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The organ of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Scheutrein Fathers in the Mountain Province of the Philippines.

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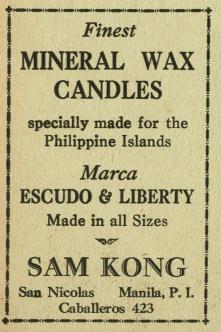
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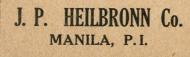
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VOL. V, No. 1

JUNE, 1928



The Biggest Thing in the World!

HAT the biggest thing in the whole world is?...An act of love for God.

Come along, big boss! You think you are great and doing marvels, because you are at the head of a big organization and men move under your direction like wheels under pressure of steam or the weight of a clock. You are doing a thing only human and perhaps even unhuman. But that man who, under your dictates or heels, gives the strength of his body and the perspiration of his blood that fatten your corpulence and gives this smilingly because he has a divine mission to fulfill. be it to nourish his family or to earn his own daily bread, that man, that laborer, who acts without murmuring against the fate and daily cross of his life, but with the satisfaction of following Christ in His steps, that man is grand, he is doing a great thing, the biggest in the world: he loves God; his action, which is divine, makes this evident and his merit is not weighed in silver and gold, but in the love of an infinite God.

And you, heartless human being-I should call you by another name, for you do not deserve even this-who finds pleasure in piercing the hearts of your neighbors and turning your knife in their bleeding wounds, because you despise and persecute them. or perhaps simply refuse them the consolation they have a right to. your work is mean and devilish: but the helpless victim you are crushing between the anvil of vour power and the hammer of your stupidity, may be called another Christ, if, at your merciless strokes, he finds the courage--no, the love for the Savior-to murmur in silence: "My Lord, Thy will be done". These simple words addressed to God are the praver of Christ Himself in Gethsemani: they are the expression of an allembracing christian love for God: such an act of christian submission to Gqd's will is the biggest thing in the whole world.

If you think you are a big man because you are rich, you are quite mistaken: greatness is counted in pesos and dollars by men made of dust, but before the Eternal and dnly Great, money is only like slime of the brok and mud of the fields; that poor beggar in rags, bending under the double burden of weakness and poverty, is a far bigger man than vou, if, in remembrance of the poor Nazarene who lived on alms and was always teaching us real greatness, he but whispers in his suffocating hut that he is glad to look like Christ. That poverello may kiss his crucifix: it is not the betraving signal of a Judas, but the motherly caress of Mary; that little man is great and he is one of the richest beings in the whole world.

Did you see that other man. who des ended from the high pedestal of his dignity and honor to whisper a single word of encouragement to a laborer who slaves and toils but is downhearted for a mistake or a failure, or perhaps only for a misunderstanding? Did you see that smile smooth the rough face of that peasant now comforted by that word? Did you observe his renewed efforts to continue his arduous struggle for life? The first, his superior, only has repeated the word of the Messias: "Have confidence in our heavenly Father" and the downstricken has felt a thrilling in his bosom, an inspiration, a renewal of strength, a readiness to undertake even greater hardships: he feels the heart of the Omnipotent and infinitely Merciful embracing him through the heart of his superior: the latter was a great man and he made a great man out of the crushed inferior. Was his action not divine? And could not everybody do such? Why should one profit of his supposed greatness to smash and to kill?

If the world despises fretters and pouters, his hatred should rightly go to, alas, so many who mistreat the dignity of man, which is his initiative to foster good, but they are narrowmindedly jealous or stupidly ignorant as if good done by others took their own away. Alas, such unhuman cravings to hinder another man's initiative and good, such perfect vacuums of brains otherwise thought large and big, have spoiled many heavenly projects, but not without sometimes producing even more heavenly consequence. If a man, the object of such hellish pestering, is a true christian and, then, remembers how the Lord Himself was treated in no other way by his real executioners: the jealous Pharisees and the ignorant Scribes, and further, like Christ, keeps silence to refer his moral crushing to the God of Calvary, then, oh then, something godly is done thanks to that most devilish human aberration: a perfect act of love for God goes to Heaven and there is some more joy in Paradise, and that greater joy is something infinitely greater than all what brains conceive outside of God and all what human power can produce for only earthly purposes.

Do you know poor Emma?.... No?....She is scarcely known in her poor village....Now, that old, poor,little woman is before the eyes of God one of the world's greatest personages. Did you know that? —"Why? What did she do?"

-"What she does?....Oh, not

much—in the eyes of the world and everybody could do as much and the same; but not everybody does do it. What she does? Listen!"

This morning when she wokeup, she has said "my God, I offer Thee my whole day, good or bad".

When she has begun her daily toiling in the half dark of the early morning, she has heard somebody cursing and she has said: "My God, I love Thee a thousand times more than this miserable despises Thee". And when on her way she met a poor beggar, she has given him an alms, not much, because she is very poor, and she has said:"My God, it is to Thee that I give this."

And when she was asked for help for the missions, she has given another alms, while her heart murmured: "I am not rich, but I can help to save a soul." Somebody asked her a service; she rendered it with an inner whisper.

"Oh, it costs me much, but it is for the good Lord!"

One day she has been calumniated. Poor, little woman. She has taken her crucifix and said: "My God....like Thee....Thanks."

And at night she slept in, softly beating her breast and saying: "My God, I have not loved Thee today; tomorrow I will love you more."

Emma has done but that, but she has done that for years.

That is not much before the eyes of the world, but before the all sighting eye of the Eternal: "that's all".

And that is the reason why I tell you that Emma is one of the greatest personages of this world.

Now you, authors, orators, politicians, artists, bankers, big heads of big organizations, who fill the world with the fame of your names....you are running for human glory and fortunes..... "smoke all that!" Within a few years, you will be in your graves, you will be dead, and after that?... Nothing....No, I am mistaken.... the tears you made others shed, and even those of others you could but did not dry, will accuse you and the good you prevented may be your condemnation.

Within a few years Emma too will die, but who will observe that disappearance? And yet, I tell you, that poor, little woman has accomplished a greater work than you....You have shaken the world? She has done more; she has moved God's heart. And when your works, like those of Emma, will be placed in the balance of God's justice, what a difference for you?

The world has his own balances and measures, but God, too, has His own and they are just. .

You who read these lines, imitate Emma, that poor, little woman, quite unknown.

"The greatest thing in the whole world is an act of love of God."

SAVONAROLA.

S. O. S.

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Onwards for the King of kings! May Little Flower bestow upon you her choicest blessings.

