MARCH 5, 1904.

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FOILED.

Truly those were bitter days. Stone-hearted men were let loose upon the children of the Church, and through children of the Church, and through the gloom of that time of stress no man could dare to prophesy the day of

betterment. In a quiet little corner of Somerset-shire, on Monday, the 28th of March, 1625, the Manor of Westfield was in a state of confusion.

state of confusion. Father Ralph Westfield, a son of the Westfields—a family of long and un-tarnished Catholic reputation—was at that time an inmate of the house. Mass had been said there on the previous day, and the villagers had come long a grin. "You are doubtless paid for your trouble, my good sir, so that I need not spare you on that account. You may search—only I warn you of one distances to it, despite the knowledge that their lives might pay the forfeit for such temerity. And now the news had come that the State myrmidons were already on the path and might at were already on the path and might at any moment be expected to make a raid on the Manor. Then Father Ralph would be taken before the authorities to answer for his heinous crime of shiping God according to the rites

worshiping God according to the rices of his forefathers. In these times of peace we can look back with something like complacency across those darker ages and read of the priest's hiding place without real-ign to the full what it meant not only when by priest, but to the faithful few to the priest but to the faithful few who shielded him to have the stern to the price but to the area the stern who shielded him to have the stern forms of heartless, callous and brutal inen tramping through the home like the blackbounds they really work in bloodhounds they really were in the bloodbounds they really were in search of the hidden priest, whose life would be virtually over when the hid-ing place was discovered. The women of that time were heroines that no other age can ever hope to equal. A look, a word, an incautious glance would be enough to undo the secret preparations of many a long week. Theirs was the duty to show a smilling face and unchanging countenance when

Theirs was the duty to show a similar face and unchanging countenance when men stood on the very threshold of dis-covery, tapping at a panel which alone stood between the hunted and the hun-stood between the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the hunted and the hunted between the hunted and the h ters. Coarse jest and impious ribaldry, vile hints and vile threats had to be vite nints and vite threats had to be borne without a murmur lest an out-burst of indignation should lead to their undoing. Young girls bore in-sults that were a shame to their girl-hood, mothers bore insults that shamed their motherhood, and heaven belt their motherhood, and heaven holds many a bright saint unwritten in our calendars whose claim to that high honor rested on the heroic courage with which they went through those awful moments of trial and doubt.

awful moments of trial and doubt. Westfield Manor was a beautiful, old-fashioned house, with a great, square hall and roomy oak-paneled apartments. If stood in a considerable acreage of ound, which had been the property of the Westfields from time immemorial. Since the news had arrived that a troop of men were on their way to capture Father Ralph, the two gardeners had in turn watched at the approach of the se to report the first sight of the visitors.

It was 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and Father Ralph, his sister Grace (a pretty girl still in her teens), and Mrs. West-field were at tea talking of the illness of King James, news of which had reached them when, without warning, the younger of the gardeners, Dick Pardon, rushed into the room. There was no need for him to tell his errand. His excited manner and troubled face told plainly enough that the expected moment had arrived. "How many of them are there?" asked Father Ralph.

"A many I can't say to be sure, Father-ten or twelve of them at least,"

the gardener replied. "And are they far off as yet ?"

"Not more than half a mile," he an

wered. "Well, well, I must haste to hide," said the priest. "God knows I would sooner meet them face to face, like a man, but that would mean my little flock being left without a shepherd." "And you still think, Ralph dear," "And you still think, Ralph dear,"

