

down the path. He swung his cane high in the air as he walked away. She could see him very plainly, for the moon was up, and she could hear him lift the latch of the gate, which he closed with a defiant bang.

'God bless him,' said Miss Walton, turning away from the window. 'I hope he may be happy, though I can not.'

And was this the end of her romance? Yes, so far as Robert Grant was concerned. He married a young woman with no burdens, and went to Congress; and Miss Walton learned to think of his last visit as a most unreal and far-off episode. But the very next week held another surprise. She had been left an annuity by Miss Worthington, so the lawyer's letter said. It was not a large one, but she would not have to be slave of the summer boarders any more.

Before the year ended the poor mother and Hannah had passed to where 'beyond these voices there is peace,' and a new existence began for the patient one who would not buy happiness by deserting her duty.

She takes little journeys now that give her glimpses of the beauty for which her starved nature longed, and she has learned many things. The prayer rug never leaves her, and when she kneels upon it and turns her gentle thoughts to heaven, she repeats not the narrow petitions of her youth, but the words, hallowed by the devotion of ages, that have ever been upon the lips of those who love the old faith. One sentence, however, remains unchanged—'Dear God, help one who is far away.'

And this is how a prayer rug, woven centuries ago by Moslem fingers and worn by the knees of those who held an alien faith, carried to a daughter of the Puritans a lesson in the characters which ran thus: 'Do not try to buy happiness by wrong-doing.'—*Ave Maria.*

The Catholic World.

BRAZIL.—The First Catholic Congress.—The first Catholic Congress of the Republic of Brazil will be held on the 24th to 30th of the present month, and immediately afterwards a great national pilgrimage will start for Rome, landing at Civita Vecchia about the end of June, and proceeding to Rome to render homage to the aged Pontiff. The congress is under the direction of the Brazilian Episcopate, headed by the Primate of Brazil, Archbishop Giralomo, of San Salvador. Other pilgrims of the South American Republics are expected to follow.

CANADA.—Midnight Mass in Dawson City.—In the course of a letter to a friend a young Philadelphian gives an interesting account of his experiences while attending midnight Mass in the church at Dawson City on Christmas morning. Despite the fact that the mercury in the thermometer had dropped to 35 points below zero, the frame church, with a seating capacity of 1000, was crowded to the doors, even standing room being at a premium. The services lasted nearly four hours. Let me tell you how pretty the altar looked. Over it were 22 little night-lamps, arranged in the shape of a diamond, with a picture of the Sacred Heart in the centre. On either side of the altar was a large Christmas tree, and under one of the trees the stable of Bethlehem, showing our Lord in the manger. This was very fine. The choir had been augmented for the occasion, and the accompaniment was by organ and violin.

ENGLAND.—The Feast of the Venerable Bede.—The Roman Decree declaring the Venerable Bede to be a Doctor of the Universal Church (says a Catholic exchange), appoints as his feast May 27th, the anniversary of his death. St. Bede's Day is at present October 29th, but in 1901 and afterwards it will be May 27th. Like that other Northumbrian scholar Aeluin, Bede made Europe his debtor. He had studied every science which survived the ruin of the Roman Empire, and after his death at the Jarrow convent, where he had spent 62 years of his life, his works, especially his *Ecclesiastical History of the Nations of the Angles* were so widely read that the Anglo-Saxons regarded him as the pride of their nation. William of Malmesbury and Simeon of Durham have preserved from the narrative of a fellow-worker of Bede a full account of his last days, which shows in what a saintly way he ended his life. Though suffering severely from asthma he continued to pray, to instruct the younger monks, and to carry on his literary work until death took him away.

FRANCE.—A Great Missionary Society.—Here are some interesting facts gathered from the report of the great French missionary society—*Des Mission Etrangeres*—the headquarters of which are in Paris:—Since its foundation (1663) up to 1899 the society has sent out into the far East 2320 missionary priests—of whom 1925 since 1840. Of these 17 have been 'beatified' by the Holy See, as having been 'put to death in hatred of the Faith by judicial sentence,' whilst the cause of nine others is being actively pursued in Rome. Besides these, some 50 more missionaries of the society have shed their blood for the Faith in various ways. By the middle of last year the total number of missionaries of the society actually at work in the East was 1186 European and 584 native priests under the care of the 31 Bishops of the same society. The average number of baptisms of adults by the fathers has been between 40,000 and 50,000, but in 1898 it rose to no less than 72,700—the record figure. Moreover, the souls of little infants sent to heaven yearly by baptism *in articulo mortis* is from 160,000 to 200,000. Altogether the society has 1,200,000 native Christians in its spiritual care, though, alas! amid a population of 250,000,000 souls.

GERMANY.—German Catholics to Build a Church at Jerusalem.—In next October the foundation-stone of the new Church of Our Lady at Jerusalem will be laid. The ground was

obtained by the German Emperor last year from the Sultan, and handed over to the German Lazarists to build a church on the spot, where it is believed the Blessed Virgin was buried. A sum of £200,000 has been collected already, and a German pilgrimage will visit Jerusalem on the occasion after passing through Rome.