> Your very grateful "LITTLE APOSTLE"

St. Aloysius Gonzaga

June 21, 1928

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St. Alovsius the eldest son of Ferdinand Gonzaga, Marquis of Castiglione, was born on the 9th of March, 1568. The first words he pronounced were the names of Jesus and Mary. When he was nine years of age he made a vow of perpetual virginity, and by a special grace was ever exempted from temptations against purity. He received his first Communion at the hands of St. Charles Borromeo. At an early age he resolved to leave the world and in a vision was directed by our Blessed Lady to join the Society of Jesus. The Saint's mother rejoiced on learning his determination to become a religious, but his father for three years refused his consent. At length St. Aloysius obtained permission to enter the novitiate on the 25th of November. 1585. He took his vows after two years, and went through the ordinary course of philosophy and theology. He was wont to say he doubted whether without penance grace would continue to make head against nature, which, when not afflicted and chastised, tends gradually to relapse into its old state, losing the habit of suffering acquired by the labor of

years. "I am a crooked piece of iron," he said, and am come into religion to be made straight by the hammer of mortification and penance." During his last year of theology a malignant fever broke out in Rome: the Saint offered himself for the service of thesick. and he was accepted for the dangerous duty. Several of the brothers caught the fever, and Alovsius was of the number. He was brought to the point of death, but recovered, only to fall, however, into slow fever, which carried him off after three months. He died, repeating the Holy Name, a little after midnight between the 20th and 21st of June, on the octave-day of Corpus Christi, being rather more than twentythree years of age.

Reflection. Cardinal Bellarmini, the Saint's confessor, testified that he had never mortally offended God. Yet he chastised his body rigorously, rose at night to pray, and shed many tears for his sins.

Pray that, not having followed his innocence, you may yet imitate his penance and thus join him some day in heaven. 6

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Sto Silo color So Speak the Wise.... cie Sie Sto and the Young Heed the Lesson! cope - afor cofes color color afor Sto solo Se 371. An ass that kicketh against the wall reseles sto 2010 cho cho cho Sel ceiveth the blow himself. alo alo 372. Change of weather is the discourse of fools. apo Sto 373. Better to slip with the foot than with the sto afer tongue. sto ala sto afe 374. Three removals are as bad as a fire. ala sto 375. He that is needy when he is married shall sto Selo spo afor afor be rich when he is buried. seles 376. Choose thy company before thy drink. afe afor afo sto. 377. I talk of chalk, and you of cheese. alo alo apo 378. Nothing turns sourer than milk. apo ala ala colos 379. A castle that speaketh and a woman that color will hear, they will be gotten both. colos sto afor 380. The thief is sorry that he is to be hanged, Solo Sto color not that he is a thief. colos Sel ato ato ato Sela 381. He gives pap with hatchel. afor afor 382. The child hath a red tongue like his father. Sto ofe 383. A barleycorn is better than a diamond to ala ala sto a cook. Sto 2010 1010 1010 1010 384. The calmest husbands make the stormiest afo wives. ala ala a colos 385. A blind man would be glad to see it.

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The Cervantes Mission Lepanto, Mountain Province By Rev. Father J. Portelange, Cervantes

Continuation.

II. The Town of Cervantes and the Savage Malaya Igorrotes

-"Our town has been erected to command, and not to be dominated by others!"

Such was the thesis developed by a local politician, advocating the return of Cervantes to the honor of being the provincial capital, and he added:

-"Wasn't our town of Cervantes built to be the capital of Lepanto? Hasn't it been the headquarters of the Filipino Republic, when its illustrious President, with his whole staff, remained with us for several days? Couldn't it have been called a "Little Rome" when hundreds of priests, representing the most renowned Orders of Christianity, lived in our town for several months!"

Of course, these words are to be taken with a grain of salt, for an orator, before a public meeting, is not always an historian, but they will guide us through some historical facts that occurred in Cervantes.

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Who of you has ever heard of "el commandante Rayo", the "lightning Commander", "Commandante Sal-it", as the igorrotes used to call him? He was the famous Don Louis Sareta y Figueroa, the last provincial commander who resided at Kayan, in 1879. He was an energetic man, always on horseback, going from one place to another to make inspections, and always with the rapidity of lightning; hence his nickname of "Sal-it", or "Lightning".

Don Louis wanted the capital of Lepanto to be at a more central place than Kayan, somewhere



The Church of Cervantes built by Rev. F. Angel O.S.A. and finished in 1892.

at the crossing point of the different roads, from where he would be more able to command easily the ways of communication and to go to points he wished to visit. For this reason he founded Cervantes and made it the capital of the Lepanto province.

In 1884 he began opening wide streets through the hilly plateau and erected the necessary buildings for a central government; thus, after all, our orator was right in saying that his town had been built to command and to be the capital of Lepanto.

Speaking of the many and rapid inspections made by Don Louis, the Lightning Commander, we must not forget that the valiant Spaniards used to make regular inspection trips through the Mountain Province and the whole Northern Luzon.

The Governor General, Don Fernando Primero de Rivera, in 1881, traveled for more than twenty days on horseback, covering the territory of the whole Northern Luzon.

Our igorrotes still remember the famous voyage of General Weyler, in 1890, when he was Governor General of the Philippines. From Candon he rode to Bontok in two days; passing through Tadian he was kicked down by a vicious horse and picked up unconscious on the trail; nevertheless, after a while he continued his way to Bontok, which he left the next day at 1 P. M. for Cervantes where he arrived at 10 P. M., escorted by a group of igorrotes bearing torches. The next morning, at 10 A. M. he started from Cervantes and reached Candon the same night, but so tired that, once dismounted, he had to be carried upstairs to enter the convent of Candon.

But these stories would bring us too far from our subject. Let us return to it.

Rev. Father Angel Perez, Augustinian, who had succeeded Father Redondo in Kayan, came with the Spanish garrison to Cervantes. Immediately he began to build a provisional chapel and later started the erection of the church, still preserved. Made of stone and brick, it is 43 meters long and 16 meters wide. The work on it lasted four years, for innumerable difficulties had to be overcome. For instance, the lime used in the building was to be brought from a distance of 22 Kilometers. Nevertheless the church was completed in 1892, a lasting monument of the zeal of the Spanish friars for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

The building of such a big church that Cervantes was expected to become a center of importance. No doubt it was so under the Spanish domination, and, if this had continued some time longer, Cervantes would have developed greatly. Today it numbers some 2,000 Christians and an equal number of infidels.

The inhabitants of Cervantes still remember the festivities of the inauguration of their church in 1892. They say that many people came from the lowlands to take part in the celebration, and, as there is no true feast without the traditional "Moro-moro play" and a "zarsuela", some actors from Candon and Bucay, Abra, had been invited. But that same evening of the festivities for the inauguration of the church, something very strange happened in the town. The representations were interrupted and the next day two thirds of the inhabitants were suffering of an acute fever. The actors fled in terror, but two of them never reached their homes: they died on the road. Only after two weeks did the town return to its normal state of health.

No wonder that the people of Cervantes still remember the event of the inauguration of their church and that it left a sad impression.