flock being left without a shepherd." "And you still think, Ralph dear," asked his sister, "it were better not to tell us your hiding place?" "Yes, it will be better so," he an-swered. "Your fears cannot then be-tray it. God knows the trial is hard enough for you to bear as it is." He kissed them, pressed their hands fondly, and looking once more into their pale. into the hole and assured minisch that the space within was only a few feet square and was absolutely empty. Nor did she most careful scrutiny discover any other egress from it than the way through which he had entered. "So ho! my mistress," said the man Lacob with a grin, "the fox, then, has side. appears to be a semi foregone conclusion, that people in general can not fast like those of a Jacob, with a grin, "the fox, then, has more holes than one! Why what's that? Another one already ?" he added : for side. general can not last like those of a century ago. Our young men can train for a foot-race or a football game; cur young women can take physical culture lessons, and ride bicycles, and practise It was Sir William Glassingham, a and looking once more into their pale, Catholic magistrate, whose residence was some five miles distant from her anxious faces hastened from the room, Another one already?" he added for two men who had been conducting a search in another apartment now called out to their leader that they had dis-covered a hiding place, and instantly while the gardener, Dick Pardon, hurried outside and resumed his work "Which of you miscreant is named Miles?" he asked. "Speak, and speak quickly !" at a gymnasium; our society women can keep many a vigil in a ball-room. Yes. But to fast in Lent, to watch with our of weeding one of the beds in the near There were four distinct hiding he and the others-Grace being com-pelled to go with them-hurried to the With an insolent air the man lightly Lord one hour, — even to abstain from meat a few days, — oh ! how strangely impossible is this ! places in Westfield House, each of them cleverly contrived and capable of with an inscient air the man rightly touched his hat. "The same, Sir William—and I thought you knew it. Keep your 'mis-creants' for priests and Papists. I am adjoining room. There two panels of wainscot, were removed and showed the outwitting any but an expert pursuiv-Suppose, however,-the Church being ant, and it was a happy thought of Father Ralph's to leave his mother and entrance to a narrow passage between the walls. Apparently neither of the men who had discovered it was anxious to prosecute the search for they said a singularly indulgent mother — we really are dispensed by lawful authority from the severity of the fast, or even King's servant and doing the King's sister in ignorance of the one which he had selected, so that should they be work. scum! Get you gone while your skin is sound." long to Master Miles or his friend Jacob." made to accompany the search party their anxiety on the search rearty approaching the real hiding place should not betray it. Mrs. Westfield and Grace had not from the abstinence, what then? Are we freed from any penance at all in Lent? Oh, are we freed? Shall we But Miles-the leader-ordered one "King Charles ! What mean you ?" go on just the same as at other seasons, But Miles—the leader—ordered one of them to go in with the point of his swords before him. "Bring the rat out or run him through," he said. "It doesn't much matter which." he asked, the instant change in his manner from insolence to craving fear with the same novel-reading, the same long to wait in their terrible suspense dainties, the same amusements, showing full well that he rightly undersame thoughtless and gay companions; or shall we say boldly: "I will not! for in a very few minutes a noisy laugh-ing troop of horsemen had reined up before the gate, and tying up their barges baits much antony the house doesn't much matter which." Had Ralph really been there, Grace thought, he would already have seen the futility of further hiding, so she was less alarmed than she would other wise have been when the order "Your master King James has answered to God for his deeds—Charles is your King. Now know you what I But I will deny myself something real and tangible, for the sake of Jesus horses, boisterously entered the house "Remain where you are, mother dear," said the brave young girl, and throwing open the door of the little room, she boldly stepped out and faced the group. Christ, and to make strong my feeble soul !"-Sacred Heart Review. "King James is dead !" wise have been when the order was "King James is dead 1" "Must I tell you so again?" he asked, with rising anger. "Hearken now. I give you three minutes to quit this Statistics show that during the twenty years from 1882 to 1901 the deaths from intemperance in England and Wales have increased 66 per cent. amongst men, and 125 per cent. among women. This is an alarming state of affairs, and the alarm should be shared on this side of the Atlantic. Canada has a younger, fresher, more fullobeyed and the man, pushing his sword before him, entered the passage. But it led to no apartment—it was a hiding the group. "Somewhat an unceremonious visit, place pure and simple—and the man backed himself out of it with an oath house in which you trespass, and if a man of you is then in sight King Charles gentlemen," she said, in a firm, even tone. "What may be the meaning of it?" shall tell you what he thinks of hunters and the assurance that it was empty. The leader of the gang, apparently, So far all was well ; but the strain such as you." Then by twos and threes, without was a short, ill-favored looking man of middle age, beardless, though anything of the two discoveries had been so waiting for an order from their leaders, on this side of the Atlantic. Canada has a younger, fresher, more full-blooded class of people than the Eng-land of to-day. We have few cities and therefore few slums. But intem-perance, if indulged in, will inevitably pull us down, and we must take time by the forelock if we wish to check the upget of the degrading vice.—Angreat that Grace felt almost physically incanable of continuing her share in but clean shaven, and generally dirty incapable of continuing her share in the search. But she prayed and felt strengthened, and once more the "ferthe men slunk through the open door-way, the last to leave being the drunken and dissipated in appearance. With the air of bold assurance, he Jacob, who was in a tremor of fear lest his exit should be hastened by the ineyed his interlocutor and, turning, ad-dressed one of his companions before And now aquarter of an hour elapsed before any further discovery was made, and as a very close search in an attic, from which another of the hiding the gardener, that they were clear of answering. answering. "A merry-eyed and comely wench— eh, Jacob? A wench after your own heart, eh, Jacob? A nice trim—" "Enough of that, sir !" rang out the rich, clear voice. "I am Miss practice of this degrading vice .- Antigonish Casket. places opened, proved unsuccessful Grace felt her spirits revive, though the grounds. She hastened to reassure her mother, the rich, clear voice. "I am Miss Westfield, of Westfield Manor, and, as you may yet learn, not to be insulted Grace felt her spirits revive, though she dared not show as much in her face. They had, indeed, already left the room when the man Miles, accompanied by Jacob, suddenly returned to it and by Jacob, suddenly returned to it and by Jacob area and then turned to her thrice-welcome "Oh, how I thank you!" she said. "Yet even now I am distraught. Those wretches discovered each one of Those wretches discovered each one of In such a matter as abstinence from intoxicants, there are two advantages: (1) The strength, which comes to character by self-denial. (2) The fact with impunity. Your business here? Be good enough to explain it." Slightly cowed for the moment by her determined bearing, he tapped the end of a paper which was showing in his doublet. *'I have my orders here to search

THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

was soon on their heels, for he entered the room at the same moment and was

quickly folded in his mother's warm

embrace. And then he told them how at the last moment his mind misgave

him as to the safety of the hiding place he had chosen—which was actually the

his wife.-Catholic Fireside.

know not."

THE LENTEN ATHLETE.

spring and the third hiding place stood open-open and empty. It was but a small cupboard and a single glance disclosed its extent and its emptiness. the house for a Popish priest-on Ralph Westfield. Is he within ?" "If your orders are to search, it will matter little my saying he is not with-in. You will doubtless obey your orders whatever I say." "Well, that's true enough," answered the man. "And besides which, and Weavier in addition thereto my have

this county to warrant me in promising you a speedy retribution."

so, calling a maid to remain with her

mother she took her place as guide to

the search party. Commencing where they were in the

while his hard was on the very panel while his hard was on the very panel which rightly pressed would have opened the way to the first of the hid-ing places. Nor when the danger was passed did her face brighten or alter,

though it was hard to repress her ela-

tion as they left the hall and entered

the great dining room, one hiding

place-perhaps the very one in which her brother was secreted-already over-

spitted with this long blade.'

before.'

looked.

"Plague on the place! Was ever rat-infested spots more full of holes and more empty of rats? But the rat shall be caught if I spend the night here," and with an added volley of oaths he re-commenced the search. the man. And besides which, and likewise in addition, thereto, we hap-pen to know he is within : so, by your leave, it would save us the trouble of searching if you tell us at once where we might find him." he answered with All now depended on the whereabouts

