

all, and the united family enjoyed a very happy Christmas night.

It was late when Harry Lingard, feeling like a spirit ejected from paradise, rose to leave for his lonely home. To add to the irony of it all, everybody followed him into the hall and stood watching him, as he imagined, whilst he put on his overshoes and overcoat. At last he was ready. Raising his eyes to exchange a parting glance with Bessie, he was disappointed to find she had disappeared. Crestfallen and hardly daring to lift his eyes again for fear his friends should read his anguish, with his heart lying in his breast like a lump of lead, he suddenly became conscious that a trembling hand was resting on his bent arm. He turned to find his wife standing bonneted and cloaked by his side, and he knew what it meant.

After that Harry had but a dim recollection of four happy faces beaming warmly upon him, of a soft clinging burden on his arm, and a warm, fragrant presence coiling around his heart, setting it all aglow, until he awoke to full consciousness in the closed sleigh and he found his wife sobbing in his arms. The novelty of the situation was so startling that he had much ado to persuade himself that he was not carrying her away against her will, and felt intensely relieved when Bessie, with a final sob, said:

'Won't Jack be glad to have me home again?'

And Jack was glad. He went wild and so monopolised his mistress's society that Harry had to restrain a mad impulse to kick him out of the room.

'But you were cruel to-night, Harry!' said Bessie, with her head on her husband's shoulder.

'How was that?' asked Harry, a little startled.

'You should not have pelted me as soon as you did with the virtues of another man's wife. I can't be like Anne, because I have not the chance. Herbert seems to cling to his wife for help and support, whilst you seem all-sufficient for yourself. There is such a difference in men.'

Harry wondered that he had never before discovered what a clever, philosophic woman he had married. — Canadian Magazine.

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Catholic World

CANADA.—Religious Statistics.

The published figures of the recent decennial census in Canada show the Catholic population to be 2,228,997, which is nearly half the total population of the Dominion, and more than twice the number of any of the Protestant sects.

INDIA.—Catholics in Bombay.

The Census Commissioner of Bombay, Mr. S. M. Edwards, has issued three volumes as the result of his census work in that province. It shows that in a population of 776,000, there are 45,176 Christians and of these 32,011 are Catholics.

CHINA.—A Ruined Mission.

The Vicar Apostolic of S.W. Cheli, in China, writes that 5000 of his people are missing on his return. Of 10 colleges, there are only two. He has learned that many of the young girls who were studying in the novitiate schools of the teaching Sisters, and who had escaped to their own families, courageously laid down their lives for their faith and innocence. Three orphanages, with 92 orphan girls, have been spared out of eight. Most of the children of the other five have perished one way or another. Out of the 429 village schools, about 10 remained when the tempest of persecution had passed away. Forty-nine schools, however, have been opened since, with 950 scholars, instead of the 4750 who frequented the schools previously. Eight churches and 10 chapels are standing, out of 674. About 40 oratories were constructed by the Christians themselves who remained after the Boxer slaughter.

A Distinction.

Monsignor Favier has received a button of the highest grade, and buttons of a minor grade have been conferred on two French Bishops and on the Rev. W. E. Norris, an English missionary, on the recommendation of Yuan Shihkai, for services rendered in settling the claims of the Christians in China.

ENGLAND.

The public were offered an opportunity on Easter Monday of inspecting the new Catholic Cathedral at Westminster, and a large holiday crowd availed themselves of the privilege to the full. After having been in the builders' hands for close upon seven years, the finishing touches are now being given the lofty campanile. Ornamental stone eagle figures are being set in the brickwork, and when these are fitted the only remaining item to supply will be the great cross which is to dominate the whole structure. Meanwhile the ornamentation of the interior is being hastened forward, special efforts being concentrated on the embellishment of what is known as 'Lord Brampton's Chapel.' This is being lined with costly marbles, and will be the first part of the Cathedral opened

for public service. It is hoped that this will take place in June. The Cathedral, as a whole, will, however, not be ready for opening for many months afterwards.

Obituary.

Mr. John Vincent Hornyold, J.P., one of the leading Catholic laymen of Worcestershire, died on April 1 at Blackmore Park, near Malvern, aged 84. Deceased was the 13th Marquis Gandolfi of Genoa, and was created Knight Grand Cross of the Noble Order of Christ by Pope Gregory in 1840.

Charitable Bequests.

Mr. Thomas Joseph Eyre, of Upper Court, County Kilkenny, of Thorpe Lee, Elgham, and of 16, Hill street, Mayfair, who died on January 18, aged 80 years, left personal estate of the net value of £165,186 15s 5d, the gross value of the whole of his estate being £208,594 4s 5d. By his will Mr. Eyre bequeathed £1000 to the Superior of Beaumont College, Old Windsor; £1000 to the Bishop for the time being of Clifton, to be paid in 21 years, or whenever the College of St. Peter and St. Paul in Priorypark shall have again come under the special control of the said diocese, and the legacy is to be for the purpose of the said College of St. Peter and St. Paul. He bequeathed £500 to the Education and Rescue Society of the diocese of Southwark; £500 to St. Joseph's Library attached to the Catholic church in Farm street, Mayfair; £500 to the Superior of the said church in Farm street; £250 to the Providence-row Night Refuge and Home; £250 to the Benevolent Society for the relief of the aged and infirm Poor; £250 to the St. Vincent's Home for Destitute Children in Harrow-road; £250 to the poor school attached to the mission in Warwick-street, £250 to the Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the district comprising the Warwick-street mission; £250 to the Catholic Poor School Committee £250 to the Aged Poor Society; £200 to the Society for Visiting Hospitals to be employed in the district of the Warwick-street Mission; £150 to the St. John's Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Boston Spa, Yorkshire; £150 to the Nursing Sisters of the Assumption in St. James-square, Notting-hill; £150 to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Portobello-road, Notting-hill; £100 to the Orphanage of the Faithful Virgin, Central-hill Upper Norwood; £100 to St. Mary's Poor Schools connected with the Horseferry-road Mission; £100 to the Nursing Servants of the Sacred Heart at Homerton; and £100 to St. Mary's Orphanage at Blackheath. Subject to provision for his widow and various legacies and annuities, Mr. Eyre has left his residuary personal estate in trust for such purposes as he by any codicil should appoint, and in default of such appointment, which does not appear to have been made, then as to two-thirds to the treasurer of the Molyneux Trust in

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