June 12th of 1899, this same church was filled with a band of prisoners who had arrived from the lowlands, escorted by a guard of revolutionaries. Of these prisoners one hundred and forty were priests taken from every province of Luzon. The people of Cervantes will never forget the pitiful sight these priests offered while entering the town after





Crossing the river between Cervantes and Cayan.

weeks and months of tiresome traveling. Many of them were old and they presented a most miserable appearance. Their cloths were soiled and in rags; some of the priests were barefooted and some had to be carried by their younger and stronger companions; many of the inhabitants of Cervantes wept bitter tears at the sight of such misery.

At the beginning, the people of the town were forbidden to help the poor prisoners. It was something heartrending to see the priests lining up in the street, twice a day, waiting for the call of "Rancho" of their guardians. They were then furnished with rice and meat, but had, themselves, to go and fetch water, and cut firewood for their cooking which they themselves had to perform. However, after a few days, the good people of Cervantes managed to help the reverend prisoners and during six months, from June to December, they were relatively taken care of by the inhabitants. Two of the Fathers, one a Dominican and the other a Franciscan, passed away and their bodies were removed to Manila for burial.

It must have been a strange sight to see so many priests prisoners in the streets of Cervantes; this was the reason why our orator called Cervantes a "Little Rome". How did they escape?

November 28th, 1899, the news reached Cervantes that the President of the Philippine Republic was on the way to t'e town, flying before a regiment of American cavalry under Commander March and hard pressed by his enemies. The notice filled the ears of the prisoners with fear and sorrow.

Already before he arrived in Cervantes and while still in Angaki, President Aguinaldo had sent orders that all the prisoners should leave immediately for Bontok, where he intended to rejoin them, if circumstances forced him to fly farther.

November 30th, at noon, he arrived in Cervantes accompanied by his wife and her sister, and also by his entire staff, including General Gregorio del Pilar, and General Concepcion, etc.

December 1st, the enemy continuing to advance in pursuit, General Gregorio del Pilar decided to go back and make a stand on top of the Tila Pass. He was killed on the spot, a true hero, sacrificing his life to give Aguinaldo time to rest and make his escape.

It was on December 2 at 6 P.M. that the sad news of the death of General del Pilar, shot through the head, was received at Cervantes and it was also reported by the messenger that the pursuing enemy was advancing very rapidly. That same evening, President Aguinaldo left for Bontok via Kayan, where he passed the rest of the night of December 2.

So there was some exaggeration in the statement of our orator when he said that Cervantes had been the scene of the siege of the Republican Government.

What had become of the prisoners?

They left Cervantes under a small escort, when it was heard that the American forces were drawing nearer and nearer. There being two roads to Bontok, one via Kayan and Bagnen, and another via Sabañgan, much longer than the first, the prisoners, knowing that the revolutionaries were now hard pressed by the cavalry of the enemy, preferred to take the road to Bontok via Sabañgan and once on the road. they found all possible pretexts to delay their march and to win time.

General Aguinaldo had taken the shortest road, the Americans entering Cervantes a few hours after he left the town. The priests' strategy along the road brought them so near the Americans, that their escort left them behind at Sabañgan for the sake of safety, at which the prisoners, now free, started back for Cervantes. More of these historical events could be told, but I fear I might abuse of the space of the Little Apostle's columns.

The population of Cervantes

at present is about 4,000 people, The Center is almost entirely inhabited by Christians and some more live in the barrios. The town does not differ much from the villages of the lowlands and, if it does, it is to its advantage.

The Igorrotes or infidels are scattered over the many hills and mountains around that range that is generally called the Malaya Range.

Malaya is the name given to a chain of mountains situated to the west of Cervantes, running from South to North between the plateau of Cervantes and the plains of the Ilokano provinces. The principal mountains of the range are Data, 2,000 meters high, in the South: before the town is mount Malava, of 1.800 meters altitude, and in the North is the Tila peak over which runs the road to Candon and measuring 1.355 meters. The name of Malava is also given to seven barrios of Igorrotes, situated on the tops of seven hills, whose altitudes vary between 800 and 1,800 meters, and separated from each other by deep ravines, the beds of impetuous torrents during the rainy season. Practically, there are no roads that lead to those seven barrios and thus the inhabitants are living beyond the reach of civilization. They are cultivating potatoes and vegetables which they sell to the Christians, they also cut some timber used for the construction of houses.

Until recently they have always shown little or no taste for civilization and the Faith. They use to come to town without any clothes but the traditional breechcloth, made of the bark of a tree, with their long hair in disorder and their bodies dirty as dirty can be.

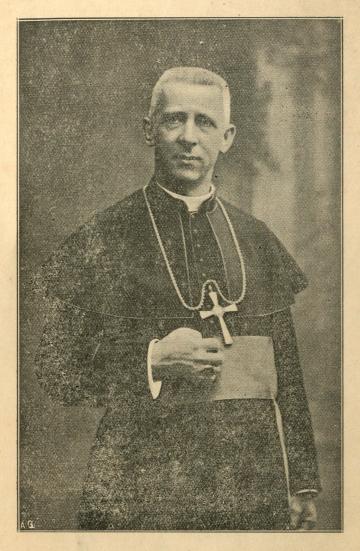
Not long ago however, many of them came and asked for a catechist to teach them the elements of reading and writing and the prayers. Is there any hope for their conversion?

One of the greatest difficulties to bring them to the Church is their wide dispersion over so many unaccessible hills and another one is the absolute lack of ε ny commodity in their midst.

However, I hope that with the help of a good catechist and the building of a chapel somewhere in the most central place of the seven hills, the grace of God will reach the hearts of a good many, but not after some long and often repeated instructions.

To be continued.

Mission News & Notes



The Rt. Rev. Constant Jurgens, Bishop of Tuguegarao.

Holland.

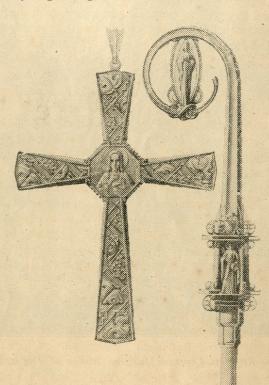
Msgr. Jurgens was consecrated in Nymegen on Sunday

March 18 by Msgr. Arn. Diepen, assisted by Msgrs. Hopmans and De Boeck, the latter bishop of New Antwerp, Congo, and of the



Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. A great concourse of clergy and people attended the impressive ceremony. Later, Msgr. Jurgens deposited a crown of flowers at the foot of the statue of Msgr. Hamer who died a martyr in China during the boxer insurrection. Msgr. Jurgens will leave Holland for his diocese of Tuguegarao next August or September.

Coat-of-arms of Msgr. Jurgens.



