fresh from the wash tub and the iron, the picture-frames on the walls polished to almost a painful degree, and all this the work of Mary's busy hands.

Constance, got up in an irreproachable toilette and looking her very best, sat beside young Roberts at dinner. The proud mother, usually so talkative, held her tongue this evening, so that her daughter should entertain the guest.

But, truth to say, Constance Bellew's conversation was empty, vapid, purposeless chatter at its best. So accustomed was the girl to be regarded as a beautiful object of whom nothing intellectual was required that she had lapsed naturally at last into this groove, and found it well nigh impossible to converse with ordinary intelligence on any subject under the sun.

Now, Mary was, on the contrary, bright, animated, and intensely natural when she began to talk, and possessed even a sparkling cleverness and native wit which were strangely attractive.

Frank Roberts glanced once or twice at the elder sister during dinner, and laughed heartily at one or two of her remarks.

He was a tall, well-built young fellow, with frank, brown eyes, dark, close-cropped hair, and a bright, winning smile. In manners he was simple, genial, and thoroughly natural. He found it difficult enough to carry on the conversation with Constance, and it was a relief to him when dinner was over and he was left alone with Mr. Bellew.

(Concluded in our next.)

CATHOLIC NEWS.

THE Indian papers announce the conversion of two priests of the schismatic Jacobite sect at Kottayam.

The new Catholic papers, *O Cruzeiro* and *O Brazil*, have been founded in Brazil, with the approval and support of the Episcopate.

The Congress of Ulm was attended by 18,000 Catholic men, the largest number that has ever been present at a Catholic Congress in Germany.

The Pope has received from Berlin a communication to the effect that the Bundesrath has decided to refuse permission for the Jesuits to return to Germany but is in favour of permitting the Redemptorist Fathers to return.

A collection is being made all over Germany for the purpose of presenting to Herr Windthorst, the veteran leader of the Centre party in the Reichstag, the sum of 90,000 marks toward completing the new Catholic Marienkirche in Windthorst's parish in Hanover city.

The Bishop of Malta, Monsignor Pace, has sent the Pope a volume of addresses from the clergy and laity, together with letters assuring him that perfect tranquility now prevails in the diocese.

A number of young native Christians brought from Uganda, in Central Africa, by Cardinal Lavigne, are now prosecuting their studies for the sacred ministry at Malta.

A fund is being raised, by public subscription in Canada, to erect a church in memory of the martyr missionaries Pères Brebœuf and Lallemand. The church is to be built at Pontanguishene, the scene of their first mission among the Hurons.

Père Didon's "Life of our Lord" has proved to be the great literary success of the Paris publishing season. It is a book in two large volumes, and sells at the price of 20 francs; nevertheless, 15,000 copies have already been sold.

Dr. Despres' effort to have the Sisters of Charity reinstated in the Paris hospitals has been defeated in the French Chamber. In his speech the Doctor declared that he acted purely in the interest of the Republic and of the poor people. The banishment of the nuns from the hospitals had been a calamity, and the carelessness of the secular nurses substituted for them had actually been the cause of several deaths.

Signor de Cesare writes from Rome that the Pope has purchased from the Gonzaga family a picture, by Veronese, representing St. Louis of Gonzaga in his princely dress with a sword. The picture is now exhibited in the Germanic College, where it is visited by Cardinals and priests. It is a sign of the preparations for the centenary of St. Louis, which falls on the 21st June, 1891.

The medical attendants of the Holy Father have just published the statement that Leo XIII. is in marvellous health. They attribute the Pope's "ripe old age" to his very regular and simple habits of life.

Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, in a letter on the persecution of the Jews in Russia, says: "The fact that Christ and His Blessed Mother were Jews according to the flesh attaches me strongly to the race."

Commenting on the report that the Catholic clergy in Germany have received instructions from the Holy Father to combat Socialism with all possible energy, the *Times* says: "Leo XIII. appears to possess at once an acute sense of the hard facts of the modern world, and of the bearing which those facts have on the policy and the interests of the great organisation he directs."

On a recent Sunday Father Tiernan, of Syracuse, N.Y., lectured in the adjoining town of Cicero, on the subject of "Temperance," and, says an exchange, "all the Protestant churches of the village dismissed their congregations from evening services and gathered with their clergy at the church to hear the lecture."