All now depended on the which about of the fourth hiding plade being dis-covered. At present they had failed to find it, though from its being the largest and most important of all Grace had greatly feared it would be the first had greatly leared it would be the first to be opened. But they had carefully examined every panel of the oak covered hall, and had seemed satisfied that there was no hiding place behind it. Formerly the uncertainty as to which of the four hiding places her brother had gheen had sustained her as he inc thing: if you exceed your orders by any needless damage or violence my mother's name is yet good enough in had chosen had sustained her, as he in-tended, with the hope that each one discovered would prove to be but empty. The man shrugged his shoulders. "To business, Jacob," he said to his lieutenant. "Place three of your But now no doubt remained, and a cold chill seemed to creep over her as the

men at the outer doors and one to watch over the good lady here." He pointed to Mrs. Westfield, who sat in stood once more in the hall, within a few feet of the spot where her last hope trembling anxiety within view of the group. "The young lady we must trouble to show us over the place, as we've not had the honor of being here before " "It's my belief, Miles," said the half-drunken wretch Jacob, "that we've half-drunken wretch Jacob, "that we've not yet done our duty by this passage. These foxy priests love a good stout piece of wood to get behind, and the wall is a bit too thick for my liking. Suppose we try a pike on it here and there to see what may be below it?" Grace Westfield knew it would be

"That's well spoken, my Jacob! A hole or two in the walls here will make it more like the rest of the house," rehall, they were soon busy tapping the oaken wainscots, moving aside pictures, shifting chairs and tables and measurplied the other, and a hoarse roar from half a dozen of the men told that the joke had been appreciated. "Have you orders for the destruction smithing chairs and values and necesor if ing floor spaces and walls to discover if any space within the house was un-accounted for. The leader of the gang let his eyes every now and again rest on those of Grace, but without once you are contemplating ?" asked Grace. " For I warn you, if you go beyond them you will be made to regret your deeds."

"For I warn you, if you go beyond them you will be made to regret your deeds." "Harry Miles, my dear, at your service, don't regret much. His orders are : 'Hunt the rats.' If wood 's in the way, wood goes. Contemplating's not much in my line, or Jacob's either. Now, my men, try these walls again and break open a bit here and there where Now, my men, try these walls again and break open a bit here and there where break open a bit here and there where the fancy takes you. Have open this bit, Crabbe, and see what comes of it," and as he spoke he touched with his hand the very panel he had a!ready fingered once that day, the right mov-ing of which would disclose the fourth and last hiding place.

and the very panel he had already fingered once that day, the right mover, to the end, may any man expect to fathom the ocean of her treasures of wisdom, her practical methods of dealing with her children, her insight into their needs, and her is trove to look unconcerned at such an awful moment. She felt the blood surge to her forehead and leave her a deadly pale, and one of the men of us will have to meet more or less by this the mark it. We've touched the young wench up at last!' And several of the mastly pallor she was so vainly There were gibes and jeers and coarse jests enough from the men, but though their loose vulgarity often brought a blush to her cheeks she bore it all bravely and went around with a great show of unconcern. At last, when their search had lasted half an hour, a sudden cry from one of the men told her that one of the hiding places had been discovered. It was behind a deep, old-fashioned fireplace. the ghastly pallor she was so vainly A loose tile, carelessly replaced or striving to conceal. Then there was a accidentally moved, had given the clue, crash with a hatchet which not only accidentally moved, had given the clue, and in a few minutes others had been shifted and a hole discovered which led to a small aperture beneath. There was not light enough to discover its accidentally moved, had given the clue, shivered the panel but broke through ing two of the panels along in its space, a small doorway was discovered to a small aperture beneath. There was not light enough to discover its extent or whether it was occupied; so

in the wall. Her eyes were fixed upon it as though a snake held them fascinated he who had been styled Jacob called on the priest to disclose himself. the doorway through which her brother must now come out a prisoner. See watched the man enter, heard him moving in the little chamber to which it led and heard too a mulled eath "Soon run to earth, my friend," he called out, keeping, however, a fairly respectful distance from the spot. "Best show thyself up and save being it led, and heard, too, a muffled oath The poor girl's moments of suspense were so terrible that something of it ere he returned. must have shown on her face, and seemed to assure the leader that their