Pectoral Cross and Episcopal staff of Msgr. Jurgens.

From the Mission.

The Rev. Father De Brouwer. former superior of the Bontok mission, and now on his way to Nymegen, Holland, to become rector of the seminary of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, once more expresses his most sincere thanks to the Rev. Maryknoll Sisters of St. Paul's hospital for their kind attentions and charitable care with which they treated him during his six weeks' stay in their hospital, after a double operation which, during a certain time, brought him into serious danger of passing away.

Cervantes.

Long live the Barrio of St. Therese! The people are learning fast and a good number of boys and girls, all schoolchildren, attend Mass every Sunday, walking a distance of five kilometers to come to Cervantes. But, as if the blessing of the conversion of St. Therese barrio had set a good example, another mass conversion of another barrio has taken place.

On top of the high cliff dominating St. Therese's barrio lies another hamlet by the name of "Pilipit", counting more than four hundred Igorrote inhabitants. Recently, forty men of Pilipit started to build a road downward connecting it with an existing trail. When the hard

work was finished they came in group to let me know that they too desired to be baptized and become Christians: wherefore they asked me to send them a catechist to teach them the required doctrine and give them the necessary instructions. I can not describe the joy that filled my heart: so I accompanied the delegation to Pilipit and, once there, we selected the best place for schoolchapel. Just imagine: more than 100 children will be baptized as soon as the building is finished, but then.... yes, here begins the but... I have no catechist to send to Pilipit, or rather I can easily find the right man for the right place, but well, you all understand me. Shall that wonderful movement of a whole barrio asking to become Christians be stopped at its very beginning? Is there not a family or a group of Catholics that is willing to afford the monthly salary for that Catechist and the salvation of hundreds? Aluling became St. Therese's barrio thanks to a group of Catholics from Iloilo! Who will adopt Pilipit's catechist? And what a name shall be given to this new center? You who have a heart for the conversion of this whole village, SPEAK and HELP!

Apayao.

How Father Van Overbergh was killed but did not die and is again quite alive and busy.

The mission of Apayao lies on top of a hill, which is a rather dangerous place during thunderstorms. One afternoon at the end of April. Brothers Henry and Gerard together with their helpers were busy working at the new church, Father Van Overbergh is building. A few clouds were gathering above their heads but there seemed no danger to be imminent. The Father was taking ing a walk near the tower, when all of a sudden lightning struck the steeple and played havoc among the bystanders. Father Van Overbergh was seen to fall. Pio, one of the laborers, a Bontok boy, fell through the window at which he was standing. Four or five more men were thrown upon the ground. At the first moment not a single one of them all could move. The people shouted wildly, crying that the Father was killed and the others were dead. Thanks to God. Father Van Overbergh, after a few moments, could stand up and

draw himself towards the brothers, though his limbs were near ly paralyzed. The others, too, were only unconcious and somewhat paralyzed, but, alas, Pio had been killed.

Father Van Overbergh says he did not hear the thunder and did not see the lightning. For a few days he could hardly walk, but is now completely restored. No much damage was caused to the building.

The Father has ordered a lightning rod, though he has no means to pay for it. He says: Somebody, some charitable soul will provide us with the means to pay, but in conscience I could not do without the rod; it would mean to expose the lives of my people who come to church, seeing that the church stands on the highest point of the hill and that during a great part of the year we are visited daily by thunderstorms.

Until now the charitable soul has not been found. Do you know of any?

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Japan.

Sister Antonia, a French missionary nun, has recently been given a permanent pass on the Japanese railways in recognition of her social work. Prior to this award, a private company functioning under government control, contributed 600 yens annually toward her transportation expenses. She has for more than forty years devoted her unusual talent for organization to the educational improvement of poor children and young girls. COUNTRY AND PEOPLE

The Songs of a People

Igorrote Customs in East Benguet by Rev. Father Claerhoudt Missionary, Bokod, Benguet Copyrighted Lic. 343

Continuation

XIV

Si-gup, Dosaad

OR A very long time Silang suffered of a sore throat, coughed day and night and was visibly wasting away. It would not heal. During the day, it was less vexing, it was passable; but, at night, it was just unbearable. It was awful Silang could not sleep, he could not shut an eye. It was enough that the fire in the hearth sent forth a little smoke, to make him feel a prickly itching in his dry throat and to make him cough from the very bottom of his lungs as if his breast would burst Yes, it was a long time that Silang painfully suffered. He felt no liking at all for work. His pipe did not please him any longer; he was often seen on the "atol", in front of

his house absentmindedly gazing at nothing, but bitterly grieving in his heart, and he was chewing "boa" and "dawed" leaves, oftentimes speaking to himself, saying: "I think I'll die very soon."

One day, Malenes, who now and then acted as mambunung, was sitting near Silang. They were chatting and it was then that Silang exposed to him all the pain he felt and how long it had been lasting.

—"Give me some ginger and a little salt" Malenes said, "I will rub your body with them and tell you the story of "Sigop" to make you better."

Malenes took the ginger, crushed and mixed it with a handful of "Listen Silang" Malenes said:

"A very long time ago, there were two brothers; they traveled all around, through the villages, selling ginger and salt.

One day, they were traveling and they met "Akodow"—Akodow is living at a place where there is no water—and, hearing that the brothers were selling ginger and salt, asked for a handful of their merchandise, but the brothers did not pay any attention to the request of Akodow and started to go farther.

—"Give us money" the brothers said, "and we will give you ginger and salt."

Akodow became angry and ran away shouting to the brothers: 'man-ok-ok-kajo'—You will get a cough.'

And indeed, a short while after, the two brothers began to cough most terribly.....and, as soon as they arrived home, they boiled tapoei and slaughtered pigs and celebrated all kinds of kaniaws, but all to no avail.

But Kabigat, who was hovering in the sky, had pity on them and Kabigat descended towards the earth.

—"Go back to Akodow" Kabigat said to the two brothers, "and ask pardon".

At which the two brothers went to the country of Akodow and they asked pardon.

"Good!" Akodow said, "butnow

bring me a chicken!"

And the two brothers brought a chicken to Akodow, and Akodow prayed over it and exorcised it and gave the two brothers the power to cure the cough of their neighbours after they reached home.

And Akodow gave them advice: "Whenever you want to cure a cough of those who are affected by it, tell them to kill a chicken and to invoke my name when they pray".

And the two brothers felt they were cured of their sickness, and when they reached home, they taught their neighbours the way to get rid of their coughs."

Such was the story of the "Sigop", the powerful story of the Sigop; and Silang felt the ginger and the salt glowing all through his body; he tightened his blanket once more around his carcass and, for a long time, he remained chatting with Malenes on the atol, in front of his hut....

"Mandosaad si Kaisep" Kapit said to Sakbut, "I will go and see him".