His Eminence Cardinal Bausa, having written to the Holy Father respecting the devotion to the Holy Family, his Holiness in his reply says that that devotion is to be maintained without change in the state in which it was approved of by the Holy See, especially by the letter of Pius IX., published on the 5th of January, 1870. His Holiness strongly urges bishops and priests to show their zeal in the propagation of the devotion.

At the opening sitting of the Congress of Nantes, Mgr. d'Hulst, at the close of the eloquent allocution on the Social Question, announced that a Catholic Scientific Congress would open in Paris on the 1st of April, the object of which will be to prove that science, instead of being the adversary of religion, is, on the contrary, its strongest advocate. The Congress was brought to a close on Sunday by a discourse from Mgr. Freppel, who, bearing strongly upon the religious topics of the hour, pointed his arguments directly against the Revolution. "The Papacy," he said, "has for a hundred years fought against the Revolution."

Emir Pasha, in the *Colonial-zeitung*, now contributes his meed of praise to the Catholic missions in Africa, with a not obscurely implied comparison with the Protestant ones. "As regards missions," he writes, "I refer only to such as, instead of teaching their pupils mechanical Bible reading and providing them with check trousers at the expense of pious souls in Europe, impart to them useful knowledge, instruct them in agriculture, teach them trades, and thus make each mission station a centre of crystallization for humanitarian work. It is a pleasure for me here to refer to the Catholic mission of Bagamoyo and its daughter institutions. Such establishments certainly deserve every kind of assistance from the State, and it should be made the duty of every settlement to support them as far as possible."

Cardinal Gibbons has written the following letter to the *Jewish Exponent*, of Philadelphia: "Every friend of humanity must deplore the systematic persecution of the Jews in Russia. For my part I cannot well conceive how Christians can entertain other than kind sentiments towards the Hebrew race when I consider how much we are indebted to them. We have from them the inspired volumes of the Old Testament, which has been the consolation in all ages to devout souls. Christ our Lord, the founder of our religion, His blessed mother, as well as the Apostles, were all Jews according to the flesh. These facts attach me strongly to the Jewish race."

Over six thousand persons visited the new church of the Sacred Heart on Montmartre during the month of December. One hundred and fifty of the visitors or pilgrims are priests who said Mass. Amongst the pilgrims' names we find those of the newly-consecrated Vicar-Apostolic of Ubanghi (Upper Congo), Mgr. Augouard, of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost, and his former commanding officer, General de Charette. The General had just come from Rome, where he had several audiences of the Pope, who on every occasion spoke to him of devotion to the Sacred Heart, and of Montmartre.

"The Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament" is the name decided upon for the new religious order that Miss Kate Drexel, or "Sister Catherine," as she is now called, is to establish, and which will have for its special object the amelioration and improvement of the condition of Indians and coloured people. A site has already been purchased at Arundel, near Washington, and the erection of a convent and a school will be begun immediately. The mother-house is being built at Andalusia, near Philadelphia, and will be the novitiate of the new Order. Sister Catherine will make her profession next February, at which time she will relinquish to the Order her immense fortune, estimated at between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 dols. By this acquisition "The Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament" will become one of the wealthiest religious Orders in the world.

The whole country is chorusing the praise of the heroic priest, Father Jule, who, in the face of almost certain death, penetrated the hostile camp at the Pine Ridge Agency. His mission was one of peace and mercy. He went as a mediator between the Government and the maddened Indians in order to get an explicit statement of their grievances, and thus stop, if possible, the dreadful slaughter that would certainly accompany another uprising. Speaking of Father Jule's perilous undertaking, the *Sunday Express* says:—"The daring mission of the brave man of God who took his life in his hand that he might appeal to the braves deserves the immortality in which history has enshrined many of his devoted predecessors. If all Indian agents were as high-minded as he, the Indian problem would soon be solved, for the red man appears to have an animal-like instinct which can detect the difference between honourable men and schemers quicker than trained reasoning powers often do."

The *Church Times* and other Anglican organs of the Press have been building great hopes on the "Old Catholic" Conference held some time ago, and predicting for the schismatics such a degree of progress as would place them in a position of rivalry with the Catholic Church on the Continent. The unhappy French apostate, M. Loyson, seems to have been captivated by the flattering dream, and has been announcing *Urbi et Orbi* the great future in store for "Old Catholicism." Unfortunately for the dreamers, stubborn facts are rendering their sanguine expectations ridiculous. The "Old Catholics," leaders and followers, are retreating surely and rapidly to the fold which they deserted. From Friburg, in Brigau, we