MEXICO.—Catholic Home Life.—Mr. F. R. Guernsey, the Mexican correspondent of the Boston *Herald*, who, though a Protestant, has paid many a notable tribute to the Catholic priests and people of the southern republic, has this to say of the Mexican woman in his latest letter: 'She is religious, most devout, and the ancient church is her refuge in all the trials of life. In her piety there is no calculation of advantages to be gained by faithfulness to church duties. Her heart is in her religion and you will never change her creed. A great home with helpful saints, a house of light and warmth and splendor, and the sisterly love, abounding and unending, of the Virgin, that is the Catholic Church to the Mexican woman. Her nature is warm, her ideals nobly ardent, her nature rich and infinitely delicate. The negation of Protestantism, its bareness, cannot attract her. She belongs to the ancient church of her race, where it is all like a great family, a host of helpers, a cloud of witnesses, and the priest the representative of the Most High. The polygamist religions are to her things accursed. She jealously wants to be supreme in her husband's heart.'

ROME.—Arrival of Pilgrims.—A Rome correspondent writing about the beginning of March says:—From the numbers already arrived it is estimated in Rome that more than half a million of jubilee pilgrims will visit the city before Easter Day. The total during the year of those desiring to avail themselves of the indulgencies of the holy year will, it is expected, reach several millions.

SCOTLAND.—The Franciscan Nuns in Glasgow.—The Catholic ladies of Glasgow have issued an appeal on behalf of the Franciscan nuns, who have now for 50 years labored in the cause of religion in Scotland. The work of the Sisters has principally been the training of the Catholic womanhood of Scotland—a work of the greatest importance in any missionary country—and the good they have thus effected for Catholicity is immeasurable. Their work has been carried on by means of the convent schools, the mission schools, the orphanage and industrial schools, added to which the nuns have generously made it part of their life work to visit the poor and the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to comfort also the inmates of the workhouses by their kindly presence. These manifold labors have been carried on under the trials and sorrows always inseparable from missionary work, and have exacted from the Sisters unlimited sacrifices. Now, at the end of 50 years, the Sisters find their work retarded and themselves burdened with a very heavy debt, contracted by the compulsory purchase of new schools in which to carry on the great work of Christian education. Their grateful pupils of former years have formed themselves into a society known as the Franciscan Association for the purpose of helping the Sisterhood in their pressing need.

UNITED STATES.—An Ex-Consul to be Ordained Priest.—Word has been received in New Haven, Connecticut, that Mr. Edward Downes, former United States Consul at Amsterdam, Holland, will be ordained to the priesthood at Rome on June 10. Mr. Downes will then return to Connecticut and report to Bishop Tierney, at Hartford. Mr. Downes, who is a brother of the secretary of Mayor Van Wyck, of New York, was a prominent politician of New Haven prior to his appointment to Amsterdam by President Cleveland. He is 38 years of age.

A Statue of St. Patrick for New York Cathedral.—The largest white marble statue of St. Patrick in the world has been ordered by Archbishop Corrigan for the high altar of the New York Cathedral. It will be twelve feet high and carved from an immense block from the quarry from which the marble for the high altar of St. Peter's, Rome, was taken. The statue will be a year in process. The vestments will be copied from an ancient Irish illuminated missal of the period of the Book of Kells.

Death of a Prominent Priest.—Father William D. Kelly, a well-known Catholic writer, whose articles found a place in many of the leading Catholic newspapers of the United States, passed away recently at Dorchester, Massachusetts. Father Kelly might be said to be the ecclesiastical biographer of the press in America. He had probably in his possession material for the biographies of all the leading churchmen in America. On the occasion of the jubilee or the anniversaries of prelates a sketch of these ecclesiastics of the Church from the pen of Father Kelly was always sure to appear in one of the American Catholic weeklies.

The Study of Gaelic at the Catholic University.—The Catholic University lately received from the estate of Miss Moran, of Baltimore, the sum of £2000, left by her will for the encouragement of the study of Gaelic.

The Late Archbishop Hennessy's Will.—A Dubuque message states that Archbishop's Hennessy's will, just filed, bequeaths all the church property to his successor, gives 50,000 dollars to a fund for the erection of a theological seminary there, insuring its completion. The will directs that all buildings of the Sisters of Visitation on which he held encumbrances be given them free of debt; gives his sister and brother the home in which they live and an annuity; makes bequests of £200 to £500 to each of various societies and persons, and the remainder of the estate is divided equally between the Sisters of the Holy Ghost, the University at Washington and Dubuque Seminary. His fortune is said to aggregate about £200,000, more than one-half of which goes to the three institutions named. The trustees of the Church property are Archbishops Ryan, of Philadelphia, and Feenan, of Chicago, and Mgr. Ryan and Father Johannes, of Dubuque. The deceased Archbishop inherited the greater part of this property recently from a deceased brother.