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—"Ngaranioi sakitto? What's wrong with Kaisep?" Sakbut asked.

—"Tagwi!....I do not know. Why don't you come with me?..."

And the two men started for "Abwat" where Kaisep was living, and, when they arrived, they found that some people were already gathered around the hut. The mambunung was sitting in the house near Kaisep and had just begun his exorcisms.

"Listen to what I will tell you", the mambunung said to Kaisep, "Kabunian gave us a medicine to remove any sickness that affects the breast. It was a long time ago, so told us our ancestors, and there was a day that Kabigat, who dwells on earth, set out from the mountains and went down to the lowlands to do some commerce with the people of the valleys.

Kabigat went to the lowlands and together with him went his sons. And when they had arrived in the lowlands, they started their business and bought pigs.

Then they came back to the mountains and, on their way home, they passed the night on the road.

So, one night they slept under a large "Bwaletée" tree.

Kabigat, who dwells in the sky, saw that Kabigat who dwells on earth, was sleeping under the Bwaletée.

When at dawn Kabigat, who dwells on earth, awoke, he felt a grieving pain in his breast, and his sons cried, for they said within themselves: He is dying".

Kabigat, who dwells in the sky, saw their bitter tears and he pitied them. So, he came down and spoke to them, saying:

—"Ngaranto inpasing nitan? What's the matter?"

-"'Ay, my breast!" Kabigat,

who dwells on earth, answered. "anaiensakit i pagowko, my breast is aching."

- "Slaughter a pig" Kabigat, who dwells in the sky, answered; pray the exorcisn of the "Dosed" and the pain will disappear".

And the sons of Kabigat, who dwells on earth, killed a pig and cooked it, after which Kabigat, who dwells on earth, felt a relief, the pain had disappeared and again he was as well as ever."

When he had finished this tale, the mambunung shouted:

-"Kill the pig!"

The small pig, that was lying in front of the hut and had been moaning and groaning all this time, felt a wooden prick pierce its heart; it howled with all its might, breathed heavily, jerked its feet, yelled pitifully because of the cutting pain and the bleeding wound, and moaned itself to death.

The liver and a piece of fat were cut out, placed on top of a small wooden prick, held above the fire until they were roasted and then were passed to the mambunung who deposed the whole on top of the breast of the slaughtered pig.

Then, he took the hatchet, entered the hut and placed the hatchet upon the aching breast of Kaisep.

—"Come here" so prayed the mambunung.

"Come here, you, mambunung of the past.

"Come and pray the prayer of the Dosaad.

"When you say that prayer, the illness will soon disappear."

At which the others brought the roasted piece of liver and the morsel of dripping fat to Kaisep and Kaisep ate them both.

The Dosaad was finished and all those present sat down on their heels and partook of the banquet soon prepared.

Kaisep would soon be cured, he most firmly believed it. because Kabigat, who dwells in the sky, had said:

—"Slaughter a pig, pray the exorcism of the Dosaad and the pain will vanish", and he had done all this.

To be continued.

Outlawing War.

The United States and France have signed a treaty by which both countries outlaw war. Readers who have followed the correspondence between Secretary Kellogg and M. Briand are asking how much will that outlawing of war do to promote world peace?

Nothing at all, will be the answer of those who know history and stop to reflect.

Two nations signing a round-robin denouncing warfare is a small matter, though both be powerful. In the event of a war like the last one (for commercial supremacy), the whole civilized world would be drawn into it. Amer. cans and English in particular would insist upon having their rights protected. It is as silly a performance as beating the air for any two nations, or combination of many nations, to sign and ratify a peace covenant. The heads of them would be apt to quarrel some time on slight provocation; and treaties would be as scraps of paper.

If war is to disappear, some effective substitute for it must be found. That

the only one possible is a world Court, is the opinion expressed in the work: "Th Outlawry of War" by Dr. Charles Morrison. He writes:

"The essential basis of world peace is a Court of law and ustice to which the nations are willing to resort instead of resorting to war. If there is a way to establish such a Court, effectually to commit the nations to take their disputes to it instead of taking them to the battlefield, our problem is solved. An authoritative Court of war is the only method of COMPELLING a settlement of disputes between nations. Any programme which fails to provide a real Court with real law is not a genuine plan for world peace."

The establishment of such a Court lies far ahead. It can be nothing more than a dream until the world is Christian, and the will to peace is strong and universal. The Holy See would then be the tribunal for the settlement of disputes between nations. The present state of the world gives no hope of international peace.

Ave Maria.

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Catholic Chronicle

21

Rome.

GERARD GERRITS. 16.

While the cause of the Venerable Don Bosco was being considered at Rome, the following miracle took place at Sampierdarena, near Genoa. A young girl had her left leg paralyzed and the doctors could do nothing for her. Then, certain ladies of a circle which is under the patronage of Mary Help of Christians, commonly known as "Don Bosco's Madonna", offered up their prayers for the recovery of the sick girl. On January 15, the parish priest of the place once more recommended her to the prayers of the ladies of the circle, asking for a quick recovery of the girl on January 24, when the Congregation of Rites was to consider the miracles attributed to Don Bosco. In the early afternoon of January 24, the afflicted girl threw aside her crutches, got up on her feet and began to jump about. Two days afterwards she went to C^L urch and received Holy Communion.

Belgium.

The new library with which American generosity is enriching the Louvain Catholic University is nearly finished, and the official inauguration has been set, with singular appropriateness, for next July 4. The rising tower of 200 feet is a constant inspiration to the University community, dominating the library proper.

It is to shelter a carillon of the finest make, with which it will periodically, with its melody, remind all of America's friendship for Belgium.

China.

Since 1923, 10 priests have been murdered, one of them a Chinese. In no year since the Boxer revolution in 1900 has there been such destruction in China as in 1927. Burning and pillage of missions and wholesale banditry were reported for all the 18 provinces. Confiscation of Church property has taken place in seven provin-Nevertheless in some places ces. mission progress has not been at a standstill, while in others the number of Christians has greatly decreased due to emigration of people forced to leave their country mostly for Manchuria, because of banditry. Pekin had, during 1927, about 16,000 converts, and 16 vicariates reported over 1,000 converts.

The mission of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart continues to be infested with numberless bandits. Palakai was attacked by them with a continuous gunfire for two days and nights, until a certain amount of wheat and straw had been given them by the besieged missionaries. Fathers Crabbe and Morel were held prisoners by different bands but were delivered after a few days. Father Vercr ysse's mission was completely plundered and the priest had nothing left but the clothes he was wearing at the time. A shot fired near his ear by one of the robbers left him deaf on one side.

Ceylon.