"As empty as the rest, captain—as empty as the rest," she heard him say, with another oath, and then, unable to control the sudden rush of blood to ber head at such an unexpected hap-pening, fighting to the last to conquer her weakness, she reeled heavily against the wall. Jacob made a move toward her, and, loathing to be touched by such a creature, she drew herself quickly away and the sudden movement saved her reason. But one surprise was destined to folsearch was over. "No answer, Jacob," he said, with a rude oath. "Then thrust round your sword and see what comes in the saved her reason. But one surprise was destined to fol-

and He bade our innocent first parents in Eden's garden not to eat the fruit of one certain tree when they might eat

low another with startling rapidity.

house has been searched. He may be even yet in danger." "Nay, you may be reassured," he an-swered. "Father Ralph cannot be far off, and we will soon be on his heels." But as a matter of fact it was he who Regular \$10.00 day and night field glasses Only \$3.65

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OUR EMBASSY OF FAITH

In the late revered Abbe Hogan's "Clerical Studies" we find quoted the following remarkable passage: "As the height of courage often is to ear i. I does not and the height of lowe By Fes Arminic In far-off Eastern lands there lived, say: I dare not; and the height of love often is to say: I will not; so the height of wisdom is to have learned to say: I know not."

In far-off Eastern lands there lived, long years ago, a mighty King. He loved his nation, and his laws were just. To show his royal confidence and multiply the bonds by which his people might gain access to his gener-ous heart, he chose one from their midst, endowed him with his sovereign right and grace—a very likeness of himself — and gave him liberty to choose for all the subjects of the realm whatever might befit. to make them whatever might befit, to make them the happiest folk on earth.

The new-created Prince, flushed with his fair estate in liberal realms. ies; and, if the world endures for as many centuries more, she will last till then; but never, to the end, may any lends his weak ear to that ambitious sense which overleaps itself and-falls. Sense which overleaps itself and later. One day the rumor goes abroad that his high majesty, the King, has been betrayed; that all the tribes, led on by the perfidious Prince, have raised the standard of revoit.

But then-the tale goes on-this re bel move had singular results. The people quickly wearied of their new-born lord, refused in turn to bear the yoke at the false claimant's hands, and followed disobedience as their law. Thus their sedition had as its sole fruit the curse by which revolt begets unreasoning revolt.

certain restrictions at certain times upon us, in things that are of themselves of no great visible importance, in order that we may be trained and prepared to meet temptation in things of very grave importance and of very plain harm to our immortal souls. The King was grieved, bethought himself in love for his misguided race, and called around his throne some chosen few among the well disposed of

It may seem strange to many that the Church concerns herself with such all his tribes; some from the wander-ing shepherd folk, some from the settled nations near, and some from things as whether we eat meat or not at certain seasons, and that she some-times forbids us to eat meat and fish on the same day and constitutions. different clans in far-off lands. To all he spoke in turn — gave them a royal mandate as his lawfal embassy, and sent them forth with letters patent and his manual sign, that they might plead the same day, and sometimes even en-joins a "black fast," as our more val-iant sires used to call it when contentedly swallowing their butterless bread and milkless tea. Yet her Divine Master laid restrictions of a like nature with all the various tribes, and bring them back to ancient loyalty. The let-ters promised under sacred seal that he would grant those who returned the happiest rule, fair homes, and free domain, and deal with them as he on the Jewish Church in the Old Law,

would deal with his own princely son. The embassy went forth upon its mission, and on that mission seeks the nations still .- The Dolphin.



sight, smell and nearing in lawing things, so that, when temptation to real sin presents itself to our souls in any of these directions, we may be, like trained athletes, ready to cry at once: "I dare not, I will not, I know not." In our degenerate and feeble days, it appears to be a semi-settled fact, a



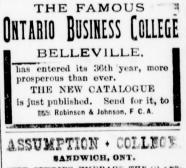
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proverb. It often seems to work though no one has ever told why.

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