One twelfth of the population or 368,435 inhabitants are Catholics. The Governor of the Island and two judges of the Supreme Court are Catholics as well as two of the five members of the Executive Council and three of the thirty-six members of the Legislative Council. The remainder of the 4,500,000 inhabitants are divided as follows: Christian sects other than Catholics: 74,565; Musulmans: 302,500; Hindoists: 982, 100; Budhists: 2,769,000.

Danemark.

Brother Ansgar made his vows in the Benedictine Abbey at Clerf, Luxembourg. He is the first Dane to enter the Order and in abbey established expressly to work for the conversion of the Northern people: Danes, Swedes, Norwegians, Finns and others. He is a convert having been received into the Church in 1926.

England.

England's contribution to the Propagation of the Faith increased last year from \$40,000 to \$50, 000. The Holy Father has granted to laymen who render service on the National Council or the diocesan committees of the Propagation the privillege of having Mass said in their homes during sickness, with the permission of the Bishop.

A hundred open-air platforms are now being run by the Catholic Evidence Guild in different parts of the country with some 500 speakers eagerly engaged in teaching the Faith to the man in the street.

France.

The youngest Bishop in France, Msgr. Felth, who has been named Bishop of Troyes at the age of 44, was consecrated under extraordinary circumstances. The consecrating prelate was Cardinal Binet and the assistants were Msgr. Remmond and Msgr. Rodie. The four prelates had fought in the war: Msgr. Remmond as chief of a batalion of infantry, Msgr. Rodie as a captain of artillery, Msgr. Feltin as a sergeant and Cardinal Binet as a simple soldier. In his discourse, the Cardinal mentioned these facts but he remarked that, in the religious life, the rank had been reversed.

Fiji Islands.

Father Francis Xavier Nicouleau, a French Missionary, died of leprosy after six years confinement with 400 lepers of Makogai, during which time he suffered the most excruciating tortures from the dread disease. He had labored thirty years among the natives of these islands. He had contracted leprosy while chaplain at Makogai. During his sickness he said Mass as often as he could and was served by a leper whose legs had been amputated. He had a small workshop where he made wooden limbs for those of his companions whose legs had been removed.

United States.

The net contributions from the United States for 1927 amounted to \$1,126,871.71. Brooklyn diocese contributed most: a total of \$154,049 and the diocese of Springfield came first with the per capital contribution of 17.9 cents per Catholic inhabitant.



Political.

The United States Supreme Court confirmed the decision rendered by the Philippine Supreme Court, settling the famous question between former Governor General Wood and the Philippine Legislature and by which, as Governor Wood pretended, the Governor General of the Philippines has the right to vote the stock in the government owned corporations in which the Philippine Government owns the majority of shares.

Senate President Quezon, on May 3. strenuously objected to the Willis bill providing for civilian assistants for the Governor General, and to the measure that would deprive the Senate of its power to confirm the appointment of governors of non-Christian provinces. He said that the Philippine Legislature is ready to appropiate whatever amount is necessary for assistants and that the Senate had only once refused to approve the appointment of a governor. Governor General Stimson urged the approval of the Willis bill saying that with the amount proposed by the bill and taken from the internal revenues collected in the States from Philippine products, there would be no political interference with the appointments of his civilian assistants and no need for their approval by the Senate.

As numerous telegrams were received by the Governor General and the department of the interior, asking their intervention in the coming genral elections on June 5, some infered that serious disorders were believed to be imminent. Let us hope that this fear will be futile, and that the elections will be held in the most peaceful way, as they always have been.

Resident Commissioner Gabaldon who resigned his bost in Washington and returned to the Philippines, accused the Filipino leaders, Senate President Quezon and Senator Osmeña, of having given up their ideal of Immediate Independence for more autonomy.

Senate President Quezon left Monravia for Washington to fight the Willis Bill and is expected to come back to the Philippines in the near future.

No demonstration was staged in Lanao, Mindanao, as had been feared by some, on account of the execution of four Moros in Bilibid prison.

Governor General Stimson, after an inspection trip to Bontok, had the following to say: "My trip to Bontok and other places in the Mountain Province has been exceedingly interesting. The sturdy inhabitants are wonderful and certainly have enlisted my deepest sympathy. They are honest, intelligent and hard working and will recieve all possible help and encouragement".

Miscellaneous.

Luxuries imported into the Philippines during 1927 were valued at P8, 213,268. Silk occupied the largest item with a total value of $\mathbb{P}1,408,071$ and precious stones came second with a total value of $\mathbb{P}1,483,737$. For diamonds alone, the Philippines spent $\mathbb{P}1,408,071$: for face powder, $\mathbb{P}560,647$ and for lotions and perfumery, $\mathbb{P}599,478$.

The team of the University of the Philippines debaters have defeated all the American teams of debaters they, met on their journey in the United States, the subject of the debates being Filipino Independence and the Filipinos defending the affirmative, i.e. that independence should be granted immediately.

The foreign trade of the Philippines during the first quarter of the year amounted to P155,412,820, while the record for the same period of last year was P148,231,357 only, or a difference of P7,181,463, according to figures released by the bureau of customs. The total exports during the period were valued at P76,734,643 as against P78, 678;177 worth of imports, or a balance of trade against the Philippines by P1,943,534.

During the same first quarter the Philippine Government realized a total income of P19,509,209,27, compared to P17,441,983,01 the total income during the same period last year, or an increase of P2,067,226,26 according to a report of Insular Auditor Ben F. Wright.

Foreign

China.

At the end of April the Southerners started their long promised drive against the North and their march as far as Tsinanfu, the capital of Shantung'province, was a continuous and easy victory. Said province has been in the grip of famine for months, and consequently Chang-Tso-Lin's soldiers in Shantung must have suffered from lack of food. This explains their weak fighting spirit. Add to this that Southern propaganda had preceded their armies, and you know the reason for the northern collapse.

The second stage of the Southern advance was the intervention of the Japanese at Tsinanfu. As soon as the Cantonese had reached the Shantung province, the Japanese had sent 2,000 soldiers to the capital, under pretext of defending their nationals in that particular town. Such precaution is not without basis, for soldiers victoriously advancing and even the ignominiously beaten, confiscate their neighbors'goods. if not too heavy or too hot, and this has always been noted in China's warfare and among her soldiers even when not at war. Some Southern soldiers started looting a Japanese shop at Tsinanfu; Japanese soldiers intervened and a clash between Chinese and Japamese forces drove the 40,000 Chinese soldiers away from Chantung's capital in no time, although the Japanese by that time had only a force of 4,000 armed men.

China has appealed to the League of Nations, to the United States, but what can the League do, and what may be expected from the United States at present keeping marines in Nicaragua to protect American properties?

Japan, notwithstanding a Chinese boycott against her goods, occupies the railroad that runs from the Chinese coast to Tsinanfu. The Southerners making a turn around Shantung's capital and helped by the Christian General are advancing towards T'ien Tsin and Peking. Will the concentrated forces of the Northern warlord be able to resist the enthusiastic advance of their enemies? After much Southern propaganda among Chang-Tso-Lin's soldiers, can Chang rely on his army? There seems to be great unrest in his main stronghold: Manchuria, due to millions of people, who these last months, have emigrated from Chantung and other warstricken provinces and settled in the rich plains of the most northern Chinese province, which by the name belongs to Chang-Tso-Lin but in fact more or less belongs to Japan. Will the Japanese permit the occupation of T'ien Tsin and Peking by the Southerners? Any way the foreign Nations are taking precautions against the uncoming Southerners to protect their nationals agains murder and looting. Besides, it should not be wondered at if some Red General profited by the absence of the Cantonese Nationals to start a revolution which would force the advancing Southern armies to come back, and permit the Northern' retreating armies to advance once more and regain the lost territories.

England, Egypt.

President Wilson's principle of selfdetermination has caused England much trouble since 1918; Egypt's national movement and England's serious menaces against the Nile country during these last months are another sample of it. If nations have a right to dispose of themselves, the Egyptians have a right to claim their independence and to drive out of their country the last British garrison along the Nile and the western part of the Suez canal.

In 1880 England took possession of Alexandria and Cairo in order to dominate the Suez Canal and retain her free access to her Indian Empire. At that time Egypt was sleeping intellectually and economically, asshe had done for twelve centuries, since the Islam conqueror invaded her territory. Mohammedanism had devastated Egypt's agricultural resources and smashed her high civilization. England built canals; irrigated Egypt's barren fields, the fellah became rich, his children attended school, today 12,000 students study at the University of Cairo. With wealth and culture. Egypt claimed her redeemed country from the British for herself.

England granted most of the Egyptian national demands. Formerly a colony, Egypt became a protectorate and this protectorate became an independent kingdom, with no other English control than a few soldiers along the borders and a kind of English supervisor of the Egyptian forces. Today, Egypt asks the complete evacuation of her territory by the English, but here she meets only with a flat denial.

An anti-English party was formed these last years. It has the majority in Cairo's parliament. Its chief and founder was Zaghloul Pacha who died a few months ago. While King Fouad. last year, visited England and Europe. the British Governor imposed a certain compromise which the Egyptian Sarwat Pacha, accepted. premier, England maintained her control of the Suez Canal and her garrisons in Egypt. If the Egyptian nationalists tolerated Sawart Pacha, chief of the moderates, it was because of their fear of the English who were pressing king Fouad to prevent the Nationalists from taking the reigns of power into their hands.

But the text of the compromise signed by Sarwat met with general opposition. Sarwat was forced to resign and the leader of the Nationalists, little desirous of obeying England's orders by signing the new treaty with England, refused to form a new cabinet.

When, after some time, the Egyptians insisted on their absolute freedom and the evacuation of their country by the last English soldiers, England, as in similar circumstances before, used the menace of her warships and for the moment Egypt is quiet.

Mexico.

Calles has bitten the dust of Uncle Sam's feet: he has rescinded his confiscatory measures against American oil companies in Mexico. Their properties are to be considered inviolate not for a certain number of years but in perpetuity. Judging from the few news items that have been allowed to trickle through the severe Mexican censure to the outside world, Calles has been compelled to bow his head by sheer economic necessity. The national treasury was empty, loans became due and international bankers are not put off like the claims of the individual rights or the Catholic Church. They insist on cold cash. American oil companies were a ready and constant source of revenues: Calles was told so by the new American Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. Morrow, of the Morgan firm and as man of the

stamp of Plutarco want above all else money and abundance of it, Calles listened to Mr. Morrow's reasons.

Now, would Calles also listen to Mr. Morrow if he asked him to reconsider his extremist views with regard to his own countrymen?

Any way it stands to reason that American oil companies alone can not furnish all the cash Calles needs. The remainder must come from the country at large. But a country torn by strife, suffering from business stagnation and with its rich resources going to waste, is unable to provide the needed income to meet the domestic and foreign obligations of the government. Direct necessity may compel further volte-face on Calles' part, for religious persecution is the direct road to national ruin.

Portugal.

General Oscar Carmona, who assumed the dictatorship of Portugal Nov. 29, 1926, has been elected president of the Republic without opposition, on March 25.

Miscellaneous.

4,000,000 Moslems live within short distance of Rome, in the Balkan Peninsula.

Rumania has 250,000 Mussulmans in a population of 17,153,932; Greece, 241, 000 among 7,000,000 inhabitants; Jugoslavia 1,337,687 in a total of 12,017, 328; Bulgaria 690,734 in 5,483,125 population; European Turkey 770,100 in 1, 270,100, and Albania 560,348 in 817, 460.



For all correspondence with "THE LITTLE APOSTLE" send your letter to THE LITTLE APOSTLE, BOX 1393, MANILA

Manila June 1, 1928

10,000

Dear Readers.

10,000??? 10,000 ! ! !

Can you guess it?

What mean these 10,000?????

That we are asking of you ₱10,000? Not a bit! We do not even ask you for a single peso..not even one centavo. And yet we need 10,000 and YOU are needed to give us those 10,000.

And you can help us to get those 10,000, if you give us some of your words, or five minutes of your spare time. Do you catch us?

What we need are 10,000 subscriptions.

Do you see now how we need you, and how easily you can help us. The other day a good lady of Manila began a kind of drive of her own to bring in fifty new subscriptions.

In Manila? Yes in Manila, where we have many subscribers, and she got them, because that lady has a will and she has that will because she knows what she is working for: that is, for God, for her poor countrymen in the Mountain Province, for souls of others and her own. But then, she must be a lady with nothing to do, all day long? Quite mistaken she is a mother of a big family, she has a job that keeps her busy from morning till night, she is not very strong of health, she is not widely known...but... she has the will and she knows what she is willing.

That's the way to get subscriptions. That's the way to do some good for the great cause which is our object: the conversion of the infidels in the Mountain Province, by winning subscribers who will become interested in the conversion of the Igorrotes, for whom a God became man and shed His blood.

Now, you must not say: OTHERS will find subscribers and the 10,000 number will be reached anyway.

Not at all. We need YOU. God needs YOUR cooperation. With more subscribers God's needs in the missions will be better known and consequently better attended and helped.

Here, now, is an occasion to do some good. In fact we may say that by sending in a new subscription you do more good than by saying even long prayers. Why? It is easy to pray; it is not so easy to convince a man to offer a peso a year for the good cause. But a work for God that requires more efforts, shows more love and consequently deserves more merits. Do you catch that? Apply that now to the efforts you will make to win some new subscribers.

Suppose now that the few subscrib-

ers you win take an interest in the missions and afford some help to win souls for God. Isn't that good done to be partly ascribed to YOURSELF too?

Just think of this! Every year and in nearly every town, there are elections of queens; millions of votes are gathererd and thousands of pesos find their way into somebody's pockets. And what is the good done?

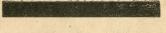
Every year there is a drive for the RED CROSS. Hundreds and thousands set to work and they obtain their goal.

Now, couldn't YOU, Dear Reader, display something of that activity just mentioned? Most of You are Crusader of the Little Flower, the Patroness of the Missionaries. Please make a few steps and say a few words to win subscribers to our magazines the Little Apostle, El Misionero and Ing Misionero. Your action under the Little Flower's Patronage will please her more than many prayers, though you should not neglect these, for then, she will help you to reach your goal.

Thus "A strong pull, and a long pull, and a pull of all together" and we will reach the 10,000,

May God bless and reward your efforts! DESERVE IT NOW!

The Little Apostle.



In Memoriam

A BSOLVE, we beseech Thee, O'Lord, the souls of thy servants Felisa Onayan, Oyuñgon, Oriental Negros; Tomas Frantilla, Bais, Oriental Negros; Fabiana Sierra Vda. de Jaub, Naga, Camarines Sur; Felisa del Castillo, Barrio Buenavista, Tinambac, Cam. Sur; Lourdes Baguiano, Arevalo, Iloilo; Vicenta Rodriguez, Carcar, Cebu; Miray Castillo, Hongkong, Hongkong; from every sin, that in the glory of the resurrection among Thy saints and elect they may arise in the newness of life, through Christ our Lord.

For the Little Tots



A Little Life of the Little Flower for Little Children

Continuation

CHAPTER XXII—How the Little Flower was Miraculously Cured.

I N THE presence of the sickly child, nobody dared to talk about the feast of Pauline's profession in the Carmel, for it would have caused great sorrow to little Ti erese and this might have caused even death. Therese however did not despair of attending the festivity and she firmly believed that God would grant her the necessary strength to see her second mother become the spouse of Jesus.

Indeed, Therese insisted so much in at least visiting her sister on the day of her profession, that they brought her to the Carmel and there and then once more, she was allowed to sit down on the knees of her veiled sister Pauline, listening to her sweet words and sound advice.

But the next day, her condition became worse than ever. The doctors were called, and they declared that they were helpless before the weakness of the child. Was this an attack of the fallen angel, who envied the little child, and even the whole family, for all the good they were doing and especially for all the good Little Therese would do on earth? Unable to crush her soul by sin, would he shoke her by killing the body and thus prevent God's designs on the innocent girl?

Human science had spoken:

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there was no remedy for the sickness; further efforts to save her life would be vain. Marie took care of her sister with all the tenderness she always had shownher. Leonie and Celine in turn passed their time at her side, trying to console her. But all this could not restore life that was fleeting every moment, and which only a miracle could keep in her.

A long time ago, the father of little Therese had received from a pious old lady a nice statue of the Blessed Virgin and since that time it had been placed and revered in the place of honor of the house.

Mrs. Martin always had a special devotion to this statue of the Immaculate Conception. It was not an ordinary statue, not very big, but very heavy, so that a strong man was needed to carry it. It was before this sacred image that the family recited their prayers in the morning and evening. It had so often been kissed that some of the fingers had quite disappeared and the hands had been replaced several times.

Every year, during the month of May, the whole family, more than ever, venerated it with special devotion and Mrs. Martin ordered flowers, every day with which to adorn it, to the great delight of the little Therese who clapped her hands at the sight of the statue surrounded by bouquets and plants.

But, why did her pious mother

show that extraordinary devotion to this statue of the Immaculate Conception? One day, she told the reason to her elder daughters.

After the death of Marie Helen, who passed away at the age of five years, still an angel of purity and innocence, her mother remembered that the dhild once had told a small lie. This caused the pious mother great sorrow, for she thoughther little child perhaps was in purgatory to explate that little sin, and she reproached herself with her negligence of not having called a priest before the little girl died.

One day, while praying with great fervor before the statue, and unable to console herself at the thought of the terrible sufferings her little daughter might be enduring in purgatory, she heard a mysterious voice that said in the sweetest tune:

-"She is with me!"

There and then Mrs. Martin got rid of her scruples and felt a heavenly joy.

This was not the only grace received from the hands of the Blessed Virgin, and Mrs. Martin added that the favors received from Heaven through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin were countless.

So, after her death, when the family came to Lisieux, the statue was brought with them and continued to be the object of the family's special devotion. At this moment of Therese's infirmity, we find the statue in the sickroom, today visited by many pilgrims.

It was the month of May 1883. Little Therese, pale and weak, lay on her bed, behind the white curtains. Near her, on a press, covered with an embroidered linen, stood the famous statue; behind it hung a white curtain of blue laces with golden stars.

When less affected by her infirmity, Therese took pleasure in making crowns of roses and marguerites, which her sisters placed at the feet of the Madona, or she was mysteriously and devotedly looking at the face of the statue, praying for her prompt recovery, if such were the will of God.

One day, little Therese saw her father entering the room, looking more sorry than ever. He called Marie, gave her some money and told her to send it to Paris for a novena of masses to be offered in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Victories, to ask for the recovery of the little patient.

One morning during this novena, Therese had become so sick that she did not recognize her sisters. Mary thought she would die, and, prostrating herself at the feet of the statue of the Blessed Virgin, she prayed for her sister with all the fervor of a mother for her child.

After awhile, Leonie and Celine joined her in prayer. At this moment, little Therese, bowing her frail body towards the statue, whispered a prayer, imploring her recovery.

This common prayer was a manifestation of deep faith which opened the gates of Heaven, for, all at once, oh prodigy of God's mercy! it seemed to Therese that the statue became alive....she saw it come nearer and smile at her. The face was of an undescribable beauty, but what above all enraptured her into ecstasis was that heavenly smile of the Queen of Heaven.

Oh, that smile of the Blessed Virgin was like a sunray after a tempest! Since that moment, the the little girl felt herself cured. All her sufferings and pains had disappeared and two big tears of satisfaction and gratefulness rolled down her emaciated cheeks....

Our Lady of Victories had overcome the work of the sworn enemy of mankind, and dropped upon the dying girl a rose of her motherly love that cured the "Little Flower".

To be continued.

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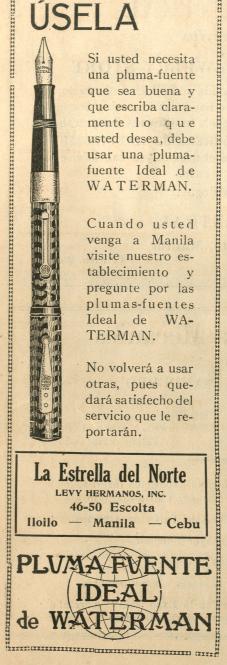
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